

U.M. Daily

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

the 33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Prior to the opening of the 33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference, the Clergy gathered for a time of covenanting, prayer, and reflection.

Wednesday, June 14, 2017
Orders Covenant Session
Orton Center 1:00 PM

As the clergy gathered for lunch prior to the Orders Covenant Session, Rev. Colleen Windham-Hughes offered a word of welcome. She explained that photographs would be displayed of previous commissioning and ordination classes. The gathering was invited to consider what has changed since they began in ministry? Rev. Erin McFee offered an invocation and invited those gathered to begin the meal. Following the meal, the clergy were delighted to welcome Bishop Grant Hagiya back to Cal-Pac in his new capacity as bishop, and he graciously answered many questions -- including instruction on the appointment process, his vision for mission in our area, and his personal practices of renewal.

The Orders Covenant Session began with a welcome by Rev. Ken Suhr who invited the gathering to sing "Great is thy Faithfulness". Joys and concerns were lifted up and Rev. Ed Hansen offered prayer.

Rev. Colleen Windham-Hughes introduced the Orders Executive Committee and invited the gathering to contact the members as needed for support. Rev. Colleen Windham-Hughes read ¶306 on Orders and asked the gathering to reflect on ¶306.

Rev. Ken Suhr shared what it means for him for the UM Church to be a church of "the Movement" and not "the Moment." He encouraged the clergy gathered to shift from a moments-based church to a movements-based community, emphasizing that this shift takes change, sacrifice, and openness. Rev. Suhr noted the Orders Executive Committee is working to

promote covenantal relationships between clergy in the conference and encouraged clergy to start and/or become part of such groups.

Rev. Moonyoung Lee shared about the history of Methodist Class Meetings, distributing “Class Tickets” based on the original tickets given to Methodist class meeting participants. The tables were designated as Covenant Groups and asked to discuss, “How is it with your soul?”

Rev. Mark Richardson spoke about the importance of counseling for clergy and the resources the Orders Executive Committee provides to reimburse clergy for counseling for 50 percent of out-of-pocket costs. Those at the tables were asked to discuss, “When something is broken in your life, where do you go to for help?”

Rev. Cathy Cooper-Ledesma shared about the importance of clergy participating in continuing education opportunities and the resources the Orders Executive Committee provides, including \$1,000 per quadrennium for continuing education and renewal leave.

Rev. Colleen Windham-Hughes talked about what the Orders Executive Committee provides, including connecting pastors with Elder Pastors, sending cards to grieving clergy families on behalf of the conference clergy, and staying connected with retired clergy through CHARMS.

Rev. Paige Eaves and Rev. Adiel De Pano led in a laying on of hands for Bishop Hagiya as the gathering prepared to enter into the opening worship of Annual Conference. Rev. Tom Choi led the gathering in singing “Be Thou My Vision”. Bishop Hagiya gave a closing benediction.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference
Opening Worship
Wednesday June 14, 2017
Memorial Chapel 3:00 PM

Worship leader John Oh invited the gathering to rise and sing. The Annual Conference Worship Band lead the gathering in singing, “This is the Day”, “This is Amazing Grace”, “Great Are You Lord,” and “Breathe.”

Rev. Karen Clark Ristine and Rev. Dr. Lincoln Galloway led the Call to Worship which was based on Ezekiel 37:1-5, 11-14. Bishop Grant Hagiya, Lay Leaders - Phil and Connee Freeman, along with the Cabinet stood as the litany of response was shared. The gathering sang “And Are We Yet Alive” and recited the Litany of Response. Rev. Ruben Esponda read Matthew 10:5-10 from *The Message*.

Bishop Grant Hagiya offered the Episcopal Address. Since election, he has had one burning goal: to revitalize the churches. Our conference’s 10-year statistics show decline and the Bishop

shared his belief that this occurs when we give up the opportunities to transform individual lives. Our leadership has not been clear as to where we need to go and why we need to go there.

Bishop Hagiya wishes for United Methodists to have more conversations in light of the tumultuous events and the divide over LGBT issues. He has become more convinced that the UMC must stay together and that there is a way forward, together.

On average, the UMC has divided every 50 years in our existence - over doctrine, over slavery, and over culture. Dividing is not new to the Methodist Church. If we split apart over the issue of human sexuality, we will lose far more than we gain.

Bishop Hagiya listed UMC Missional accomplishments to be proud of: Raising over 68 million dollars for Imagine No Malaria; becoming a global worldwide church with increasing members from Africa and Asia; United Methodist Committee on Relief being sought out by the federal government to teach and implement case work; and our church's building of the first great university for the African continent, Africa University.

The mission of the UMC must remain primary and our ideological divisions remain secondary. We are reminded that this is God's mission, not ours. Our own sinful nature thwarts our mission when we argue over sexual identity.

Ninety percent of the UMC believes that any separation will harm our denomination. It is only the extremes of our Church's right and left - traditional and progressive - that want the Church to split. People will leave in any change process. We must ask, "How many casualties can we withstand as leaders?" Casualties are part of the change process and a reality.

Bishop Hagiya stressed that the church must find a way to stay together for the sake of the world. To emphasize this, he had the body read 1 Corinthians 3:4-9 in unison.

Bishop Hagiya said that love and reconciliation wins over fear and hatred. We can stay together in love even though we don't agree on this issue. Bishop Hagiya spoke of his colleague, Bishop Mike Lowry of the Texas Conference. While having similar histories, they discovered that they were opposites on both theological and social issues. Through their honest sharing, they decided their friendship showed a better way. They spoke of issues that were dear to their hearts - the mission of Jesus Christ.

Bishop Hagiya stressed that we must respect and love the other person even when we disagree on these issues - this is what we must do. We must center our attention on the mission God has given to us as addressed in Matthew 10:5-8. The body read Matthew 10:5-8 The Message Translation in unison.

We don't have to take on all the ills of the world. We need to tackle the problems where we live, right next door to us. Jesus has given us this power and authority to be in mission. We do not have to be ordained. All of us in our baptism are called to fulfill this mission.

“You have been treated generously. Now live generously.” Even though we don’t deserve this love, God has loved us. We fall short, but God still loves us. In turn, we must go and love everyone else with the same love God gives to us. This is our purpose.

Bishop Hagiya’s late father, a mechanic by trade, upon retirement volunteered at his local church as a handyman. He also wanted to help the community. He started a specialized recycling program for the local senior center. Upon retiring from this, the Center wanted to honor him with an award. Reluctantly, he went to the awards dinner. He had raised over \$400,000 through this program for the Center, right in his own community.

Matthew 10:9-10 was read in unison by the body.

We don’t need a lot of money and resources. All we need is ourselves. We are the equipment. All we really need is sustenance, so travel light. All is required of us is faith. Faith will guide us toward the way forward.

We must counter the ethos of fear in our society today. To confine the Gospel to ourselves is a travesty. If we are to have this reform, grow, and prosper, we must move away from institutional maintenance. We must engage with real missions right where we live! Go to the lost, confused people. Tell them of the Kingdom of God.

Metrics are always difficult. The Church needs to reform the way we count. There are certain metrics on which the Bishop said he is focusing. Every local church needs to reach out to its neighborhood and bring 10 new people to Christ every year. Every church to increase its average worship attendance by 10%.

Every church to make 25% of the current congregation living Disciples. Every church needs to give 100% of its apportionment. We need find new creative ways to raise funds.

Annual Conference Goals: the need to double our vital congregations; start 20 new faith communities in the next three years; create comprehensive revitalization of local church programs; and improve our leadership, discipling, and community engagement systems.

We will try to provide whatever resources each local church needs. Now is the time for us to trust in God and to work for health and vitality in our communities and churches. Now is the time for us to have a vision of who God calls us to be in our neighborhood.

We must decide if this is going to be our shared agenda, or only the Bishop’s agenda. We must have our own unique agenda for our local communities as well.

Closing Story - a family friend’s history mirrored the Bishop’s own as third-generation Japanese-Americans. The family’s dream was to purchase a farm which they did in the California desert. It was a piece of deserted, barren land which the father stared out for over 20 minutes in

silence. That night, the family gathered at the shelter on the property. The father stood up and announced that this was their new home. There would be no talk of going back. The father had a vision for the possibilities of this land. In the following years, the family would work hard to transform a dry and barren land into a rich and lush farm. Five of the 9 children went to college. Among the dozens of grandchildren and great-grandchildren are now doctors, lawyers, and teachers - all because of one person's vision.

Cal Pac Conference: do not give in to cynicism or denial. Now is the time for faith and vision. Now is the time for action. May it be so.

Claremont School of Theology President Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Kuan offered an invitation to support Claremont School of Theology with the offering and prayed over the gifts to be given.

Rev. Karen Clark Ristine invited members to write prayers on pieces of ribbon to be tied on the prayer walls in the chapel narthex.

Bishop Hagiya, with Phil and Connee Freeman, prayed Blessings of Healing and Hope. They invited the body to exchange signs of peace with one another, then the worship musicians ended the service with "I am Free to Run."

Messaging Moment

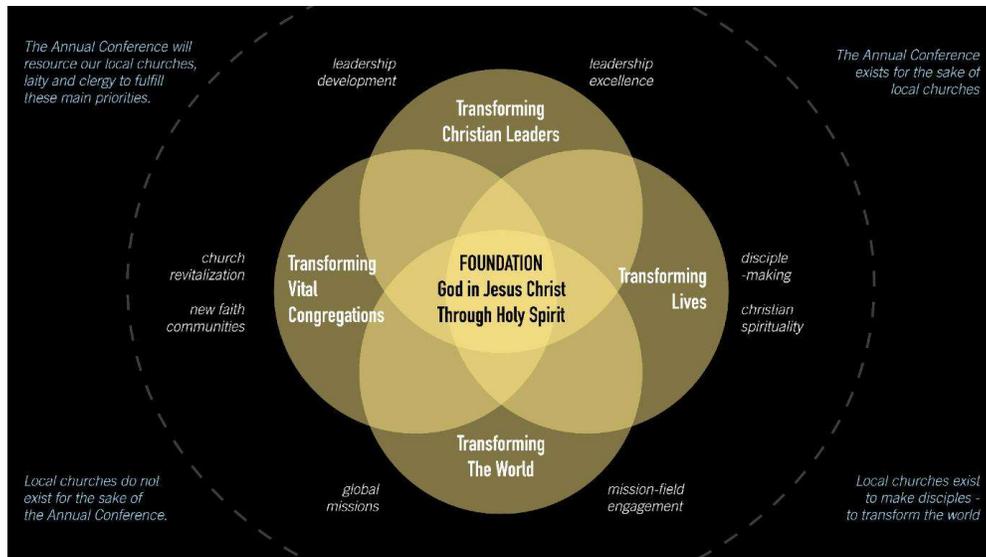
Hawaii District Superintendent Rev. Se Hee Han welcomed Bishop Grant Hagiya with a floral lei.

The first Messaging Moment was delivered by Bishop Grant Hagiya. He offered an overview of his vision for Annual Conference. The Bishop interspersed his talk with videos and diagrams.

