IV. DAILY PROCEEDINGS
10th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Actions of the 2009 Annual Conference relating to Program and Legislation are in Section V and are corrected to reflect final action. Reports are found in Section VIII.

FIRST DAY – OPENING SESSION
Thursday, May 28, 2009, 10:00 AM

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND HOLY COMMUNION

The Service of Remembrance and Holy Communion commenced with the processional hymn "Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In." Rev. Tanya Bennett led the Call to Worship, followed by Rev. Rebecca Radillo who read 2 Timothy 4:6-8 in Spanish. Bishop Devadhar introduced the preacher, Rev. Dr. Lloyd P. Terrell. Rev. Terrell's tribute message was entitled "Making Life Count." He pointed out that in his second letter to Timothy, St. Paul gives a blue print of how to make your life count. He emphasized the main points made in the book, Three Simple Rules, by Bishop Reuben Job: Do no Harm, Do Good and Stay in Love with God.

Rev. Terrell said that if we nurture negativity, greed, jealousy and a prayerless life, we may cause harm to others. He encouraged everyone to give God their best. Often people miss the finish line not because of loss of purpose, but due to loss of commitment. Rev. Terrell concluded with a reminder that Jesus made our lives count by dying on the cross and being raised by God. Those who make their lives count have a reward waiting for them - a crown of righteousness, which they will receive from God.

Families and friends of the deceased came to the front of the chancel area during the reading of the **Glory Roll** and placed prayer requests in the fish nets on both sides of the doors that were displayed. Rev. Dr. Michael Harriott led a prayer of remembrance and then read the Glory Roll of all the Laity, Clergy Spouses and Clergy who have died since last Annual Conference.

Laity:

Elizabeth Brogdon
Herman Carr
Dominick "Zack" Cienkowski
Roy Joseph Marian
Mary Katharine Morris
Joyce Perry
Jean E. Stadnick
William L. Weller

Clergy Spouses:

Betty Bamert
Dorothy S. Corson
Evelyn Cruddas
Blanche Hargrove
G. Elizabeth Johnson
Richard Schiermeyer
Jean J. Kickasola
Marjorie McCleave
Marguerite "Gretchen" Maloney
Kathryn Maness Nelson
Marguerite W. Odenwelder
Elizabeth H. Strudwick
Robert Lee Sturdivant
Edgar Thomas
Edna White
Lorraine Woodward

Clergy:

Bishop James M. Ault
Rev. Thomas N. Austin III
Rev. Frederick H. Bowen
Rev. Estevao Canfield
Rev. Jane D. Edwards
Rev. Edward R. Elgrim
Rev. Jack D. Hill
Rev. Donald Gene Jones
Rev. Daniel W. Kreh
Rev. Erick Kullberg, Jr.
Rev. Charles Wesley McCombs, Jr.
Rev. Robert E. Meloney
Rev. Nathaniel Parker
Rev. Paul Wesley Pedrick
Rev. William W. Poynter
Rev. Wilma J. Quantrille
Rev. Edna Von Dreele
Rev. David A. Wilson, Jr.

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Bishop Devadhar and Rev. Terrell led Holy Communion. Rev. Robert Smith received the offering for the Sustentation Fund. The service concluded with the Closing Hymn, "I'll Fly Away."

CALL TO ORDER

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar called to order the Tenth Session of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Bishop Devadhar welcomed all members of the GNJAC to the Valley Forge Convention Center.

SETTING THE BAR

Conference Secretary Michael Harriott moved that the Bar of the Conference include all seats on the floor of the Conference and the Video Room. Seats excluded from the Bar are behind the white rope and the Visitors' Section in front of the dais. The motion passed.

REGISTRATION

Michael Harriott moved that the Registration Cards which all members signed at Registration be used for the **Roll of Attendance**. The motion passed.

RULES OF ORDER

June McCullough presented the Rules of Order including the new Rule 84. She made a motion to suspend Rule 19a. iii, in order to consider a resolution in the Conference Resource Packet. The motion passed.

MOTIONS

Rev. Regina Albert, Chairperson of the Sessions Team, presented an amendment that lay members of the Sessions Team not already lay members of the Annual Conference be named Equalization (at-large) Lay Members. The motion passed.

June McCullough moved that the amendment become part of the Rules of Order under 6a. as vi and the balance of 6a. be renumbered. It was approved and the Rules of Order were adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Harriott made general announcements including two changes to the **Consent Calendar**. The first change was to remove the Trustees Enabling Resolution from the Consent Calendar and the second was a substitution to the Gambling Resolution.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE LAY AND CLERGY SESSIONS

Bishop Devadhar instructed the members to go directly to the Laity and Clergy Sessions following lunch.

DISMISSAL FOR LUNCH

Bishop Devadhar welcomed and introduced Bethany Amey who gave the blessing for lunch.

LAITY SESSION
Thursday, May 28, 2009, 1:30 PM

Ressie Fuller, Esq., Conference Lay Leader, welcomed the Lay Members with the Conference Theme: "Disciples Transforming the World: Through Prayers." She was followed by Fred Adams who opened with prayer. William Tillman read James 5:13.

Ressie welcomed two special guests: Mrs. Prema Devadhar and the Rev. Dr. Bener Baysa Agtarap, Director of Conference and Ethnic Church Stewardship with the General Board of Discipleship, Nashville, TN. She also welcomed Professor Sam and Mrs. Iris Maben, guests from the Church of South India. District Lay Leaders, Members-at-Large and former Conference Lay Leaders were also introduced.

The Laity Session business included a reminder that Laity are members, not delegates, and are to vote as led by the Holy Spirit. They are to be prayerful in the work of the conference. Members were reminded to report back to the local church since they are the link between the Conference and the local church. Lay

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Members were encouraged to welcome their pastor back during the Sunday Worship Service if he/she is returning. New pastors should also be welcomed into the fellowship of the new local church.

Youth and Young Adults were recognized and noted as Youth and Young Adults of NOW, not of the future.

Members were reminded that **Laity Sunday** would be on October 18 this year. If they would like more worship resources they were encouraged to go to: www.GBOD.org/laity.

CLERGY SESSION
Thursday, May 28, 2009, 1:45 PM

Bishop Devadhar opened the Clergy Session with prayer and the song "Spirit of the Living God." He asked the Clergy Session to grant permission to two lay persons: Nicola Mulligan, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop and Rev. Dan Moore, (sound system) to be within the Bars of the Clergy Session. The members of the clergy session granted permission.

Bishop presented each section of the **Business of the Annual Conference Report** pertaining to Ordained Ministers and Local Pastors. Corrections were made as needed. The report was adopted.