The 1st Video was Stuck on an Escalator.

Change process is often like the video. We expect others to do the change but we are the ones who need to initiate change for our churches.

Diagram - "The Four Priorities": This diagram began on a napkin, then on a piece of paper, then a crude computer diagram. Cal-Pac Director of Communications James Kang created the finished diagram.



- At the center is God in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit: This is our core and everything emanates from this center. Communion with God, spirituality, must be our center.
- Transformation is the central theme in terms of language - all of the outside spokes are transformation. The four outlying circles are:
 - Transforming Leaders** - leadership development. Laity must lead this charge.
 - Transforming Lives** - disciple-making and spirituality. If we are disciples, then we are willing to go to our deaths for Jesus. We need that discipleship commitment.
 - Transforming the World** - this is what we do well as an AC and our church as a whole. This must continue, especially in our local communities.
 - Transforming Vital Congregations** - church revitalization and new church development. We need both to start new places for new people and to revitalize existing churches.
- Revitalization means we live to the potential of our churches. Like deferred maintenance, we are paying the price of not revitalizing our churches for so long.
- Resources - we must put all of our resource - financial, human, time and energy - toward healthy and vital congregations.

These main priorities are centered around some ethos. The AC will resource our local churches, laity and clergy.

Local churches exist to make disciples to transform the world.
 Apportionments will be decreased and alternative sources of revenue will be explored

The gathering was guided to share in small group discussions: "How does this information register with each of you?"

We are looking at the question of WHY? We must ask why.

Bishop Hagiya invited the gathering to start with considering why southern California is growing while the church is declining. This tension means that the mission field is large and needs us. The potential for Southern California is seen in these numbers below:

Population

2010 - ~ 24 million

2025 - ~ 29 million

2050 - ~39 million people.

This is the playing field, the harvest in our midst. We can't sit here and decline when our population is growing around us.

If we were a corporation and we saw these numbers, we would double the energy and resources poured into this area. The opportunity is right here and we are poised and positioned as a church to make a difference. We must be motivated to live out this potential.

Luke 10:1-3 was read in unison.

Our job is to pray, to train, to mentor the people who will go out into the mission field to make disciples. We are clear on where we need to go.

Bishop Hagiya reminded the gathering that the center of our foundation is God in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

Story: When Bishop Hagiya was 14, his mom was diagnosed with cancer and eventually passed. What got him through was looking at his mom's faith, which was like a rock. He pulled out his sixth-grade Bible and lived with it. The Bible enabled him to make it through this tragedy. We have to have our center in God in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. All else is peripheral to that center.

He closed by sharing a video with Michael Jr "How do I know" and encouraged the gathering to remember that we learn through failure so don't be afraid to fail.

We know what our What is. We must discover our Why in our souls. If we can discover our Why as an Annual Conference, we will discover our purpose. The Bishop invited the Annual Conference to find this Why. This is the beginning of our understanding of why we are here.

Bishop Hagiya invited Rev. Karen Clark Ristine to share announcements and a prayer for our dinner. She invited Episcopacy Committee Chair Rev. Adiel DePano to formally welcome the bishop back to the Cal-Pac Conference after eight years of being away. This is his first time among Cal-Pac as our bishop. Rev. Ristine said, "Welcome Home" and Rev. DePano invited the body to welcome the Bishop with our applause. Rev. DePano then led the body in prayer for Bishop Hagiya.

Rev. Ristine prayed grace over dinner and the body was dismissed until Clergy Executive Session and Laity Session.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Laity Session

Wednesday June 14, 2017

Orton Center 7:00 PM

The Laity Session began with a welcome by Andre Aldridge, West District Co-Lay Leader, recognizing first-time attenders. He said he wants everyone's experience to be positive and pointed out the information in the Member Guide.

Eutha Hankinson, member of Laity Council, gave the opening prayer.

Mercy Herstad, North District Co-Lay Leader lead the hymn, "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee." José Griffin Atli was the volunteer pianist.

Connee and Phil Freeman, Conference Co-Lay Leaders, were introduced. They said they pray constantly for the laity and regularly visit the churches in our Conference. They recognized 40 young adult attendees. Three members of the Laity Council, Liz Roark, Doug and Judy Lewis are retiring and were presented a recognition plaque.

Annie Solomon, East District Co-Lay Leader, recognized the Lay Young Adult Person of Year from Emmanuel UMC in San Bernardino - Michaela Roark. Dionne Taylor, South District Co-Lay Leader recognized the Lay Woman of the Year from Santee UMC - Robin Partridge. JP Harris, Co-Lay Leader North District recognized the Lay Man of the Year from Glendale UMC - Sheldon Hasse.

Denyse Barnes, Ojai UMC, intern at Hollywood UMC offered a preview of legislation. She defined terms. She discussed the different types of motions and the procedure to be followed during Plenary Sessions. Ms. Barnes explained the legislative section number at the upper right corner of the name tag. She informed the laity that the legislative sections will meet Thursday at 1:30 PM. Ms. Barnes explained microphone courtesies.

Andre Aldridge introduced Stan Shimotsu, West Los Angeles UMC, motivational speaker who spoke on the theme of "From There to Here". Mr Shimotsu shared that storytelling is healing. He explained the relevance of the Japanese internment to today.

Pat Hogan described the process for certification for lay servant ministries.

The gathering of the laity sang the closing hymn, "Surely the Presence of the Lord." Jasmine Platon was the volunteer pianist. Ralph Hogan offered a benediction.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference
Clergy Executive Session
Wednesday June 14, 2017
Memorial Chapel 7:00 PM

Bishop Grant Hagiya began the Executive Session of the Annual Conference by explaining those entitled to remain for the session. Rev. Elbert Kim requested on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry to allow the following to remain: laity serving on the Board of Ordained Ministry, non-clergy assisting with the Audio-Video systems, Gail Kendall and Martha Villalta from the Episcopal Office, and Cathy Wilson, the administrative coordinator for the Board of Ordained Ministry. The request was approved.

Rev. Richard Garner, chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, offered some opening remarks. He expressed gratitude for the leadership of Bishop Hagiya and the Board of Ordained Ministry, including new members. "Without dedication of time and prayerful effort, we would be unable to serve the Lord as best we can."

Rev. Elbert Kim, Registrar for the Board, reported the diligent and faithful work performed by the members of the Board of Ordained Ministry and offered gratitude to Cathy Wilson for her invaluable assistance in formulating the report. Many of the Disciplinary Questions did not require action, so clergy only voted on the portions that did. Editorial corrections were not made during the session. Instead, the gathering was encouraged to send an email with corrected information to Cathy Wilson at cwilson@calpacumc.org or by leaving a message at the university message center.

The first order of business was the election of provisional members to be commissioned and members to be ordained in full connection.

Disciplinary Questions 28 and 32, 33 and 34:

The Board presented the 2017 candidates for provisional membership and membership in Full Connection. For provisional membership and commissioning on DEACON track, the Board presented Jeania Ree Violet Moore and Chelsea Laine Simon. For provisional membership and commissioning on ELDER track, the Board presented Benjamin Paul Camp, Christopher Robert Carter, James Hyun Choi, Ki Tae Choi, John Feaumolotu V. Finau, Matthew Ray Hambrick, Hannah Ka, Bae Sun Kim, Erin Karynn Stenberg, Blair Trygstad Stowe, Sione Tongia Tu'ipulotu, and Hee Jung Yu. For ordination as a DEACON in full connection, the Board presented Jeffrey Alan Bishop, Martha Walz Morales, and Robin Ann Rhodes. For ordination as an ELDER in full connection, the Board presented Valerie Lou Weise and Stephen Jerry Wilson. After the introductions, the candidates left the chapel to be voted on individually

PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND COMMISSIONING:

Rev. Sunyoung Lee, the Registrar for provisional membership, gave introductions of each of the candidates to be commissioned before votes were taken.

Rev. Kim moved Jeania Ree Violet Moore for provisional membership and commissioning on Deacon track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Chelsea Laine Simon for provisional membership and commissioning on Deacon track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Benjamin Paul Camp for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Christopher Robert Carter for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved James Hyun Choi for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Ki Tae Choi for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved John Feaumolotu V. Finau for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Matthew Ray Hambrick for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Hannah Ka for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Bae Sun Kim for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Erin Karynn Stenberg for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Blair Trygstad Stowe for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Sione Tongia Tu'ipulotu for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Hee Jung Yu for provisional membership and commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Sunyoung Lee offered a prayer for those approved and invited the gathering to show their celebration for the newly elected provisional members.

Rev. K. Cherie Jones, the registrar for Full Connection, gave introductions of each of the candidates to be ordained before votes were taken.

Rev. Kim moved Jeffrey Alan Bishop for ordination as a Deacon in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Martha Walz Morales for ordination as a Deacon in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Robin Ann Rhodes for ordination as a Deacon in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Valerie Lou Weise for ordination as an Elder in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim moved Stephen Jerry Wilson for ordination as an Elder in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. K. Cherie Jones offered a prayer for those approved for full ordination and invited the gathering to show their celebration for those elected.

TRANSFERS FROM OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCES OR DENOMINATIONS:

Disciplinary Questions 31, 38, 39, 41, 65 & 66

Rev. Tom Choi introduced the following as transfers from other Annual Conferences: Bethany Carpenter (Elder in Full Connection from the New Mexico Annual Conference), Mandy McDow (Elder in Full Connection from the North Georgia Annual Conference), John Michio Miyahara (Elder in Full Connection from the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference), and Deborah Shepherd (Commissioned Deacon in Provisional Membership from the New Mexico Annual Conference).

Rev. Choi introduced the following as transfers from other denominations:

J. Anthony Boger, transferring in as a Provisional Member from the Seventh Day Adventist denomination.

Rev. Choi moved to receive Bethany Carpenter by transfer as an Elder in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Choi moved to receive Mandy McDow by transfer as an Elder in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Choi moved to receive John Michio Miyahara by transfer as an Elder in full connection. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Choi moved to receive Deborah Shepherd by transfer as a Commissioned Deacon in Provisional Membership. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Choi moved to receive J. Anthony Boger by transfer from the Seventh Day Adventist denomination as a Provisional Member. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Choi offered a prayer for those who transferred.

Disciplinary Question 29 under letters (a) and (d)

Rev. Kim invited the session to review the list of deacons and elders in provisional membership who are already in preparation for ordination.

Disciplinary Question 19

Rev. Paige Eaves recognized persons who have served on the District Committee on Ordained Ministry and as candidacy mentors, and reported on certified candidates and offered a prayer.

Disciplinary Questions 21

Pastor Jim Brooking moved for approval of all Local Pastors listed. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.** Pastor Brookings offered a prayer.

Disciplinary Question 24 and Disciplinary Question 49

Rev. Kim noted the list of ministers from other Annual Conferences or Methodist Denominations serving in California-Pacific Annual Conference while retaining their conference or denominational membership. He also noted the list of clergy appointed in other Annual Conferences while retaining their membership with California-Pacific Annual Conference. Rev. Kim invited those present who fit these categories to stand and be recognized.