Candidates for Commissioning were introduced. The clergy were invited to ask the candidates questions. The candidates left the room. Bishop Devadhar asked for a vote to approve the candidates which passed unanimously, in favor of all the candidates. The Candidates for Ordination were presented and, again, the clergy were invited to ask questions. The candidates left the room and a vote was taken to approve them. All candidates were approved.

Bishop Devadhar thanked all the clergy for their faithful work in ministry for Jesus Christ. He thanked the Board of Ordained Ministry for all their hard work. The meeting was adjourned.

FIRST DAY – SECOND SESSION
Thursday, May 28, 2009, 3:30 PM

PLENARY SESSION

Bishop Devadhar opened the session with a call to sing "Spirit of the Living God." Ressie Fuller, Conference Lay Leader, led the conference in prayer.

CORPORATE SESSION

Michael Harriott made the motion to move into Corporate Session. The motion passed.

ELECTION OF CORPORATE OFFICERS

Galen Goodwin, Parliamentarian, presented the names of the Corporate Officers: Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, President; Michael Harriott, Conference Secretary; John Cardillo, Treasurer and Ressie Fuller, Lay Leader. A motion was made to elect these officers. The motion passed.

CHANCELLORS

Bishop Devadhar requested permission from the members to present the nominations for Co-Chancellors of the Conference. Permission was granted. He gave thanks to former co-chancellor, Doug Arpert, Esq., for his faithful service.

Bishop made the motion that Sanford Brown, Esq., continue as Co-Chancellor. The motion passed.

Bishop Devadhar nominated Evelynn Caterson, Esq., to be the other Co-Chancellor. A motion was made to elect Evelynn Caterson. The motion passed.

TRUSTEES

Mark Earl presented Frank Kowar, Darryl Duer and Douglas Strickland as nominees for the Board of Trustees for the class of 2013. A motion was made to elect the nominees. The motion passed.

CONFERENCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: ENABLING RESOLUTIONS

Mark Earl made a motion to accept the Trustees' Enabling Resolutions. The motion passed.

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CONFERENCE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: CONFERENCE OFFICE BUILDING RESOLUTION

Mark Earl made the motion to adopt the Conference Office Building Resolution. Creed Pogue offered a friendly amendment changing line #15 from "…of the Annual Conference or Special Conference as required by the Discipline…" to read "…subsequent meeting of the Primary Task Team as authorized by the Annual Conference." The friendly amendment was accepted. The main motion passed.

RESOLUTION ON CONVEYANCE OF TITLE FOR 201 KRAFT AVE.

Mark Earl moved the Resolution on Conveyance of Title for 201 Kraft Avenue, Oaklyn, NJ. The motion passed.

CENTENARY FUND

Neill Tolboom moved the following correction to the Centenary Fund Board: William Propert, 2011. He moved to delete Ramon Evangelista and Hyekyung Kang from the Board. Neill moved the election of Ken Helsby, Jack Scharf, Juanita Rodriguez, Loida Conte, James Ryoo, Carolyn Smallwood, Gene Foote, Milt Eisenhardt and L. Perry Philp to the Board of the Centenary Fund. The motions passed.

PENNINGTON SCHOOL REPORT

Bob Williams moved to affirm Brian Markison, Kim Pimley, Robert Smith, John McGuire, William McComb, David Paragamian, Steve Silberman, and John Zuccarelli as members of the Board of the Pennington School. The motion was made. The motion passed.

UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION

Cliff Evans moved the election of Kyewoon Choi and Ben Yusiewicz as trustees of the United Methodist Foundation of NJ. The motion passed.

UNITED METHODIST HOMES

Jim Batten made a motion that the resolution adopting the **Statement of Relationship** with the United Methodist Church be accepted. The motion passed.

Batten presented the resolution on the **Fellowship Fund** of the United Methodist Homes, which requests $2.50 per member from churches. The motion passed.

Batten moved the following corrections to the Board of the UM Homes: Dennis Blackwell (was omitted) and Bo-Joong Kim (correct name).:

He moved to delete the following names from the Board: Denise R. Williams, A.T. Smith, Adelberto (Bert) Lopez, Harvey VanSciver, Richard Carlson and Richard Harper.

Jim moved the election of the following persons to the Board: Dart Sageser, 2010; Robert Sames, 2010; Glenn J. Conaway, 2011; Douglas B. Fuller, 2011; Michael M. Harriott, 2011; K. Edward Jacobi, 2011; Dean Livingston, 2011; Daniel Frank, 2012; Morris Smith, 2012; Barry Wehrle, 2012; Robert L. Boettner, 2013; James Brown, 2013; Virginia Samuel Cetuk, 2013; Lloyd P. Terrell, 2013; Johnnie White, 2013; Ronald C. Appleby, 2014 and Dale C. Whilden, 2014. The motions passed.

Batten made a motion to accept the final resolution of the United Methodist Homes which approved the removal of **"Manor by the Sea"** from the list of United Methodist Homes of NJ. The motion passed.

DISCONTINUANCE OF WRIGHTSTOWN

Robert Smith presented the resolution for the closing of **The Wrightstown United Methodist Church in Wrightstown, NJ**.

A friendly amendment was made by Tim Griscom stating that in keeping with the provisions of ¶2458.4 of *The Book of Discipline*, all deeds, records and other official documents and legal papers and the content of the cornerstone be maintained in permanent safekeeping with the **Commission of Archives and History** as soon as possible. The amendment was accepted.

A motion was made by Nehemiah Thompson to amend line 16 of page 41 to read: "…as long as it is compatible to the Christian faith." The motion failed.

The original motion with the friendly amendment passed.

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CORPORATE SESSION ADJOURNED

Michael Harriott made a motion to adjourn the Corporate Session with the option to reconvene if needed. The motion passed.

CONFERENCE PREACHER AND TEACHER

Following a rousing introduction by Bishop Devadhar, the Rev. Adam Hamilton led an inspirational preaching and teaching session on "What Leaders Do and Why," using passages from Ezekiel 34, Matthew 9 and Luke 19. He spoke about the qualities of leaders people will follow, what leaders do and five important

leadership principles. He also spoke on how healthy organizations have a clear understanding of the following: 1) Mission - Why they are here; 2) Vision - Where they are going and 3) Plan - Goals and objectives. The successful church is willing to do what the unsuccessful church will not do, and the successful pastor is willing to do the same.

CORPORATE SESSION

Michael Harriott moved that the conference return to Corporate Session. The motion passed.

DISCONTINUANCE OF CHURCHES

Frances Noll presented a resolution for the closing of **First United Methodist Church in Highlands, N.J**. The motion passed.

Richard Nichols presented the resolution for the closing of **Friendship United Methodist Church in Landisville, NJ**. The motion passed.

Nichols closed with a prayer of thanksgiving for the churches and for all that they contributed to the lives of people in their communities and for the service that they rendered to the world.

CAMPING MINISTRY

Erica Munoz, Children, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, announced the hiring of the new Camp Director, Timothy Goodwin. He will serve as the Director of both Aldersgate and Pinelands effective March 1, 2009.

Munoz informed the conference that the new name of the Commission is **The Greater New Jersey United Methodist Camping Ministry, Inc.**

Munoz presented the nominees for the Board of Directors: Louis Strugala, William Moore, David Jones, Jessica Stenstrom, Barbara Williams, Pamela Milone and Judy Hopkins for approval. The motion passed.

CORPORATE SESSION ADJOURNED

Michael Harriott moved to close the Corporate Session with the option to reconvene if needed. The motion passed.

CHRISTIAN UNITY AWARD

Jessica Campbell presented the **individual Christian Unity Award** to Lyle Cooper for his work initiating the Ecumenical Food Pantry at St. Andrews UM Church in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. The **Church Christian Unity Award** was presented to Covenant UM Church in Plainfield, New Jersey for their Free Meals Program.

HARRY A. SEESE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Lyssette Perez presented the **Harry A. Seese Memorial Scholarship** to the Rev. Pat Bruger, Executive Director of CUMAC-ECHO in Paterson, New Jersey.

FRANCIS ASBURY AWARD

Derrick Doherty and Ramon Evangelista presented the **Francis Asbury Award** to Carolyn Pendleton, Chair of the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries.

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HARRY DENMAN EVANGELISM AWARD

Doug Spencer and Larry Potts presented the **Harry Denman Evangelism Award** to the Lay Recipient, Richard Wilson, from St. John's UM Church in Berlin, New Jersey. The Harry Denman Evangelism Award was presented to Clergy Recipient, Rev. Doug Smith, Pastor of the Sharptown UM Church in Sharptown, New Jersey.

SPECIAL THANKS

Ressie Fuller acknowledged and thanked Harriett Olson, Melissa Ann Rivera, June McCullough, and Nicola Mulligan for all their hard work for the conference.

RECONSIDERATION OF A PREVIOUS RESOLUTION

June McCullough moved for reconsideration of a previous resolution relating to **Rule 84**. The motion passed. She explained that an incorrect version of Rule 84 had been printed. She read the correct version of Rule 84 as it was being distributed to the members and moved that the correct rendition be substituted for the incorrect. The motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Harriott gave the necessary announcements.

GRACE FOR THE EVENING MEAL

Heasun Kim, Chairperson of the Order of Elders, gave the blessing for the dinner meal. The session was dismissed.

FIRST DAY – THIRD SESSION

Thursday, May 28, 2009, 7:30 PM

RETHINK CHURCH CAMPAIGN

Kenneth Sloane spoke about the **Rethink Church Campaign**, suggesting that Adam Hamilton had already begun influencing the conference to this way of thinking. Sloane challenged the conference to hear the United Methodist slogan: Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors in the verb tense, as a way of serving people outside the church. He also suggested that people try to understand church as not just for Sundays, but for all the other days of the week as well. He suggested the following websites for more information: www.tenthousanddoors.org, www.find-a-church.org and www.rethinkchurch.org.

EPISCOPACY COMMITTEE

Frank Fowler, Chairperson of the Conference Episcopacy Committee, expressed his gratitude for having the privilege of working with a fine team of conference leaders; providing support, prayer, counsel, and feedback to Bishop Devadhar. He recognized and thanked each member of the committee for their time and effort. He then requested the Bishop's wife, Prema, to come forward. He presented her with a wrist corsage and thanked her for her support.

Fowler expressed thanks to the Northeastern Jurisdiction for re-assigning Bishop Devadhar to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference. He asked the conference to welcome back both Bishop and Prema.

INTRODUCTION

Bishop Devadhar introduced the Bishop from our sister Conference in Korea, Bishop Moon Goo Shin from Seoul. Bishop Shin offered words of greeting and expressed his anticipation for his participation in the Commissioning and Ordination Services.

PRESENTATIONS

Bishop Devadhar expressed his appreciation to Nicola Mulligan and Susan Pfeiffenberger for their unending help and support to him in the conference office.

He also expressed appreciation for his part time Episcopal Associates, the Rev. Charles Bender and the Rev. Sandra Murphy, for all their time and effort. He informed the conference that Sandra would be stepping down from this position and was being appointed to a local church. For her service in the capacity of Episcopacy Associate, Bishop presented her with a plaque.

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Bishop Devadhar thanked Rev. Galen Goodwin for his work in the church, particularly as Conference Parliamentarian. Bishop presented Galen with a plaque.

EPISCOPAL ADDRESS

Bishop Devadhar greeted the conference members as Brothers and Sisters in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He quoted from Psalm 116:14-16 to express his gratefulness and thankfulness for being reassigned to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference. Bishop expressed how deeply excited his wife, Prema, and he are to be back. He gave thanks to the many people who show their love and support for his servant leadership.

Bishop Devadhar thanked Douglas Arpert, for his faithful and dedicated service to the Annual Conference as Chancellor for nearly 20 years. The Bishop also presented Mr. Arpert with a plaque from the conference. He congratulated Mr. Arpert upon being named as a Federal magistrate judge for the district of New Jersey, which became effective on April 6, 2009.

The primary theme of Bishop Devadhar's address was **"Living the Lord's Prayer: the Radical Way of Living for Making Disciples."** He invited those gathered to reflect with him on the meaning of the Lord's Prayer, especially the petition, 'thy kingdom come', or as he preferred, "thy realm come." He challenged all to commit themselves to praying, breathing and living this prayer in every facet of their lives during the coming year for the sake of Kingdom or Realm of God. The Bishop then applied the framework of the Kingdom of God to discuss the four foci that our Council of Bishops has laid out for the work of the church. "What if," said the Bishop, "all the churches in our Annual Conferences strove not only to pray for 'thy Kingdom to come,' but also acted that prayer out through everything we are and everything we do?" Surely we would see signs of the Realm of God: signs of hope for our cities like Camden; signs of revitalization through church development and starting new congregations; signs that we are fulfilling the primary focus of our Annual Conference by raising up 'Kingdom leaders' to engage 'Kingdom work'; signs that we are making a difference through ministries targeting global health initiatives like the 'nothing but nets' program; signs that indeed we are making progress towards the elimination of poverty.