Disciplinary Question 25

Rev. Kim moved the list of ministers from other Christian denominations serving in California-Pacific Annual Conference while retaining their denominational affiliation. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.** Rev. Kim invited those present who fit this category to stand and be recognized.

Disciplinary Question 26 (b)

Rev. Kim moved the list of all affiliate members retaining their Annual Conference membership while serving in this Annual Conference. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Disciplinary Question 27

Rev. Kim moved all associate members serving in this Annual Conference. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported**. Rev. Kim invited those present who fit these categories to stand and be recognized.

Disciplinary Question 18(a)

Rev. Kim moved the nominations for the Administrative Review Committee as this is the start of the new quadrennium. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported**.

Disciplinary Question 18(c)

Rev. Kim moved the list of those to serve on the Committee on Investigation. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported**.

Disciplinary Question 42

Rev. Kim reported Disciplinary Question 42 on page 9 lists those who are recommended for discontinuance from provisional membership.

Rev. Kim moved discontinuance for Amanda Burr by Expiration of the eight-year time limit. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported**.

Rev. Kim moved discontinuance for Hilly Hicks by Voluntary Discontinuance. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported**.

Rev. K. Cherie Jones offered a prayer.

Disciplinary Question 17

Rev. Kim reported there are no clergy under review.

Bishop Grant Hagiya formally asked each District Superintendent to stand and asked each whether clergy under their care are blameless in their life and official administration, and clergy affirmed that the District Superintendents are blameless in their life and official administration. **All were affirmed.**

Disciplinary Question 43

Rev. Mark Ulrickson, from Conference Relations, reported there was no one placed on honorable location.

Disciplinary Question 44

Rev. Ulrickson moved two individuals to be placed on retired status this year. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported**.

Disciplinary Question 45

Rev. Ulrickson moved the termination of those on honorable location who failed to submit a report to the Annual Conference for two consecutive years. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported**.

Disciplinary Question 46

Rev. Ulrickson moved the termination of conference membership by withdrawal. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Disciplinary Questions 50 and 52

Rev. Ulrickson presented Disciplinary Questions 50 and 52, listed on pages 13 and 14, related to leaves. The Board moved for approval Disciplinary Question 50. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

The Board moved for approval Disciplinary Question 52. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Moment of Personal Privilege by Rev. Mary Scifres: Prayer for Stephanie Toon.

Moment of Personal Privilege by Rev. James Dollins: Prayer for Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth.

Rev. Ulrickson offered a prayer for leaves, withdrawals and termination of membership.

Disciplinary Question 48

Rev. Ulrickson reported Disciplinary Question 48 listed on pages 11 & 12, the names of those who served in ministry and finished their labors and are now in the church triumphant are listed: Harry Adams (Retired), Paulino Alfaro (Retired), James Burn (Retired), Dale Conrad (Retired), Melvin Criswell (Retired), James Decker-Mahin (Retired), James Dinkel (Retired), Dennis Holway (Retired), Myra Hogan (Retired Deacon), Marilynn Huntington (Retired), Yong Han Jeon (Retired), Marshall M. Ketchum (Retired), Tong Ho Kim (Retired Deacon), Allen J. Moore (Retired), Mardoqueo "Mardy" Olivas (Retired), Wonwha Lee Ryu (Retired), Miyeko Kawata Uriu (Retired), Helen Waterson (Diaconal Minister), and Earl Wood (Retired). Rev. Ulrickson shared some thoughts and offered a prayer.

Disciplinary Questions 53 through 56

Rev. Ulrickson presented a report on retirement. The following Deacons are retiring this year: Carol Mayer. The following Elders are retiring this year: Matthew Chong, William Cutter, Karen Dalton, Romeo Del Rosario, Gary Alan Dickey, LLC Hammond, Mary Elizabeth Moore, Holly Reinhart-Marean, Luat Trong Tran and Robert Wickerts. NO Associate members are retiring this year. The following Local Pastors are retiring this year: Hilly Hicks and Diane Mettam. The Board moved the approval of those persons retiring. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.** Rev. Ulrickson offered a prayer for those retiring.

Disciplinary Questions 63 – 71

Rev. Kim presented Disciplinary Questions 63-71 for the information of the body.

Disciplinary Question 72

Rev. Kim presented Disciplinary Question 72 which lists those pastors/deacons appointed to less than full time positions. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was supported.**

Rev. Kim encouraged to clergy to review the other pertinent information in the report.

Rev. Garner took a moment of privilege to mention that this is the first time in several years that there have been more people coming into the ordination process than retiring. He then shared about coaching. Those who are interested in seeking coaching or being trained as a coach can contact the Bishop's office or the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Rev. James Stevenson spoke about the new Clergy Excellence Leadership scholarships.

Rev. Leanne Shaw and Rev. Amy Aiken presented an LGBTQIA+ Statement to let the body know the policy that the Board aspires to live into in examining candidates for ministry.

Rev. Ken Suhr, chair of the Order of Elders, and Rev. Colleen Windham-Hughes, chair of the Order of Deacon, were introduced.

Rev. Randa D'Aoust, from the Archives and History Committee, offered names of those who have reached milestone years of ministry service. Those completing service for 60, 50, 35, 25 years of service as an Elder had their names lifted up.

Rev. Kim reported that this was the conclusion of the Board's report related to Disciplinary Questions. Bishop Hagiya thanked the Board for their hard work.

Rev. Mark Morrows was recognized with questions on the status of two clergy colleagues.

Rev. Ed Hansen offered thanks to Cathy Wilson for including information about Elder Pastors in the handout and encouraged the gathering to review the information.

Rev. David Palmer asked about the validity of the LGBTQIA+ document presented by the Board. Bishop Hagiya responded, affirming it stands because the language is aspirational, it does not say that we are going to defy disciplinary ruling. Rev. Garner shared that the document merely states the way the Board reviews candidates and wants to be transparent.

Bishop Hagiya offered a prayer over the gathering as they concluded the session.

U.M. Daily

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Morning Worship

Thursday, June 15, 2017

8:30 AM

Morning Worship: Worship began with three songs, “This Little Light of Mine,” “Michael Row Your Boat Ashore,” and “Kumbayah.” Rev. Ed Hansen shared the history of the Strength for the Journey Retreat, a ministry for individuals living with HIV/AIDS; he then led the Call to Worship and Rev. Brent Ross offered an opening prayer for the Strength for the Journey ministries. Pastor Won-Seok Yuh read Luke 10:25-37 which was followed by the “Strength for the Journey” song.

Charles McWells offered a testimony. He described his disbelief upon hearing the test results that said he had HIV/AIDS. He did what anyone would do: he asked how long he had to live. He was told that if lucky, he might live two years. That phone call took place 21 years ago. It has not been easy going from there to here. He has lost weight, down to 115 pounds. He had scabs on his head from loss of hair. He experienced physical issues, and fainting. He was diagnosed, then new medications were created and today he is healthy.

After his diagnosis, he dropped to his knees to pray and promised God he would do whatever he could to help people like him. When he got better, he realized he had to live up to his commitment. His pastor introduced him to Strength for the Journey, and he was asked to be Co-Dean for one of the retreats. He claimed it was a Nineveh moment on the road to Damascus! He had a stressful job and an over-packed life but chose this commitment. Now he can reflect back to see where God has taken him, “From there to here to there”. It is helpful to see where we came from to prepare for where we are going. Hope Ministry home gave him support and they continue to support Strength for the Journey. Hollywood UMC gave early support, and has helped sustain it for the past 30 years. He thanked Grace UMC for doing so much to make Strength for the Journey possible, and to fight HIV/AIDS.

Mr. McWells said he learned that many campers struggled with depression, so they started to develop therapeutic workshops. He saw improvement in the participants of the workshops. He has seen continued improvement. Strength for the Journey created a speakers bureau; they send out public speakers to speak on their personal experiences. They have spoken to over 400 people about HIV/AIDS prevention. He thanked Cal-Pac for its help and support in this ministry.

Rev. Steve Poteete-Marshall offered the benediction then the gathering sang “May the Circle Be Unbroken.”

Messaging Moment 2

Rev. John Farley introduction focused on “Life Giving Congregations”. The worship band led with the song, “What is Your Story.”

Transforming Vital Congregations: Rev. Sarah Heath spoke about the importance of asking questions. She encouraged those gathered to consider questions about each person’s story, each community’s story, and surroundings. She encouraged the gathering to stop talking about who we are not, but talk instead about our passions. Rev. Heath reminded the gathering that story is everything and at the end of life we all become stories.

Paul Park offered a reflection on how one creates from a story. He said that God put us here and that we love to proclaim the name of Jesus. We may not all know John Wesley, but we all know Jesus. People need to hear the commonality of Jesus Christ. That is our passion and that is our love. Mr. Park testified that what makes him feel alive is when different people, different faces, and different culture all come together to support each other and serve Jesus Christ together.

The worship band performed “All Creatures of Our God and King.”

Daniel Roberts asked us the question: Who is preaching on Sunday Morning? He proposed that everyone that stands before the church is preaching. The act of preaching is especially powerful when it is a creative act that has a team involved. He encouraged preachers to think ahead, share ahead and empower the whole team to lead. Mr. Roberts spoke about the, “worship wars”. He said it often becomes very personal: we get caught up in what to do and questions of what worship is. He suggested that worship is the reflection of who our God is and what values naturally come out as we live. They see the true God when we share what we believe clearly. Love your neighbor and your enemy.

Praise band performed, “Happy Days.”

Rev. Brent Ross gave a presentation entitled, “Your People as a Purple Cow”. He talked about the rose bushes his family inherited when they moved into their home and the particular, unique requirements they needed to thrive. When Rev. Ross learned the needs of his garden, he could help them grow. To help something grow we must begin by looking at the specific environment, location and neighborhoods where it is situated. Ministries that are successful have to be based in knowledge of the communities where they are located. Their identity comes from how they fit into their place. Our ministries must change, depending on our location; there, we should stand out like a purple cow in a sea of cows. We need to set our priorities outside of our church walls.

Rev. William deBos and Pastor Ruben Torres reflected on their ministry at Escondido UMC. Two language ministries, two cultures, and one church. Trusting the spirit, despite differences

because together they can do more than they can apart. They stressed that our strength is in our difference.

Rev. Sarah Heath thanked the Conference for the opportunity to present and offered a closing prayer which encouraged everyone to find their unique self, find their community, and know their neighborhood.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Plenary 1

Thursday, June 15, 2017

10:25 AM

Call to Order Bishop Grant J. Hagiya called the gathering to order by thanking the team that presented the Messaging Moment for their work. Prayers were requested for Rev. Karen Clark Ristine, Conference Secretary, as she was traveling to be with her mother after being notified that her mother's health was slipping. Prayer was shared.

Opening Business Rev. Preston Price moved to set the bar of the conference. Bishop Hagiya called for a **vote and it was approved**. Rev. Price moved that the UM Daily be the official minutes of the Conference once it has been edited and corrected. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was approved**. Rev. Price moved that the registration records be used as the official roll for conference. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was approved**. Rev. Price moved that all resolutions not adopted will be referred. Bishop Hagiya called for the **vote and it was approved**. Rev. Price instructed the body about exits, accessibility issues, and safety rules.

Orders of the Day Rev. Bob Rhodes moved the Orders of the Day. They were approved.

Board of Ordained Ministry Rev. Richard Garner, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, named the laity that serve on the Board and the lifted up the gifts and graces they bring to the process. He thanked them for their service. Rev. Garner thanked Cathy Wilson for her hard work in administration of BOOM.

Rev. Elbert Kim presented the 2017 candidates for provisional membership and membership in Full Connection. For provisional membership and commissioning on DEACON track, the Board presented Jeania Ree Violet Moore and Chelsea Laine Simon. For provisional membership and commissioning on ELDER track, the Board presented Benjamin Paul Camp, Christopher Robert Carter, James Hyun Choi, Ki Tae Choi, John Feaumolotu V. Finau, Matthew Ray Hambrick, Hannah Ka, Bae Sun Kim, Erin Karynn Stenberg, Blair Trygstad Stowe, Sione Tongia Tu'ipulotu, and Hee Jung Yu. For ordination as a DEACON in full connection, the Board presented Jeffrey Alan Bishop, Martha Walz Morales, and Robin Ann Rhodes. For ordination as an ELDER in full connection, the Board presented Valerie Lou Weise and Stephen Jerry Wilson. Provisional members left the stage. Bishop Hagiya asked historical questions of those scheduled to be ordained. The Board introduced the clergy transferring from other UMC Conferences: Bethany Carpenter (Elder in Full Connection from the New Mexico Annual

Conference), Mandy McDow (Elder in Full Connection from the North Georgia Annual Conference), John Michio Miyahara (Elder in Full Connection from the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference), and Deborah Shepherd (Commissioned Deacon in Provisional Membership from the New Mexico Annual Conference).

Rev. Paige Eaves shared information on the Candidacy Summit, "Following Your Calling," to be held in August. Among other things, the Summit allows for them to meet District Superintendents and other pastors.

Rev. Amy Aitken and Rev. Leigh Ann Shaw shared the Board's work to develop a statement to articulate their practice of considering candidates for ministry, looking for them to meet our high standards of expectation, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. It is the Board's practice to seek out the most qualified candidates for ministry.

Rev. Ken Suhr & Rev. Dr. Colleen Windham-Hughes spoke in their role as the Co-Chairs the Orders Executive Committee and the functions of the committee. Clergy Convocation will take place August 29-31, 2017.

Connectional Table Report on JC decision #1311: Rev. John Woodall reported on the work of the Rules Committee and Connectional Table in response to Judicial Council Ruling 1311. Their work produced Rules Change 17-2, which would bring us in line with Judicial Council Ruling 1311. Rev. Woodall moved approval of Rules Change 17-2. After discussion, Bishop Hagiya called for the vote and it was approved.

Legislative Orientation Rev. Lydia Sohn and Rev. Cathie Capp explained the process of legislative sections. Prayer was offered for Legislative committees.

Constitutional Amendments Rev. Molly Vetter offered an introduction to the consideration of Constitutional Amendments 1-5. She explained that a paper vote will be held, and that ratification of these amendments to the Constitution of the UMC require support from $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total number of Conference members in all the Annual Conferences across the UMC connection; the total numbers of people voting for or against each amendment will be reported to the General Conference Secretary. Rev. Vetter explained that clergy in Full Connection (green badges) and Lay Members of the Annual Conference (yellow badges) are eligible to vote. Discussion, debate and voting will happen at a later plenary.

Delegation to the 2019 General Conference Session Bishop Hagiya notified the body that they had to decide whether to send the existing delegation from General Conference 2016 or elect a new delegation to the called General Conference to be held in St. Louis, Missouri in 2019, to receive the report of the Commission on the Way Forward and act on it. Rev. Price moved we send our 2016 General Conference delegation, as they have the history and understanding of the process for this gathering. The motion was seconded and further discussion transpired. The body called the question. It was approved. The body voted on the motion and it was approved.

Rev. Bob Rhodes offered a prayer for lunch.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Laity Address/Plenary 2

Thursday, June 15, 2017

3:30 PM

Call to Order: Bishop Grant J. Hagiya called the plenary session to order and called for the Orders of the Day

Orders of the Day: Rev. Bob Rhodes moved the orders of the day. They were approved.

Laity Address: Phil and Connee Freeman, Conference Lay Leaders, greeted the Annual Conference. They thanked the Laity Council for their work, as well as Bishop Hagiya, and Conference staff. Mr and Mrs Freeman introduced the Young Adult Lay Person of the Year, Mikala Ruark from San Bernardino UMC. The Lay Woman of the Year was Roben Partridge from Santee UMC. The Lay Man of the Year was Sheldon Haase from Glendale First UMC.

The Cal-Pac Conference has always focused on leadership training, to support our congregations. This year we want to initiate a transformation process. They emphasized the value of clergy and laity partnership. The Freemans encouraged the gathering to transform themselves so that there will be no doubt that we are not only leaders, but Christian leaders. They offered some tips for transformation. The Freemans then offered prayer.

Council on Finance and Administration (CFA): Dan Griffin introduced Archana Carey, Executive Director of Finance and Facilities and Conference Treasurer. He thanked the CFA members and staff. He then explained the CFA's responsibilities and goals. He shared the good news that most ministries in 2016 ended with budgets in the black, or they broke even. This is a significant accomplishment for our annual conference. We have approximately 360 churches in our conference; at the end of 2015, 207 remitted 100% of apportionments. In 2016, 213 remitted 100% of their apportionments. Our overall giving for local churches towards the General Church is 84% percent. African University Fund, Interdenominational Fund, and Black College Fund all received 100%. Western Jurisdiction funds were paid at 86%. We strive to have a balanced budget and to continue to strengthen our stewardship, and financial transparency.

Archana Carey presented the 2018 Conference budget. The CFA proposed 2018 apportionments of \$12,450,000, which is a 3.84% decrease from 2017. More information on this budget and other reports related to the budget is on file on calpacumc.org/finance. Bishop Hagiya expressed how he has heard from our churches that apportionment giving in increasingly difficult to sustain, and shared how CFA and the Conference Directors were able to take leadership to make reductions in our spending. He thanked all the areas who voluntarily took these reductions, then opened the floor for questions.

Questions about money allocated to children and youth ministries were raised and discussed.

Bishop Hagiya reminded the body that a decision regarding the budget was on the agenda for Saturday's plenary session invited the group to thank CFA.

Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before Us: Alma Roberts shared about CA-HI Assoc. of Retired Ministers and Spouses (CHARMS) and presented a memorial video of clergy and spouses who have died in the past year.

Consent Calendar Presentation: Rev. Lydia Sohn presented the Consent Calendar. Listed below:

Recommendations	Name of Legislation	Sect. Act
REC 17-1	PENSIONS 1 -- CONFERENCE HEALTH PLANS	100% Concurrence
REC 17-2	PENSIONS 2 -- RETIREE HEALTH PLANS	100% Concurrence
REC 17-3	PENSIONS 3 -- COMPREHENSIVE BENEFIT FUNDING PLAN	100% Concurrence
REC 17-4	PENSIONS 4 -- CLERGY HOUSING ALLOWANCE	100% Concurrence
REC 17-5	2018 SALARY RANGES FOR CONFERENCE STAFF POSITIONS	98.5% Concurrence
REC 17-6	CLERGY BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY UPDATE	97% Concurrence
REC 17-7	CLERGY MINIMUM COMPENSATION STANDARDS	100% Concurrence
Resolutions	Name of Legislation	Sect. Act
RES 17-1	Harris UMC Historical Designation	96.7% Concurrence
RES 17-2	Christ UMC Historic Designation	100 % Concurrence
RES 17-3	Downey UMC Historic Designation	72% No Recommendation
RES 17-4	Holy Land Investments	82.2% Concurrence
RES 17-5	Holy Land Travel	100% Concurrence

RES 17-6	Anti-Gun Violence: Silencers	100% Concurrence
RES 17-7	Anti-Gun Violence: Concealed Carry	97% Concurrence
RES 17-8	Human Rights: Philippines	100% Concurrence
RES 17-9	Assets and Church Property (Resolution 40 Replacement)	100% Concurrence
RES 17-10*	Peace in the Korean Peninsula	92.3% Concurrence as amended
RES 17-13	Affirming LGBTQI Clergy	83.3% Concurrence
RES 17-14	Affirming Western Jurisdiction College of Bishops	85.4% Concurrence
RES 17-15	Petition to Convene a Special Western Jurisdiction Conference	90% Concurrence
RES 17-16	Responsible Process on Status of Bishop Karen Oliveto	86.84% Non- Concurrence
Rules Change Proposals	Name of Legislation	Sect. Act
RULES 17-1	Tenure	100% Concurrence
RULES 17-3	Fiscal Rules	98% Concurrence

*Item removed from Consent Calendar because it was amended in the legislative section.

Motions to remove items from the Consent Calendar to take place at a future plenary.

Honoring Our Retired Clergy: Three videos were shared honoring Rev. Matthew Chong, Rev. William Cutter, and Rev. Romeo Del Rosario.

Announcements: Rev. Preston Price offered some housekeeping items in preparation for the Memorial Service this evening.

Closing Prayer: Rev. Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore greeted the body on behalf of Boston University School of Theology and all the 13 United Methodist seminaries, and then offered blessing for our dinner.

A Service of Remembrance, Resurrection and Holy Communion
Thursday June 15, 2017

“Rhosymedre” by Ralph Vaughan Williams was played as the prelude. Rev. Hakchoon Lim lit the Paschal Candle and led the gathering in the Call to Worship. “For All the Saints” was sung by the body. Rev. Lim led the gathering in a remembrance of our baptism.

Bishop Grant Hagiya and Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan began a time of memorial remembrance. Bishop Jordan read the names of the Bishops who finished their labors in this past year: Bishop Moises Fernandes and Bishop Felton May were remembered.

Mrs. Margaret Crawford Jordan remembered the life companions of our Bishops who finished their labors: Rev. Thelma H. Newman, Rev. Kathleen A. Thomas-Sano, Mrs. Ruth Thomas, and Mrs. Gwen White.

Rev. Randy Johnson remembered our ordained and diaconal ministers who have finished their labors: Rev. Harry Adams, Rev. Paulino Alfaro-Guerra, Rev. James Burn, Rev. Dale Conrad, Rev. M. Kenneth Criswell, Rev. James Decker-Mahin, Rev. James Dinkel, Rev. Myra Hogan, Rev. Dennis Holway, Rev. Marilyn Huntington, Rev. Yong Jeon, Rev. Marshall Ketchum, Rev. Tong Ho Kim, Rev. Allen Moore, , Rev. Mardoqueo Olivas, Rev. Wonwha Ryu, Rev. Miyeko Uriu, Rev. Helen Waterson, and Rev. Earl Wood.