The Bishop challenged conference members to re-think church in the light of God's coming realm. Bishop insisted we must pray for "thy kingdom come" by working with Christ to bring about the characteristics of God's realm into the world in which we live.

CELEBRATION OF APPOINTMENTS

Before beginning the Celebration of Appointments, Bishop Devadhar called upon Erica Munoz to speak to the conference about the offering being received for the **Northeastern Jurisdiction Mission of Peace**. This mission, birthed out of this conference, was Bishop Dale White's inspiration and it has grown over the years.

Each District Superintendent was introduced and the appointments were read.

At the beginning of the reading of appointments for the Palisades District, Ressie Fuller, Conference Lay Leader, read the Certificate of Charter for the new Korean United Methodist Church, **Disciple UM Church in Alpine, New Jersey**. She presented the Certificate to Rev. Ahn.

Bishop Devadhar also recognized the Rev. Dr. Hae Jong Kim and thanked him for his instrumental leadership in starting Korean language churches in the New Jersey Episcopal area.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ressie Fuller prayed for the pastors, the new appointments of the Annual Conference and gave the Benediction.

SECOND DAY – FIRST SESSION
Friday, May 29, 2009, 9:00 AM

GATHERING

Chris Heckert taught an African song, "Kanisa Litajengua," to the gathering conference.

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ORDER OF THE DAY

Adam Hamilton introduced church member and comedian, Kelly Sisney, as one who ministers through comedy.

Kelly entertained the conference with numerous anecdotes about ministry and life at **The Church of the Resurrection** (COR). She described COR as "Six Flags for Christianity." She expressed that COR is just like any other church, only when mistakes happened it is on a much larger scale and so it is much funnier. Her presentation allowed the conference to laugh about what happens at COR. She described COR as a "hospital for my soul."

Adam Hamilton shared innovative ways of preaching and teaching in a local church. He warned pastors about having too much control within their churches - what he called "institutional constipation." He says that a church should be, in the words of Leonard Sweet, a "Soul Food Café." Hamilton described what he felt were the key objectives of preaching: to teach, to inspire, to give practical advice for life and to call to action. He said preaching should be creative, practical, energizing, interesting, intriguing and should take people on a journey.

His basic format for a sermon was to present a human condition, exegete all that is involved in that condition, apply the Bible to it and illustrate it in some way. A sermon should answer the question "What does God have to say to the world in which we live?" He reminded the conference that Methodists were known for great preaching. He encouraged preachers to reclaim the art of preaching, so when people want to hear good preaching they know to go to a Methodist Church.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE ORDER OF ELDERS

Steve Bechtold, Chairperson of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, presented the candidates for the Order of Elders in Full Connection:

Sung I1 Lee
Meekyung Choi-Kim
Barbara J. Hoffman
Frank A. Davis
Jeanette M. Block
Michael Sean Bill
Carletta Hamilton

HISTORICAL QUESTIONS

Bishop asked the candidates the historical questions from *The Book of Discipline* of the UM Church. They all answered with the correct responses.

SPECIAL THANKS

Bishop thanked Steve and all the members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry for their faithful work to the Conference.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Michael Harriott read **Rule 84, "Procedure For Voting On General Conference Constitutional Amendments."**

Bishop Devadhar announced that the session was now in Holy Conferencing. He stated that any person wishing to speak was to approach a microphone and only state his/her name and church. No one was to refer to any group affiliation. Bishop Devadhar emphasized that the Annual Conference cannot change the Amendments. We were simply voting "Yes" or "No."

Connie Ace and Galen Goodwin, Co-Leaders for the General Conference Delegation Team, presented the **Proposed Constitutional Amendments**. Connie explained the procedural reasoning for voting on the changes to the United Methodist Church Constitution and the seriousness of changing the Constitution. Galen explained that the votes are forwarded to The Council of Bishops; it is the aggregate count of all members from all Annual Conferences that will determine the passing or failure of the Amendments. He also spoke on the implications and possibilities of the outcomes of the Amendments.

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The members discussed the Amendments with their fellow Christians seated to their immediate left and right for ten minutes.

Bishop Devadhar called the conference back to order. Members received the opportunity to share their thoughts for sixty minutes. Bishop explained that each speaker will have up to two minutes to speak and will be allowed to finish his/her sentence before the microphone is turned off. When sixty minutes had elapsed, members were reminded that voting on the Proposed Constitutional Amendments will take place immediately after lunch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Harriott made the necessary announcements. Bishop Devadhar announced that the next session would convene at 1:20 PM.

DISMISSAL FOR LUNCH

Dean Maxine Beach, of Drew Theological School, gave the blessing for the noon meal.

SECOND DAY – SECOND SESSION
Friday May 29, 2009, 1:20 PM

SETTING THE BAR

Michael Harriott moved that the Bar of the Conference include all seats on the floor of the Conference, except the last rows in the back, to the far right which were marked off by a white rope and the rows immediately in front of the dais, which are set aside for visitors. The Bar of the Conference also extends to the Hospitality Area, the Video Room, and the Registration Area. The motion passed.

VOTING ON THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Michael Harriott explained the balloting process. Bishop Devadhar mentioned that elders and deacons voted into Full Membership in the Clergy Session are also eligible to vote. Michael introduced Theresa Hoover as the Head Teller and he asked all the other tellers to stand. He also introduced Jim Batten as the Judge designated to oversee the counting process.

The pages distributed the ballots. Members received adequate time to mark their ballots. The ballots were collected and the tellers retired to count the votes. Ressie Fuller, Conference Lay Leader, concluded the balloting process with prayer.

CONFERENCE PREACHER AND TEACHER

The conference preacher, Rev. Adam Hamilton, again introduced Kelly Sisney, a member of The Church of the Resurrection and a comedienne. Hamilton spoke of how Kelly uses her skills in comedy and humor to bring people to Christ.

Kelly made fun about growing up in a Lutheran Church. She entertained the audience with her description of the rigid rules and regulations she had to follow, and about her journey that led her to join the United Methodist Church later in her life. She further joked about how the best thing that she learned from the Methodist Church was about the grace of God for God's people and being a disciple of Christ. She greatly amused the conference with her humor and communication style.

Rev. Adam Hamilton, shared with the conference creative worship and evangelism strategies that the Church of the Resurrection has successfully implemented. He acknowledged the fact that every context is different, but our task is to translate the basic principles of reaching people into our own context; wrestle with the techniques and pursue opportunities for ministries passionately.