Wanda Bethea remembered the life companions of our ordained and diaconal ministers, who this year have finished their labors: Magdalena Acosta, Patsy Barrett, Rilla Carlson, Florence Conrad, Aletha Cook, Patrice Denman, Marcella Gouker, Nancy Heflin, Vida McKinley, Camille Oei, Annette Parker, Jeanne Robb, Gladys Robinson, Dora May Sim, Billie Stimmel, Sione Tu'ifua, Mary Wissman, and Elsie Witman.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil and Connee Freeman called to mind the lay members of the Annual Conference, church members, and all those who have been faithful to God's call and glorified God in their life and work. Worship participants shared these names aloud. The worship team sang “Alleluia” during this time of prayer and reflection.

Bishop Jordan led the gathering in prayer giving thanks for those we love who are present with the Lord, celebrating their witness and gifts. Then, the body sang “My Life Flows On.”

Marcia Galland read Exodus 1:3-6 and John 8:2-11.

Rev. Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore preached the sermon, “Dust to Dust-Grounded in God.”

She began by sharing about a moment she shared in a beautiful, isolated bay in Hawaii, where she, her daughter Rebecca, and Piula Alailima gathered to cast her husband Allen's ashes into the Pacific Ocean. She spoke of how the beloved ones we remember tonight offered so many gifts through their spiritual friendships and examples of holy living. They lived out their faith in many different settings, among many different communities of people. These are our saints, the people with whom we prayed and lived, and for whom we give thanks tonight.

Rev. Moore described how beginnings and endings are built into God's creation. Genesis 1 is a reminder that the human family is made from earth. Verses 26-27 - we are created male and female, in God's image. *Adam* (connected to the Hebrew *Adamah*, meaning "dirt") is both a unique person and a gender-inclusive being or community. Today, even as we are still trying to understand gender identity and diversity in inclusivity, the words of Genesis offer us a beautifully complex understanding of humanity. It also grounds us in a human identity that comes from dirt.

While Adam's creation from dirt explains our humble beginnings and sinful, flawed lives, she proclaimed the good news that Genesis teaches us so much more: Our human origins are in dirt, and our lives and deaths are in the hands of the great artist. We were made by God out of dirt! Dust to dust, ashes to ashes. Our beginnings and endings are in God, who lovingly crafted us. The Psalmist of 139 says, "you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

The beloved ones we memorialized tonight know this to be true. They are eternally present in God, and now return to eternity with their maker. But in between the dust of birth and the dust of death, they lived among us and with us, their very lives testified to the memory and power of each ordinary day. They invite us to treasure every moment. And those of us who sat by our loved ones' sides as they passed know how precious every moment is.

She asked us to consider how dirt and eternity stand before us tonight - the beginning of human life is in the earth - and Genesis' red dirt is in the earthiness of human life. Eternity is forever, which means that the present moment is also made of dirt and eternity. At this very moment, we are standing on holy ground, on God's dirt, and God meets us here.

We remember Moses, as he caught sight of the burning bush. Seeing that it was not consumed, God spoke to him through the bush and said, "Here I am. Remove the sandals from your feet, for you are standing on holy ground."

Rev. Moore recounted a "holy ground" moment when she was tending to her mother, living in the hospital with her during the last six weeks of her life. A good friend of her mother's came to visit, and spend a private moment with her. Afterward, the friend thanked her, and then said harshly, "Mary Elizabeth, when did you start loving your mother?" This question shook her, because she had loved her mother all her life. Unsettled, she went back in, and said to her mother, "Your friend seems to think I don't love you. I hope you know that I have loved you every day of my life." Her mother squeezed her hand, after three days of no movement, and held on to it. Her mother gave her that one last blessing. And when she died the next day, Rev. Moore was squeezing her hand. "We were standing on holy ground," she said.

She shared how Regina Calcaterra, in her autobiography, *Etched in Sand*, describes growing up desolate with a mentally ill, alcoholic, violent mother. Even as she lived between abuse and abandonment, Regina traveled from place to place with a small plastic Jesus that she had been given. She was curious about a nearby neighborhood church, and so she started going to all the worship services she could. She said, "I did not understand a word they were saying and

singing, but church is the only place I had ever been where you could be a stranger and people would still smile at you anyway.” For Regina, that church space was holy ground.

Rev. Moore spoke of how Jesus had many “holy ground” moments with his disciples, friends and strangers along the way. In the passage we heard tonight, the woman caught in adultery and those threatening her experienced holy ground. Jesus could have done many things when confronted by the crowd, but he said nothing. He bent over and began to draw in the dirt. John Wesley believed that in this story, Jesus was trying to take people out of their big ideas and return their attention to the earth. He came to remind people that he came not to condemn, but to save the world. When Jesus finally spoke, it was to ask, “let anyone among you without sin be the first to cast a stone.” As the crowd began to disappear, he turned to the woman and asked, “Where are they? Has no one condemned you?” “No one,” she said. Jesus said, “Then I do not condemn you. Go and sin no more.” There, she found herself standing on holy ground.

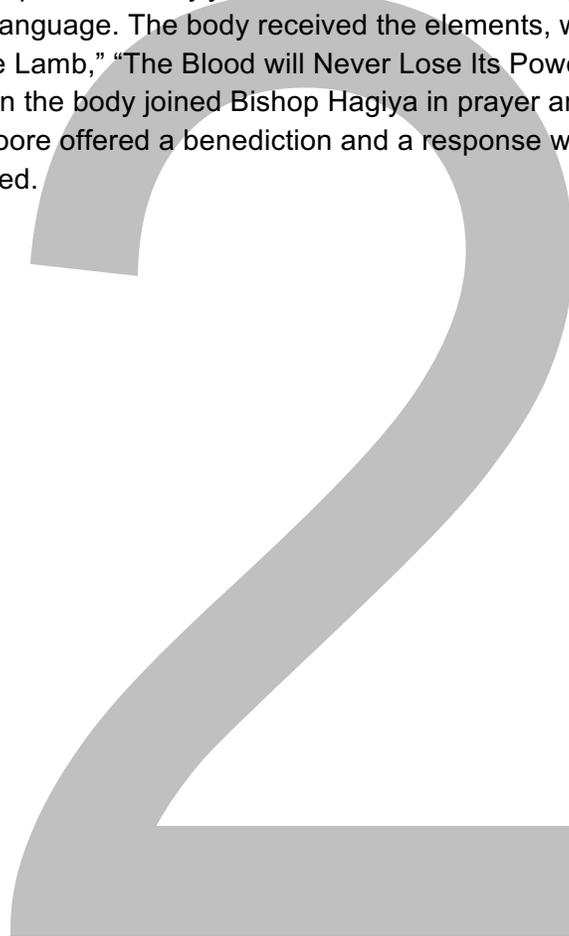
We stand on holy ground every day, but we are especially aware of it in moments as vivid as the burning bush: in a hospital rooms, or churches or other encounters with Jesus. To live close to the earth is to watch for burning bushes. This is dangerous, of course, because God could send you on a mission like God sent Moses to free his people. Or God could ask you to rethink your judgments as when Jesus asked the people who were going to stone the woman. To stand on holy ground is to hear the voice of God point the way to asking you to liberate immigrant people living in fear of deportation, poor people living without food or shelters, children abused or our LGBT communities who are dehumanized by the churches and used as test cases for church loyalty. To live close to the ground is to refrain from condemning. We will still condemn horrific acts, but we will refrain from battering others, and seek solutions that increase compassion and justice. We live in a hate filled world where people feel free to speak hate and act violently toward those with whom they disagree. Whether the murders are in London, South Carolina, Tehran, or Alexandria Virginia, they poison the earth with hate. Yet, good people do respond. The AME Church in Charleston South Carolina has offered forgiveness to a shooter and have continued to work for social justice that the shooter had decryed. Three men in Portland Oregon came to the defense of two Muslim women who were being abused by a man who was shouting angrily. Two of these men lost their lives in the effort. Several US cities have vowed to continue what was done in Paris to stop climate change. These people act because they know they are standing on holy ground.

Rev. Moore named Bishop Felton May, whom we remember tonight, as an example of this. In his work caring for those at the margins of our society, he lived the gospel with “holy boldness,” and inspired others to do the same.

She invited us to recognize the presence of eternity in our lives in this memorial service. We see the presence of eternity and are invited to participate in the work of justice. We are called to love people who do not love us back. We love the people we remember tonight. They lived in the messiness of their lives and gave their very best to love Jesus. Because of them, the world is a little more tilted toward hope. They stood on holy ground and gave their best for the good of others. May we do the same. May God bless us in that work. Amen.

Rev. Lim invited the body to support Strength for the Journey with their Offering. These camps save lives and provide for those who are living with HIV / AIDS. Michelle Small danced to "His Eye is on the Sparrow" by Lauryn Hill while the offering was collected. The body sang a doxology in response to the offering. Rev. Lim led the Prayer of Dedication.

In preparation for Holy Communion, the body sang "Come Share the Lord." Bishop Hagiya and Bishop Jordan presided over Holy Communion with Rev. Debbie Gara and Rev. Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore assisting. Portions of the liturgy were sung as congregational responses. When the liturgy was complete the body joined in the The Lord's Prayer, with each member speaking in their native language. The body received the elements, while the worship team sang, "Thank You for the Lamb," "The Blood will Never Lose Its Power," and "O How I Love Jesus." After communion the body joined Bishop Hagiya in prayer and sang "Sing With All the Saints in Glory." Rev. Moore offered a benediction and a response was sung: "The Trees of the Field." A Postlude followed.



U.M. Daily

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Morning Worship (Service of Baptism)

Friday, June 16, 2017

8:30 AM

Music played as the body gathered. Katherine Wilson led in the call to worship. The gathering sang "Morning Has Broken" with "Baptized in Water." Rev. Sandra Olewine read Mark 1:1-5, 9-11.

Bishop Grant Hagiya welcomed Amara Luz Kaulani Mark-Schwiebert and her family forward to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. The children of the Annual Conference joined them on the stage as part of her community of faith.

The liturgy included a covenant with her big sister, Kaira. Bishop Hagiya asked her, "Kaira, will you be a good big sister? Will you love Amara and teach her how to play?" Kaira responded, "I will."

Bishop Hagiya turned to the children and youth who were present on the stage and in the congregation and asked, "To the children and youth who are here, will you welcome Amara as a new friend and love her?" The children and youth responded, "We will."

The entire body covenanted together in the liturgy to nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Amara in their care.

Rev. J. Daniel Lewis lead the body in the UM Affirmation of Faith #883. Then Bishop Hagiya spoke the liturgy of thanksgiving over the water. The Bishop took Amara in his arms and invited the other clergy on the stage (including her parents and grandparents) to participate in baptizing her. Amara's big sister, Kaira, also used the water to bless her. When the liturgy was complete, the children and youth led Bishop Hagiya, the newly baptized child, and her family around the sanctuary so that the body could greet Amara.

Bishop Hagiya invited everyone to stand, and offered a closing prayer. The body sang "This Little Light of Mine," and the service ended.

Messaging Moment 3

Title: "How to Fish" Scripture: Luke 10:4

Rev. Jim Powell, North District Superintendent, shared about his favorite fishing equipment, which he brought with him on stage. He pulled all the equipment he needs to fish with out of his tackle box, including his Bible; Jesus has a mission for us, and calls us to be fishers of people.

Our Cal-Pac initiatives include "transforming leadership." We are to raise up the next generation of leadership--not just young people, but new people with new voices and hearts.

Rev. Powell said that just as you cannot fish from your living room, we cannot fish for people from our sanctuaries. We have to go out into the water and go where the fish are. We have to go to the people, where they are and be God's fishing equipment. From the moment of baptism, we are called to get our feet wet in service. One example of how this is happening is in leadership in the Korean Context via the Partners in Ministry Model with Rev. Woong-Min Kim.

Rev. Kim greeted the Conference on behalf of PIM (Partners In Ministry), a program of the Western Jurisdiction's Korean Ministries Council. Rev. Kim is the coordinator of PIM, which was born out of a dire need to support smaller churches. There are seventy five Korean churches in the jurisdiction; some are vibrant, while some are closing or in danger of being closed. PIM pairs big and small congregations to partner as they grow together and carry each others burdens. Their goal was to recruit 20 congregations (10 large and 10 small) from across the Western Jurisdiction; the 20 participating congregations including at least one from each of the Episcopal Areas in our Jurisdiction. 18 churches are from California Pacific Conference.

Each of the larger churches in a PIM relationship contributes \$12,000 annually to help support the ministry of their smaller partner congregation. The partner churches pray and work together in missions and ministry. Since January 2016, these PIM relationships have been strengthening ministry together.

Rev. Jonathan Lee (Korean UMC of San Diego) spoke of partnering with Grace Korean UMC in Glendale and supporting them financially and prayerfully. They practice a pulpit exchange between the churches, and the laity have also visited one another. Rev. Lee highlighted the exciting news of a new Korean ministry begun at Hope UMC in San Diego with the support of 5 different organizations/agencies.

Rev. Dohmin Kim (La Palma Korean UMC) has an exchange program with their partner church, to support a summer Vacation Bible School by sending a Sunday School director and other teachers. This program has been a blessing, as partner churches become brothers and sisters with whom to work and pray together.

Pastor Hongyun (Brandon) Won (Irvine Dream Korean Congregation, a Korean ministry that is extended from Dream UMC in Pasadena while partnering with University UMC in Irvine) is thankful for the hope PIM has given them. Irvine, as host church, did not want to just be a

landlord, but rather to change, grow, and add their gifts to a shared ministry. They worked together to clean the campus and have combined worship services and cultural food celebrations. They are focused on celebrating missional memories as they grow together in God's call to build God's kingdom together. Pastor Won is thankful for the support.

Rev. Eugene Han (Christ UMC in Honolulu) shared that they have partnered with the Rocky Mountain Conference to begin Korean congregations in Colorado. They have shared pulpits and supported each other by sending young adults on mission trips, leading VBS, building praise teams, and loaning instruments. The praise team works with the host church to grow in leadership skills, and there is a strong focus on building leadership in young adults.

Leading is something you do in partnership with other people. It is not just large churches helping smaller churches. PIM is about working together and sharing differences and similarities as they focus on our shared mission of spreading the good news of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. In PIM, people do not commit to the church as a building, but instead commit to the larger mission, with the hope that the program will become a movement.

Rev. Changmin Lee (Los Angeles Korean UMC) shared that they are going to have a Convocation that will provide continuing education and spiritual nourishment. The Bishop shared his vision of churches being re-visioned as missional centers. The question is: how do we get from here to there? PIM does this in partnership between urban and small-town congregations, established churches and new starts, and large and small congregations.

Rev. Powell shared that congregations talk about wanting a youth group, and yet have no children's ministries. We need to begin with the youngest among us, focusing on kids, camping ministry. We need ways of looking outside the boundaries of our congregations so that we can get into the "deeper waters" of leadership.

Rev. Jim White and Cynthia Henisey (Palmdale UMC) came forward to share about leadership with children. God is calling people of all ages to grow in faith and find places to serve. Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Palmdale is an all-church and all-age ministry. Teams of Scouts, United Methodist Women, and others work together. Teens lead groups and mentor future leaders who shadow them. Through servant leadership, everyone uses their gifts and has ownership of ministry. This provides a safe environment where young people grow in leadership.

A video was shared: "Future Bound: Episode 5 - Calvary UM Mission in Hawaii," which showed how the faith community is sharing the gospel with their community by providing Sunday School, Bible Study, and worship. Many neighborhood children have become active in the church, and the congregation has "adopted" them. This ministry was not a special plan; it happened as they sought to genuinely respond to God's call in their particular location.

Edward Cesar came forward to share about mentoring. He discussed how leadership with youth is happening through the Spanglish program, a 2-day camp (hosted by Arlington UMC) that helps hispanic youth and young adults be in communion with Jesus Christ. They struggle to

balance their ethnic heritage with what it means to be in the US. Spanglish provides a place for them to unwind, talk, and connect, and is a springboard for young leaders.

The design team consists of young people who have participated in the leadership of Spanglish in previous years. They are excited to lead and have the opportunity to do new things with the help of an adult advisor, pastoral advisors, and Conference Connectional Ministries who make it all possible and provide guidance when needed. Through this process, they become leaders in the Hispanic community.

Rev. Joseph Yun (Campus Ministry at the University of Hawaii) shared about leadership with young adults. Campus ministry is part of our heritage: John Wesley started his Holy Club as a campus ministry. Rev. Yun was inspired by a mentor in college who guided him by praying together, providing times to check in, and training him in his spiritual growth. He began to hear the call to go into Ordained Ministry, and turned to his mentor to ask questions, share his fears and joys, and discuss options. Now, he does the same for students.

Rev. Yun mentored a young man who was breaking free from a cult. At first, he was skeptical, but as he found his place in the church, he discovered he was finally in a place where he could worship freely. One-on-one meetings are crucial for young adults, where it is possible to cultivate genuine relationships, where he was able to be there for them, and listen without an agenda. Young adults will see how authentic you are and will grow in their faith through the blessing of a genuine relationship.

A video was shared on leadership development through camp, from Cat Holbert of Camp Lazy W Ranch. Innovation is still at work in Camping Ministry, where leaders practice faith openly as part of a team, allowing God to do something new as they live together. When learning, we are intentional about asking how we use new information. God's grace is for everyone.

Rev. Jonathan Park (Abundant Life Community of Korean UMC of San Diego) spoke about Leadership Beyond Borders by looking to the next generations of the Korean community. Matthew 4:19 says, "I will make you fishers of people." Jesus invited all people to be transformed as he entered their lives and they explored the mysteries of the Gospel together. A variety of experiences helped followers grow, as they were prepared for ministry through a long-term relationship with Jesus Christ.

Jesus is still calling us to follow Him and serve. Rev. Park's faith community started weekly life groups, which are used to see how to learn and love those who are outside the usual boundaries of "church." People are growing and finding their place in the church through community and loving relationships. There is no pressure to convert, but rather a safe space for exploration and questions. The mission is to build the community of Christ, even as they love those who have not found that relationship yet. One member chooses to live in a shelter to care for children in the homeless community. Jesus reminds us that our focus is on following Him. John 15 reminds us that we become fruitful when we remain in Jesus Christ. We are called to invite and show the inviting love of Christ and find what it means to be fishers of people.

Rev. Powell encouraged us: "if it happens in you, it can happen in others!" We must be courageous and brave enough to get into the deep water. Rev. Powell invited the body to share in small groups: "Where is the deep water in your community, where you haven't yet traveled? Where are the deep waters of your life?"

The second episode of the video series "ready > set >" was shown.

Training is necessary. Coaching is an important resource to receive training and improve our skills. Higher accountability requires a higher level of resources to address social economic issues, disparities, and needs. As God shifts and creates the universe, there are people who support and guide us along the way. Our work of preparation helps us get to new, deeper places.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Plenary 3

Friday, June 16, 2017

10:15 AM

Call to Order: Bishop Grant J. Hagiya called the Plenary Session to order. Bishop Hagiya introduced the Youth/Young Adult Layperson of the Year, Mikhayla Roark, who is sitting on the stage. The Bishop provided an update about Ana-Haydee Urda, the Chair of our Conference Hispanic Committee. She had a successful bypass surgery last week and is doing better but in a lot of pain. The Bishop acknowledged Resident Bishop Felipe Ruiz from Mexico. He concluded with a prayer of thanks for the day, the baptism, and being here.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Bob Rhodes moved the Orders of the Day. They were approved.

Announcements: Rev. R. Preston Price III announced that a new projector has been installed. He thanked the audio-visual crew. Bishop Grant Hagiya welcomed and introduced Bishop Felipe Ruiz from the Methodist Church of Mexico, North West Annual Conference. Bishop Ruiz shared greetings from the his church in Mexico, from the Bishops of Mexico, and from the Northwest Conference of Mexico.

Rev. Price asked the Conference to not bring in furniture or rearrange the furniture in the Chapel. He also reminded the Conference that only water be brought into the chapel.

Constitutional Amendment Voting: Bishop Hagiya invited Rev. R. Preston Price III forward to take the conference through the voting on the 5 Constitutional Amendments.

Rev. Lui Tran came to a microphone on the floor of the Conference and asked to be recused from the voting because of his role in the Judicial Council. Rev. Price has recused himself as well. Bishop Hagiya accepted both recusals.

Rev. Price explained information on the constitutional amendments can be found online and some people have printed out a copy. Please look on if you do not have a copy. These votes will be combined with all other Annual Conferences and tallied for the official vote. Results will be announced after being certified by the Council of Bishops.

Voters are limited to Full Connection Members (Lay and Clergy). Provisional Members and Local Pastors do not have a vote on constitutional amendments. Voting members asked to stand to show their status or if you can not stand, please raise your hand. Once you receive your ballot, please sit down. Voting area readdressed for clarity of vote.

Rev. Price announced that each amendment will come before the conference, will be presented and there will be a time a time of discussion followed by a vote.

Amendment 1: Rev. Patricia Farris came forward to speak of the constitutional amendments as foundational documents of the United Methodist Church. The reason these were not sent to legislative sections is they cannot be amended and we have to vote yes or no as is. This amendment has to do with inclusiveness of the United Methodist Church. This will add a paragraph about our commitment to gender inclusion in the life of the church, to follow the paragraph about racial inclusivity. Bishop Hagiya asked for questions. There were no questions. Bishop Hagiya gave time for reflection, offered a prayer, and called for the vote.