He encouraged members to answer these three questions while on life's journey: 1) Why do people need Jesus Christ? 2) Why do people need the Church? 3) Why do we need your particular church? He urged the conference members to identify what is so special about their particular church.

Rev. Hamilton gave some helpful suggestions and tips about how to be a welcoming congregation with respect to visitors, hospitality, new church members and evangelism strategies. He encouraged pastors to be passionate and creative in their approach to evangelism. He gave a new understanding of evangelism that involves first engaging un-churched people in missions that captivate their interests, then gradually bringing them into discipleship and allowing them to take on further challenges in ministry.

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CELEBRATION OF SPECIALIZED AND EXTENSION MINISTRIES

Worship began with a song from Kenya, "Kanisa Litajengua." Rev. Tanya Bennett led the Greeting and Opening Prayer, followed by the song "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore." Rev. Jenna Purkish Brash, Rev. David Ravinder and Rev. Vicki Brendler led the responsive reading: "Companion Litany of United Methodist Social Creed." Bishop Devadhar celebrated with joy the work of those in specialized ministries, extension ministries and all deacons. He thanked them for using their gifts and graces in ministry for Jesus Christ.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

Rev. Bobbi Rambach read the names of the retirees.

Retiring Clergy 2009:

Dan R. Bottorff	Galen L. Goodwin	Jorge E. Sanchez
Rose Burn-Hayes	Polly E. Hare, Jr.	Harold E. Schmul
Edward J. Casey	Ruth W. Hennessey	Pedro Trinidad
Ronald A. Crouch	James L. Hofacker	Robert L. Webster
John T. Edwards	David J. Isch	Frederick D. Wilkes III
John M. Foster	Diane Klemann	Betty Jane Young
		Jane Verstoep

As their names were read, the retirees proceeded to the front of the worship area. Bishop asked that the conference thank them for their faithful years of service, which totaled almost 469 years, including 110 moves.

GOLDEN CIRCLE RECOGNITIONS

Rev. Gary Hope read the names of those in ministry for 50 years:

Bruce Barrabee	Philip Jensen	Leonard Rowell
Richard Bridge	A. Keyes Layton	Norman Schanck
Newton Greiner	Alf O. Olsen	H. Alden Welch
Armen Hanjian		

Bishop Devadhar presented those in attendance with a plaque.

SCRIPTURE

The Scripture passage from Genesis 37:5-7 was read in Korean.

SERMON

Bishop Devadhar introduced the guest preacher, Bishop Moon Goo Shin, Bishop from our sister Conference in Korea. Bishop Shin preached from the passage Genesis 37:5-7. His sermon was entitled "Have a Dream in Jesus Christ."

Bishop Shin reflected on Seoul's recovery process from the Korean War. The land had been barren and destroyed, but slowly the rebuilding process started. Now Seoul has become a beautiful place with elaborate architectural details, prestigious water fountains and pristine greenery in the nation's capital. Among the people of Seoul were Christians who had hope in Christ that God will not forsake them, but uplift them.

Bishop Shin pointed out from the Bible that Joseph had a dream and when he told his brothers they hated him more. They tried to kill him and Joseph had to face hard times; nevertheless, he did not let go of his integrity. Joseph persevered and was elected Prime Minister of Egypt and reigned over his brothers. Great people are ordinary people who have big dreams. Bishop Shin encouraged the conference members to dream and believe that Christ will bring our dreams to fruition.

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OFFERING

The offering received during the service will benefit the **North Katanga Region** in the Congo of Africa. Conference members viewed a video clip that shows what the United Methodist Church is doing in that region.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR COMMISSIONING

Bishop Devadhar presented the candidates for commissioning and examined the candidates by asking them the historical questions. Bishop Devadhar requested that his episcopal colleagues, Bishop Moon-Goo Shin and Bishop Felton May join him in the laying on of hands on each candidate.

Commissioned Clergy:

Byungil Ahn
Jean M. Arlea
Barbara May Frohock
Erik Charles Hall
Hillary Anne Crute Johnson
Hyoik Kim
Thomas Albert Lank
Erica Leigh Milone Munoz
James Geunsu Ryoo
Rosanna E. Suh
Susan Victor
Sharon Capron Yarger

PASSING OF THE MANTLE

Rev. Galen Goodwin, Retiring Clergy, passed the mantle from his generation onto the next generation. Rosanna E. Suh, a Commissioned Clergy, received the mantle on behalf of her colleagues. The service ended with the singing of "The Summons."

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

The Rev. Sung Hoon Ahn, Dean of the Cabinet, presented the District Superintendents' Report. He began by having all the District Superintendents to sing "Table of Grace." Rev. Ahn spoke of how they were looking forward to working with Bishop Devadhar in the year ahead. In consideration of time, Rev. Ahn said this was his short report and asked that it be considered complete. Bishop Devadhar requested that Rev. Ahn's complete written report be printed in both the Relay and the Journal (See Section VIII, Reports).

In summation, Rev. Ahn wrote of how pleased the Greater NJ Annual Conference delegates to the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference were to welcome to the New Jersey Area for a second quadrennium Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar as our spiritual leader and shepherd. Ahn said of our Bishop, with his leadership and by our working diligently with him, we may bring about another spiritual Great Awakening to our Conference and beyond.

Rev. Ahn set three goals for the district superintendents and all members of the Conference, the first, to set our goals high and even higher. Referring to the state of the economy, Ahn challenged the conference to set goals high to bring out the best of who we are and what we can do. He is expecting this from both leaders and followers so that we may gather more fruit from our ministry in the next harvest season.

His second challenge is for us to be more intentional about being fully connectional churches. This not only includes paying 100% of our Shared Ministry, but also participating in conference and district sponsored learning opportunities.

Rev. Ahn's third challenge is to transform the world through prayer. He spoke of how strongly our Bishop leads in the ministry of prayer and he wants all churches to pray for their pastors. He encouraged everyone to not hesitate when approached with a prayer request; pray right there at that moment. This is the moment to begin building personal relationships and trust.

Rev. Ahn concluded by quoting one of his favorite Scriptures: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1). He emphasized that this is a time for us to focus our hearts, minds and souls to make more disciples; to revitalize our congregations and to strengthen the leadership of our clergy and laity. He believes God's purpose is for us to be faithful and successful in our ministry. He then gave thanks on behalf of Bishop Devadhar and the Cabinet, to each and every congregation in this Annual Conference for their faithful and fruitful ministries.