Amendment 2: JoAnn Yoon Fukumoto presented Amendment 2, which would change the language of paragraph 4, adding to and changing a listing that names our community inclusion in the life of the church. Bishop Hagiya opened the floor for discussion. There were 4 speakers against the amendment and 1 in favor of the amendment. Bishop Hagiya gave time for reflection, offered a prayer, and called for the vote.

The Bishop took a moment of privilege to welcome Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan (retired) to the gathering.

Amendment 3: Rev. Sandra Olewine presented Amendment 3, which would address how delegate elections is handled in Annual Conferences. The floor was opened for discussion. One speech against and one speech in favor were presented. Bishop Hagiya gave time for reflection, prayer, and called for the vote.

Amendment 4: Rev. Tom Choi spoke to Amendment 4, which focused on the rules for the election of bishops in Central Conferences. The floor was opened to questions and no questions were raised. Bishop Hagiya offered time for reflection, prayer, and called for the vote.

Amendment 5: Rev. Sandra Olewine spoke to Amendment 5, which was written as a means to hold Bishops accountable to the denomination and not just the Jurisdictional Conference that elected them. The floor open for discussion and there were six arguments against and zero arguments for the amendment. Bishop Hagiya offered time for reflection, prayer, and called for the vote.

Rev. Gilbert Stone inquired about voter fraud. Bishop Hagiya assured Rev. Stone that the Conference Secretary checks the vote in secrecy in order to not be influenced.

Legislative Action / Consent Calendar: Rev. Lydia Sohn came before the body to continue the business of the Annual Conference by taking action on the consent calendar, which includes items considered and voted on during yesterday's legislative sections and was presented to the Plenary during a prior session.

Rick Mules moved to remove **Resolution 17-6** from the consent calendar. It was seconded but **not supported in the vote**. Bert Rohr moved to remove **Rules 17-3** from the consent calendar. It was seconded. Bishop Hagiya called for the vote and **it was not supported**.

David Cutler moved to remove **Resolution 17-4** from the consent calendar. The motion was seconded. Bishop Hagiya called for the vote. **It was not supported**.

Rev. Sohn moved the consent calendar. Bishop Hagiya called for the vote. **It was supported**. Rev. Sohn thanked the gathering for their efforts.

Rev. Jim Brewster offered prayer over the following meal.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference
Plenary 4
Friday, June 16, 2017
1:30 PM

Call to Order: Bishop Grant J. Hagiya called the Annual Conference to order and welcomed people back at 1:37 PM.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Bob Rhodes moved the Orders of the Day. They were approved.

United Methodist Endorsing Agency: Rev. Jeff Bishop spoke about this agency, which supports current chaplains and recruits the next generation of chaplains. The Agency wants to provide more information on the endorsement process. They are working on an endowment fund to assist chaplains and finding other ways to help them move back to the local church. Rev. Bishop then recognized those chaplains present. A video was shown.

Discussing The Commission on a Way Forward: Bishop Hagiya introduced a period of discussion and prayer regarding The Commission on a Way Forward. He shared a model for categorizing the ways people hold beliefs about human sexuality alongside commitments to belonging together in the church, using terms developed by Rev. Tom Berlin, a member of the Commission. This model provided a continuum of identification in the conversation about human sexuality, grouping people into four categories: traditional non-compatibilist, traditional compatibilist, progressive compatibilist, and progressive non-compatibilist.

Traditional non-compatibilists say that if anything changes they will not stay. The “Wesleyan Covenant Association” is an example of this position. They argue that any alteration of the Book of Discipline’s current position on LGBTQIA+ exclusion cannot be supported because it violates their position, tradition, and integrity.

Progressive non-compatibilists say that full inclusion is the only way forward, and if no changes are made, they will not stay. “Love Prevails” is an example of this position.

One way or the other, non-compatibilists cannot live with something which violates their integrity. With both of these positions, there is no room for compromise.

Traditional compatibilists are personally against full inclusion, but are willing to hear the other side. While unlikely to change their opinion, they are willing to live together without trying to convert others to their opinion and stretch their integrity to admit that they may be wrong.

Progressive compatibilists are personally supportive of full inclusion, but are willing to hear the other side. While unlikely to change their opinion, they are willing to live together without trying to convert others to their opinion and stretch their integrity to admit that they may be wrong.

When groups put restrictions on others who try to make boundaries less rigid, congregations suffer. We all need more freedom for expression, rather than drawing stronger boundary lines. When non-compatibilists draw strong lines, persons on the other side begin to leave because there is no hope. Compatibilists are also becoming tired of fighting and so they begin to leave as well. Over time we see that no one is happy and everyone loses. In 1974 there were 3,621,000 members, in 2010 there were 3,054,000, and it is projected at this rate of decline, in 2050 we may reduce to 959,000 members. These concerns are affecting our mission.

The Commission on a Way Forward estimates that the majority of the US church is consists of progressive and traditional compatibilists. When we focus on polarities, we lose members and local communities are torn apart. Things get more complicated when we look at the pressures of the worldwide perspective. These labels are a tool to find each person’s place in the conversation.

The body had a lively conversation on these categories, and Bishop Hagiya encouraged the gathering to continue to think about other terms of identification that would be helpful in moving forward in conversation with one another.

Nominations Report: Liz Roark, Nominations Committee Chair, presented the Nomination Report, along with amendments, while noting that there are still vacancies on some committees. We are voting only on new additions to the committees, which are the names that are in all caps. Names with normal capitalization were previously elected and are working in those positions. There are no votes for the United Methodist Men, even though they are capitalized. There are vacancies left on the list intentionally, since they want to find the people with the right

gifts for each job. Please help nominate people for these positions. Ms. Roark encouraged conference members to fill out a profile report that will help the committee match gifts and graces to specific needs. Ms. Roark thanked Jennifer Gaylord for helping the committee create a database to collect all this information. Please contact Liz Roark with questions.

A process is underway to form a new Young People's Council which will have the ability to self-select members without input from the Nominations Committee. Ms. Roark moved to vote and it has been approved.

Bishop Hagiya called for a 15 minute break.

Plenary resumed at 3:21 PM.

Retirement Video: Rev. Hilly Hicks was honored with a retirement video.

Announcement: The Bishop announced that the offering for scholarships at Claremont School of Theology collected \$6,361.62, and the offering for Strength for the Journey collected \$3,453.87.

Legislative Action: Rev. Lydia Sohn, Legislative Chair, presented three legislative items that were not on the Consent Calendar.

The first was **Resolution 17-3**, "Downey UMC Historic Designation." There were two arguments against and two arguments in favor. A conference member moved for referral back to Archives. The body **voted, and the referral was supported.**

The second was **Resolution 17-10**, "Peace in the Korean Peninsula." The legislative section recommended approval as amended, adding language that requires Cal-Pac to send letter to each member of Congress, in addition to the White House. Rev. Sohn reported that the vote in legislative section for the resolution as amended was 48 yes, 4 no. There was one argument in favor and zero arguments against. The body **voted, and the resolution was supported as amended.**

The third was the presentation of **Resolution 17-17**, "Approval of Wesley Foundation Board of Directors." The nominations (shown below) will be voted on tomorrow.

Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo: Jason Takagi, Rev. Rick UHls, Rev. Rich Bolin, Dave Mason, Keith Brummel, Judy Brummel, Lynn Hamilton, Suzanne Barron, Hal Cota, Debbie Wacker, Rob Etter, Diana Dale. **San Diego Area:** Rev. Chuck Kishpaugh; Kim Melchior, Eric Swanson, Susan Farnsworth, Rev. Francisco Garcia Velasquez, Benjamin Camp, Rev. Matthew Hambrick, Anthony Aranico. **University of California – Los Angeles:** Rev. Janet Cromwell, Rev. Lynette Fuka, Rev. Allison Mark, Rev. Dr. Sharon Rhodes-Wickett, Alfred Herrera, Melissa Veluz-Abraham, James C. Kim, Martin Clajus, Seidi Valencia, Suzanne Ware Diaz, Robert Bailey, Liana Ghica, Tucker Moses-Hanson. **University of Hawaii – Manoa:** Judy Cramer,

Grace Omura, Atina Pascua, Rev. Piula Alailima, Rev. Alan Mark, Rev. Tom Choi, Winnie Ching, Elliott Inamasu, Joshua Asato, Rev. Dr. Se Hee Han, Rev. Joseph Yun. **University of Southern California:** Rev. Matthias Peterson-Brandt, Sonia Rodriguez, Janice Elizabeth Kreh, Rod Sprott, Seidi Valencia.

Norma Kehrberg, Chair of the Rules Committee: spoke from the floor. She shared that she had received questions and concerns about the process for removing items from the consent calendar, and that the Rules Committee would work in the next year to clarify our process before the next Annual Conference.

Cabinet Matters: Rev. John Farley (South District Superintendent) introduced the rest of the Cabinet: Rev. Jan Wiley (East District Superintendent), Rev. Jim Powell (North District Superintendent), Rev. Dr. Se Hee Han (Hawaii District Superintendent), and Rev. Mark Nakagawa (West District Superintendent). The members of the Cabinet are the chief missional strategist, the leaders of the leaders and the churches throughout their district.

Rev. Farley began with a story about his father, Rev. Tom Farley, who served on the cabinet, too. He shared gratitude that although there is a lot of work to be done, he is grateful that everything is done in prayerful discernment of God's will; Bishop Hagiya asks for a moment of prayer in every decision. The Cabinet works as a team and is fully invested. Serving as a District Superintendent requires that they be fully present in times of highest joy and deepest worry, including praying through the process of closing churches.

Rev. Powell shared about the needs of the North District. Rev. Powell brought forth and moved approval of two resolutions of discontinuance which would close charters of two congregations.

Resolution 17-11: "Discontinuance of Hansarang UMC" in Montrose, CA was presented. The body voted and **the motion was supported.**

Resolution 17-12: "Discontinuance of Trona Community UMC" in Trona, CA was presented. The body voted and **the motion was supported.**

Rev. David Farley, Director of Justice and Compassion Ministries, presented on a report from Human Resources, who were asked in 2016 to review lay salaries and return to the Annual Conference with a report. A large amount of preliminary work has been done. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the report has not been finished and an extension has been requested. They take this seriously, and it will be done. They will find ways to seek input and answer questions as the process continues, and will report at next year's Annual Conference. Bishop Hagiya requested that we pray for Jan Hanson who this the staff person helping with this matter. Ms. Hanson is at home on bed rest due to health issues.

Rev. Patricia Farris, member of the Board of Trustees at Claremont School of Theology (CST) presented on their current challenges. Because of their strategy to increase enrollment, CST had their largest graduating class this year. However, there are financial challenges and

budget deficits. CST Trustees have put together a plan to make it through the next 2 years, and are receiving a one million dollar “bridge loan” from the West District Union, which is using money from the sale of property in the district (not from apportionments).

Bishop Hagiya explained that the Claremont School of Theology is owned jointly by Cal-Pac Conference ($\frac{2}{3}$) and Desert Southwest Conference ($\frac{1}{3}$). There is shared responsibility to keep it going. Therefore, we have created a strategic initiative to make funding available for CST. In addition to the \$1 million from the West District, the Desert Southwest Conference raised \$500,000 (based on the level of ownership held by both Annual Conferences), and the staff of CST raised an additional \$650,000. The body shared in conversation.