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SERVICE OF ORDINATION
Friday, May 29, 2009, 7:30PM

To commence the Service of Ordination, the ordinands, clergy and bishops processed to the hymn, "God of Grace and God of Glory."

Guests of this year's Ordination Service were: Bishop Felton Edwin May, Bishop of the United Methodist Church, Retired; Bishop Moon-Goo Shin, Resident Bishop, Seoul Annual Conference, Korean Methodist Church; and Rev. Dr. F. Russell Mitman, Pennsylvania Southeast Conference, United Church of Christ.

The offering received during the service will aid the **Central Conference Pension Initiative.**

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar's sermon was based on Matthew 14:22-33. Devadhar's message to the ordinands was "What Got Into You?" Bishop Devadhar reflected on his 34 years of ministry and inspired the ordinands by reminding them that "Jesus will never leave you and will reach down and take hold of your faint heart."

Bishop Devadhar recounted an experience of ice fishing with a member from his congregation. Because of the man's persistence, he had not been able to refuse. Questioning his decision, the Bishop asked himself, "What has gotten into me to say 'yes' to this ice fishing?"

Bishop drew the conclusion, from the gospel lesson, that Jesus understands. Jesus came to rescue and calls the faint of heart knowing "what got into you." He calls us to get into the boat and trust the Lord through the rough seas and trials of ministry. Reach up and hold His hand. "When our fear overtakes us," preached the Bishop, "we tend to trust our own instincts, trying to back off from what we are doing and we start asking the existential question, 'what got into me'? It is in those moments of our helplessness that God is there with us and God sends angels to us, and the Holy Spirit surrounds us." Bishop Devadhar shared an illustration from Jim Wallis' *The Great Awakening: Seven Ways to Change the World.* An old Cherokee story talks of a battle that goes on inside us between two wolves: one an evil wolf, one a good wolf. One characterized by anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt . . . the other by joy, peace, love, hope, serenity,

humility. The wolf that wins is the one we feed. The Bishop urged all the ordinands to feed the good wolf. There will be times of trial, times of challenge, times when we think we are not able to go through with ministry. But through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can find the confidence and strength to continue ministry because we are helped by the One who calls us from the beginning.

ORDAINED ELDERS:

Carletta Hamilton Aston (transfer of orders)
Michael Sean Bill
Jeanette M. Block
Frank A. Davis
Barbara J. Hoffman
Meekyung Choi Kim
Sung Il Lee (Received into Full Membership from the Korean Methodist Church)

Bishop Devadhar offered an invitation to Christian ministry at the end of the Ordination Service. Many responded and received prayers of blessing. Bishop Devadhar concluded the service with a final prayer, dismissal and blessing. Conference members recessed to the song, "I Need You to Survive."

THIRD DAY – FIRST SESSION
Saturday, May 30, 2009, 9:00 AM

PLENARY SESSION

Morning worship began with joyous praise: "God is Good," "Hambanathi" (The Journey is Long), and "Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord." Worship Team member, Enrique Lebron, led the conference in Tungsung Kido prayer, which means to pray aloud together. Conference members prayed aloud in their mother tongue.

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GREETINGS

Bishop Devadhar opened the session as he greeted the conference attendees.

MOTION TO SEAT A TEMPORARY SECRETARY

Bishop Devadhar requested a motion to seat Edward Rusk as temporary Conference Secretary, while Michael Harriott officiates a funeral service at his local church. The motion passed.

PRAYER

Galen Goodwin offered a prayer asking God's blessings for the day's work.

ORDER OF THE DAY

Bishop Devadhar introduced the preacher for the day, Bishop Felton Edwin May. He described Bishop May as a mentor to many and gave testimony that Bishop May was the person who instilled in him a passion for global missions, justice and shalom.

Bishop May, Director of the Multi-Ethnic Center For Ministry (MECM) of the Northeast Jurisdiction, expressed his concern about whether the MECM was still a viable organization. While considering Ezekiel 37, he raised the questions "If I were a doctor, would this patient live?" and "Will these bones rise again, can they live?"

Bishop May stated that according to statistics, fifty years from now, our Conference will have more racially-ethnic persons than Europeans. He is concerned that in fifty years, the UM Church may not reflect this diversity unless we take seriously God's call to evangelize our communities.

Bishop May described himself as conservatively liberal and liberally conservative, doing what God called him to do in the name of Christ. His call is to ignite fire, Holy Spirit fire like in the Book of Acts, into the Church. He sees the MECM as a place of holy witnessing and of sharing the love of Christ. He shared his vision for the MECM, bringing all of God's children together. He encouraged conference members to see the MECM as partners in ministry and what it could be for all of God's people.

Bishop Devadhar called for "Amen's" to affirm the Greater New Jersey Conference's commitment to the MECM.

WORDS OF THANKS

Bishop Devadhar introduced and thanked Marjorie Kimbrough for her leadership in the morning Bible Studies.

Bishop also invited the Program Ministry Team members to stand. He thanked each of them for their work and dedication to the Conference.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: LEGISLATION REGARDING USE OF SURPLUS

John Bishop, President of CF&A, presented the Legislation Regarding the Use of Surplus and made a motion that it be adopted. The motion passed.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: POLICY ON VISA SPONSORSHIP

Joe Monahan presented the Policy on Visa Sponsorship Resolution. Having received the permission from the body, Bishop Devadhar clarified why this resolution was needed.

Harriett Olsen made a friendly amendment to change the word "affiliate" to "sponsored." The amendment was accepted by CF&A. The motion passed.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: PROPOSED SHARED MINISTRIES PLAN (BUDGET 2010)

Ed Barber presented the 2010 Budget. He explained the Budget is based on a potential 84% giving rate, considering the current economic conditions. He further explained that with this Budget, shared ministry would be increasing approximately 0.7% by using 2009 numbers. The Conference Shared Ministry amount would remain the same as 2009, however, due to the closing of three churches, this slight increase will occur. He also stated that Annuitant's health insurance and benefits for 2010 will remain the same as 2009. Barber

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explained that this was possible because CF&A extended the Shortfall Recovery Plan from eight to nine years. After much discussion and several failed motions the 2010 Budget was approved.

CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: SHARED MINISTRY FORMULA RESOLUTION

John Bishop presented the Shared Ministry Formula Resolution informing the conference that since no new formula had yet been created, the Shared Ministry amounts will remain almost the same, increasing only 0.7%, by using 2008 numbers. The motion passed.

PRESENTATION

John Bishop informed conference members that one major change being considered in the new Shared Ministry Formula is Second Mile Giving will only be credited to a local church after their First Mile Giving had been paid 100%. This, CF&A felt, would be fair to those churches paying their First Mile Giving in full, while others do not, but give to Second Mile Giving effectively reducing their Shared Ministry amount.

Bishop Devadhar invited all the members of CF&A to stand, he thanked them for their service to the Conference.

LAY LEADER'S REPORT

Ressie Fuller, Conference Lay Leader, began her report by thanking the Laity Council, the Dean of the Program Staff, Varlyna Wright and everyone who has been praying for her. She read from Luke 5:1-6 and focused on Peter's reply "Yet, if you say so." She challenged the conference, even with all the challenges facing us, to be like Peter and keep our eyes on Christ. She reminded conference members that we have the power of the Holy Spirit and we should be out teaching and laboring for Christ, doing the work we are called to do.

Bishop Devadhar expressed his appreciation for Ressie's ministry.

REPORT OF THE VISION TEAM

Heike Graff presented the Report of the Vision Team. She explained the Vision Team was established to maintain the focus of the Conference Vision for 2001-2007. She reported the results of data tabulated on the following issues:

1. Attendance:
   - 181 Churches had increased attendance
   - 382 Churches had decreased in attendance

2. Making of Disciples by Profession of Faith:
   - 10 Churches had no new members
   - 175 Churches had two or less
   - 48 Churches had over one hundred

3. Growth Spiritually through Adult Formation or Sunday School
   - 27 Churches showed no increase
   - 305 Churches showed increase

4. Ministry with Children, Youth and Young Adults
   - 52 Churches have no participation
   - 80 Churches have no Sunday School
   - 314 Churches have no Youth Group
   - 354 Churches have no Confirmation Classes
   - 314 Churches showed a decrease in this area from 2001 to 2007

5. Outreach Ministries
   - 390 Churches have Faith Formation Groups
   - 391 Churches do not have a United Methodist Men's Group

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239 Churches do not have a United Methodist Women's Group

Heike stated the Vision Team realizes churches have ministries that do not fall into any of the above categories and did not want to minimize them. They are looking into new ways to incorporate other categories.

REPORT OF THE STUDY STRUCTURE TASKFORCE

David Evans presented the Report of the Study Structure Taskforce. With the use of a PowerPoint presentation, he explained the mission and make-up of the team, their purpose, the actions they have already taken, their preliminary findings and their preliminary recommendations. Their last recommendation, number six, gives the Primary Task Team the authority to take action on the recommendations of the Study Structure Taskforce in between sessions of Annual Conferences.

A point of order was raised by Fred Price about being able to vote on the Report due to the fact that conference members had not received the Report in a hardcopy.

Robert Costello made a motion to suspend the rules to receive and act on the Report. The motion passed.

Philip Wood offered a friendly amendment to vote on the first five recommendations together and the sixth recommendation by itself. The amendment was accepted.

June McCullough asked for clarification as to which positions are influenced by recommendation number six. Again, having received permission from the body, Bishop Devadhar stated it would affect the District Superintendents, the District Administrative Assistants and the Program Staff.

Edna Barrier made a motion to table this report until after lunch. The motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ed Rusk made the necessary announcements. He reminded conference members that the Gambling Resolution had been removed from the Consent Calendar and would be discussed after lunch.

Edna Barrier spoke about and promoted the 2009 School of Missions, encouraging as many members as possible to attend.

Gary Hope, a representative of Cokesbury, thanked the Conference for their patience and their generosity. He stated sales from this Conference were over $45,000.00

Bishop recognized all members from all Conference Boards and Agencies and thanked them for their support and efforts.

DISMISSAL

Jose Bocanegra gave the blessing for the lunch meal.

DAY THREE – SECOND SESSION
Saturday, May 30, 2009, 1:00 PM

PLENARY SESSION

The conference convened as we sang "Jaya Ho," which means "Victory Hymn."

STRUCTURE STUDY TASKFORCE REPORT

Creed Pogue made a motion to remove the Structure Study Taskforce Report from the table. The motion passed.

David Evans moved Recommendations 1-5. The motion passed.

Creed Pogue offered a friendly amendment to Resolution number six to include after 'Annual Conference'; "as long as it does not conflict with *The Book of Discipline.*" The amendment was accepted.

Trisha Piaza offered a friendly amendment that the word 'should' be changed to 'would'. The amendment was accepted.

Betty Hines offered a friendly amendment that the word 'effected' be changed to 'affected' The amendment was accepted.

The recommendation was approved with all the amendments.

The entire report was approved. Bishop Devadhar thanked David and the Structure Study Taskforce for their work.

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EQUITABLE COMPENSATION AND SALARY RECOMMENDATION FOR 2010

Jennifer Cho moved that the Annual Conference establishes that the **minimum equitable salary for clergy under appointment** in the local church or charge effective **January 1, 2010** shall be:

a) Elders in Full Connection ……..…… $34,847 (77% of DAS)
b) Probationary & Associate Members ……. $33,105 (95% of $34,847)
c) Full-time Local Pastor ……....$31,362 (90% of $34,847)

There will be **$300** minimum increments in the base cash salary for each year of **full-time service up to fifteen years** as established by the 2007 Annual Conference. The motion passed. Jennifer presented the **Housing Policy Recommendations**. It was accepted. Bishop Devadhar thanked Jennifer and the members of the committee for their work.

BALLOT RESULTS

Ed Rusk read the ballot results.

Amendment #	Yes	No		Amendment #	Yes	No
I		405	320	XVII	413	249
II		455	244	XVIII	279	392
III		279	439	XIX	546	139
IV		208	518	XX	270	397
V		277	437	XXI	296	429
VI		341	360	XXII	626	89
VII		272	434	XXIII	210	500
VIII		520	195	XXIV	286	436
IX		441	264	XXV	296	432
X		214	513	XXVI	232	490
XI		299	377	XXVII	287	425
XII		293	382	XXVIII	288	432
XIII		279	396	XXIX	290	431
XIV		290	387	XXX	291	430
XV		235	442	XXXI	294	425
XVI		298	377	XXXII	291	432

CONFERENCE OFFERINGS

Ed Rusk read the totals of the offerings taken during Conference:

District Superintendents' Sustentation Fund $6,719.97
Northeastern Jurisdiction Mission of Peace $3,776.80
North Katanga/Congo Annual Conference Partner $5,489.08
Central Conference Pension Initiative $4,488.39

RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE CONFERENCE ADVANCE SPECIALS

John DiGiamberardino presented the Resolution to Designate Conference Advance Specials. The motion passed.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Ed Rusk presented the Consent Calendar. The motion passed.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CLERGY/LAITY SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, ABUSE AND HARASSMENT POLICY

Varlyna Wright presented the Resolution to Approve Clergy/Laity Sexual Misconduct, Abuse and Harassment Policy. The motion passed.

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RESOLUTION ON ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE GREAT COMMISSION

Creed Pogue presented a Resolution on Accountability and the Great Commission, sighting Paragraph 604.9 of *The Book of Discipline*. After some discussion it was determined that the Resolution was out of order because it attempts to change *The Book of Discipline*. The Conference is not authorized to change *The Book of Discipline.* The Resolution was referred to the Congregational Development Team.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

David Wiley presented the Nominations Committee Report with additions and deletions. It was approved as reported.

David Wiley made a motion that the Primary Task Team be given authority to fill any vacancies that may occur between sessions of Annual Conference. The motion passed. Bishop Devadhar thanked David and the members of the committee for their work.

BOARD OF PENSIONS AND HEALTH BENEFITS REPORT

Eleanor Hartley presented the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits Report. She informed the Conference that the BP&HB changed the insurance provider from Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield to CIGNA Health Care. Because of this change, they were able to maintain the same rates without a reduction in benefits. The report was approved. Bishop Devadhar thanked Eleanor and the members of the committee for their work.

RESOLUTION TO FACILITATE CHURCH DOCUMENT SUBMISSION

Brian Astle presented the Resolution to Facilitate Church Document Submission via the Internet. John Bishop called for a point of order because the resolution has financial impact. According to Rule 70 it must be reviewed by CF&A before it can be voted on. Bishop Devadhar ruled the resolution out of order and referred it to CF&A for a financial impact study.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT CHANGES TO THE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The Resolution to accept changes to the Educational Society Constitutional and By-Laws was withdrawn.

RESOLUTION FOR CLARITY IN CONFERENCE JOURNAL

Karl Kraft presented a Resolution for Clarity in the Conference Journal. He made an additional recommendation that the Journal include cross-referencing. Creed Pogue made a friendly amendment that this be submitted to the Journal Committee. The amendment was accepted. The Resolution was referred to the Journal Committee.

REPORT OF GNJUM CAMPING MINISTRY, INC.

Jill Hubbard presented the report of the GNJUM Camping Ministry. Over seven hundred children and youth attended camp last year and of those, one hundred and fifty received camperships. The total amount given in camperships was over $36,000. The goals for 2009 are that one thousand children and youth attend the camps this year, and that each attendee be given a mission opportunity. Jill asked the conference members to offer their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness to this vital ministry. She encouraged those who have attended camp to tell their stories.

Bishop Devadhar thanked Jill and the Camping Ministry for their work.

REPORT OF THE STUDY OF THE MISSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES TASKFORCE

Doug Ruffle reported updated information on how the Missional Responsibilities Taskforce is meeting the 2007 goal of one new church planting per year. As of this year, three new church plant opportunities have been initiated. He also informed the conference that in 2009 the Taskforce initiated training and certification for clergy and laity for revitalization, leadership development, programs for church growth and coaching for new church planters.

Bishop Devadhar thanked Doug and the entire Taskforce for their diligence.

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MOMENT OF PRIVILEGE

Marie Varley, Regional Director of **CROP Walk**, thanked the Greater NJ Conference for its commitment and leadership in CROP Walks throughout the state of New Jersey. In the last year, the Walks collected over $2 million in New Jersey.

B-1 PROGRAM

Chris Heckert spoke about the new youth program, 'B-1', which has its roots in New Jersey. This program challenges youth to fast for twenty-four hours and mobilizes them to understand the causes of poverty around the world. Heckert directed churches to visit the website, www.fasttodaychangetomorrow.org, for additional information. He also raved that New Jersey has the honor of having the highest increase in church participation in this program.

Bishop Devadhar thanked Chris for his ministry.

RESOLUTION CONCERNING GAMBLING AT VALLEY FORGE

Regina Albert, Chairperson of the Sessions Team, presented the Resolution Concerning Gambling at Valley Forge Convention Center. Discussion and debate occurred over alternative venues and Conference options.

Tom O'Hern moved that the GNJAC meet in 2010 at Valley Forge. Furthermore, that the Sessions Team explore other location options in 2011 and reduce the number of convening days from four to three. The motion failed.

Connie Ace made a motion that the GNJAC honor its contract to meet here at Valley Forge Convention Center in 2010, but explore alternate sites for 2011. She also moved that the Primary Task Team be given responsibility for making the decision on where to meet in 2011 based on the recommendation of the Sessions Team. The motion passed.

MOMENT OF PRIVILEGE

Bishop Devadhar informed the conference that the cross he is wearing was made from remnants of the stained glass windows from the Pitman UM Church after the fire. For further information about the cross, contact the Pitman UM Church.

2010 DATES

Regina Albert, Chairperson of the Sessions Team, announced the dates for the 2010 Annual Conference as June 3rd–5th, and tentative dates for 2011 are June 1st – 4th. They were accepted.

THANKS

Bishop Devadhar thanked all who assisted the Annual Conference in any capacity, both great and small. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

SENDING FORTH

Having concluded the business of the 10th Session of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, Bishop Devadhar led the conference in a **Litany of Commitment** and pronounced the Benediction. The conference members greeted each other as they departed.

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CERTIFICATE OF ORDINATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT on Friday, the 29th of May 2009, at Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, pursuant to the orders of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, and in accordance with the provisions of the DISCIPLINE therefore, I ordained as:

ELDERS

Carletta Hamilton Aston (transfer of order)
Michael Sean Bill
Jeanette M. Block
Frank A. Davis
Barbara J. Hoffman
Meekyung Choi Kim

Received into Full Membership from the Korean Methodist Church

Sung Il Lee

Also at the same place and on the same day and by the same authority I commissioned the following persons as:

PROBATIONARY ELDERS

Byungil Ahn
Jean M. Arlea
Barbara May Frohock
Erik Charles Hall
Hillary Anne Crute Johnson
Hyoik Kim
Erica Leigh Milone Munoz
James Geunsu Ryoo
Rosanna E. Suh

PROBATIONARY DEACONS

Thomas Albert Lank
Susan Victor
Sharon Capron Yarger

Sudarshana Devadhar
Resident Bishop, Greater NJ Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

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JOURNAL CERTIFICATION

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing is a correct and complete report of the proceedings of the tenth session of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church held at Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, May 28-30, 2009.

Sudarshana Devadhar
Resident Bishop, Greater New Jersey Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

Michael M. Harriott
Secretary, Greater New Jersey Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

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