Retirement Videos were shared from Rev. Carol Mayer, Rev. Diane Mettam, and Rev. Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore.

Bishop Hagiya invited the body to continue the dialogue about how we can find a way forward together. He encouraged everyone to take time to tell their story and listen to the stories of others.

A closing prayer was offered and the session was concluded.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference
Retirement Service
Friday, June 16, 2017
7:00 PM

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” was sung while the retirees, spouses, and worship participants gathered on the stage.

David McConkey led the Call to Worship and the body sang “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation.” Mr. McConkey led the Prayer of Illumination. Hebrews 12:1-2 was read by Francis Fukumoto.

Bishop Hagiya recognized the retirees and spouses: Matthew Chee (Full Member), William Cutter (Elder), Karen Dalton (Elder), Romeo Del Rosario (Elder), Gary Dickey (Elder), LLC Hammond (Elder), Hilly Hicks (Local Pastor), Carol Mayer (Deacon), Diane Mettam (Local Pastor), Mary Elizabeth Moore (Deacon), Holly Reinhart-Marean (Elder), Luat Trong Tran (Elder) and Robert Wicherts (Elder). He then led the litany. After the litany, “Now Praise the Hidden God of Love” was played.

Mr. Fukumoto read 2 Kings 2:1-15 in preparation of the passing of the mantle. A representative of the retiring class and a representative of the new full member class came forward. Bishop Hagiya explained the symbolism of the act and presented the mantle to the retiring pastor. The eldest retiring Elder, Rev. Gary Dickey, then passed the mantle to Rev. Stephen Wilson, the

youngest person to be ordained an elder, who responded with appreciation. The elders retiring Deacon, Rev. Carol Mayer, then passed the mantle to Rev. Jeff Bishop the youngest person to be ordained a Deacon, who responded with appreciation. The gathering sang "Forward Through the Ages."

Prior to the benediction, Bishop Hagiya offered a short message to the retirees, emphasizing that their work and ministry was not complete simply because of retirement. He looks forward to hearing about the next stages in their journeys and where their callings take them beyond retirement. Bishop Hagiya offered the benediction with a response to from the gathering. "God of Grace and God of Glory" was shared as the postlude as the retirees, spouses, and worship participants left the stage.



U.M. Daily

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference

Morning Worship

Saturday, June 17, 2017

Miranda Lohr offered a welcome to the gathering. The conference sang, "Here I am to Worship" and "Trust In You." Philippians 3:12 was shared in English, Korean, and Tongan. Peasipa Namoa from the Hawaii District offered a testimony. The gathering sang "Trading My Sorrows" The scripture was read again Samoan and Spanish. Luis Posadas offered a testimony. The body sang "Every Praise." Kisione Finau, Jr. invited the body to remember that we are going "from here to there," and then shared a closing prayer.

Messaging Moment 4

Title: "The Village: Four Priorities" Scripture: Matthew 10:5-11, Acts 1:8

Rev. Myron Wingfield, Chair of the Connectional Table, led the body in focusing on moving "from here to there" by Transforming the World. An excerpt from the video that was shown at the close of yesterday's messaging moment, from the "ready > set >" series, was shown with a quote about the village raising the child. These messaging moments are about the village that is the UMC - about who we are called to be, what we are called to do, and how we build one another up and transform the world.

The four priorities are: Transforming Congregations, Transforming Leaders, Transforming Lives, and Transforming the World. There is theological grounding for these priorities in the Book of Acts. The disciples were in the temple every day at first. Then the Spirit came at Pentecost, and leaders began to emerge (Peter, Stephen, and others). Lives began to be transformed by these leaders, and as they left Jerusalem they began to transform the world.

Rev. Wingfield shared about a young man who argued that it began with transformed lives, then leaders emerged, they went out to serve and create congregations, and those congregations transformed the world. This is what is presented in the Gospel of Luke. This is a wonderful example of youth teaching adults in the church! Each one of these four foci are an ongoing and necessary component of an ongoing and vital church, and overlap with each other. Rev. Wingfield then read from Matthew 10:5-11 and Acts 1:8. These texts highlight the importance of moving "from here to there" as communities are transformed.

A video, "Celebrating the Saints," was shown that told stories of faith communities who are working to transform their larger communities. Ministries at Grace UMC, St Mark UMC, Pearblossom Community UMC, and Imperial Beach UMC were highlighted in the video.

Rev. Wingfield pointed out that people who were once served by these programs are now leaders and an integral part of the faith communities. He also encouraged the body to work for change that brings about transformation in and among themselves. Luke 10 describes Jesus sending 72 disciples out into the world in pairs to share the good news. They returned to celebrate the changes they saw in the world, but Jesus also cautioned them to celebrate the changes the Spirit had wrought in their own lives.

Rev. Wingfield recalled watching an episode of “The Late Show” with Stephen Colbert, in which Michael Render (known as “Killer Mike” from the rap group “Run the Jewels”) was a guest. Mr. Render is an activist who cares deeply about the world around him and often speaks on college campuses.

A video was shown in which Mr. Render encouraged listeners to find a child who is different and is doing well in school, and help them get into college and succeed by serving as their big brother / sister. He advised teaching mentees how to be successful, but also to learn empathy for someone who is from a different background. This helps us see Christ in our neighbors.

A video on the “You Are Not Alone” program (housed at North Hills UMC) was shown. The San Fernando Valley Refugee Center serves unaccompanied minors from South America and Central America through a program providing resources, medical care, and socialization with other children in the same situation. Hope is provided through opportunities for kids to “be kids,” play, and creatively imagine the kind of change they would like to see in the world. There are currently 154 children participating in the program. We are called by Scripture to care for immigrants, and this program helps us do that and show that God cares for all people. Rev. Wingfield offered a special thanks to Rev. Farley for his instrumental support in the creation of that program.

Sandee Furuta, from the Conference and District Property Committee and Congregational Loan Committee presented on the “Safe Parking Lots Program,” which began with brainstorming how church properties could be used in creative ways to help provide homeless housing in Los Angeles. They met with staff from the Los Angeles Mayor’s office about the mayor’s vision for addressing needs of homeless persons. They took an inventory of the properties in the West District and existing ministries with the homeless. Wesley UMC and Bowen UMC agreed work with the Los Angeles Home Services Authority to trying to launch this program. Partners in this project include Rev. Farley, the LA Mayor’s Office, LA County, LA Board of Supervisors, LA City Council, West District Union, Trustees at Wesley UMC and Bowen UMC, the Community Center across the street from Wesley, and Ms. Furuta’s use of staff time. This is the first project of its kind in LA. Several churches have approached her to expand to the San Fernando Valley. This type of project can be done throughout our conference, in coordination with the cities in which we work.

Rev. Allison Mark came forward with her daughter, Amara, to speak about the meaning of “Ohana” (family). Cal-Pac is part of her extended family. Rev. Mark reflected on her personal experience of being nurtured by the extended family of the Cal-Pac Conference, as well as

several of the young people that she has had the opportunity to mentor and nurture in her time serving God. Rev. Mark stress that we are transformed, and can transform the lives of others in relationship with one another, as we show our love, share our faith, and shine a light into the world. Raising up the young people as family is part of getting “from here to there.” Rev. Mark invited the body to consider how to mentor others and be a part of a family of faith which raises up young leaders and sends them into the world to be witnesses to the ends of the world?

Rev. Wingfield gave thanks for the opportunity to serve on the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and saw the extraordinary impact that Young People’s ministries makes in lives and communities. Rev. Wingfield also recalled Rev. Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore’s words from yesterday about the transforming work at Boston University and other United Methodist campuses.

A video was shown about the “Seminary Hill Farm” at Methodist Theological School of Ohio, which is a place of theology, ecology, and good food for all. The program was founded in December of 2013. Jay Rundell, President at MTSO, described how theology and practice work together. Hope Hutchinson (who grew up in our conference) and other students spoke about work, the curiosity and learning of people in the community about farming, food, as well as reflecting about the role of theology in the world.

Rev. Wingfield announced that Ms. Hutchinson graduated and will be commissioned as a Deacon in the Minnesota Conference next Wednesday (June 21). The body congratulated Rev. Richard Bentley and Ruth Hutchinson, her parents.

These views of different ways to connect to communities can be expanded to being part of a Worldwide Village. Hannah Foust from Indiana became concerned at 12 years old about the need for fresh water in Burkina Faso. Because of her inspirational work, 13 wells have now been dug, transforming 16,000 lives in Burkina Faso. Foust spoke at General Conference in Portland, Oregon in 2016, telling about how the UMC is part of her story, as a mission-focused church that is willing to let a little girl preach from the pulpit and organize churches to help kids on the other side of the world. It is her dream that every young person can have an adult to look up to, to nurture them, just as the adults in the church have done for her. Can you imagine what we can achieve if we work together? We need to form strong bonds with others, so that one day there will be no more empty cups, plates, or hearts to fill.

Rev. Wingfield shared about the success of Africa University, which has just celebrated its 23rd graduating classes. Africa University represents 26 nations, and all three Africa Central Conferences. Africa University is changing the continent of Africa.

Rev. Wingfield spoke about Rev. Ivana Prochazkova (Czech republic ordained UMC Pastor) - she grew up in a home and culture where atheism was the norm. Ivana and her husband Peter lead and serve the church in Slovakia. She is developing a thorough theological education program in the Czech language for young people.

Rev. Bau Dang, former DS in our Conference, translated the entire bible into Vietnamese. When Rev. Wingfield served on the Board of Ordained Ministry with Rev. Dang, he would see him up in the dark of the early morning at his desk translating. The body congratulated Rev. Dang on completing his work. Rev. Dang reported that 25,000 New Testaments and 37,500 whole Bibles have been distributed in Vietnam and to Vietnamese people in Cambodia, Laos, Russia, US, Canada, and many other countries. They are published in Vietnam with the expressed permission of the communist government there. This is a miracle in and of itself. This project can be supported through the Advance, "Bibles for Vietnam." It costs \$5 per Bible to print, and is available online at Bible.com.

Rev. Wingfield reminded the body of the call to share Scriptural holiness throughout the land, transform the world by sharing the great good news of JC, sharing stories of how we have been changed.

A video, "Therefore Go, GC2016 Day of Service," was shown about service projects that happened at General Conference. Doing good and making a difference in the world is the purpose of the legislation that is created. Methodists are called to do as Jesus did.

Rev. Wingfield closed the time of messaging with a benediction. Bishop Grant Hagiya dismissed the body for a 15 minute break.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference
Plenary 5
Saturday, June 17, 2017
10:15 AM

Call to Order: Bishop Grant J. Hagiya called the plenary to order at 10:20 AM. Bishop Hagiya welcomed Bishop Michael McKee of the North Texas Annual Conference, who will be the speaker for the ordination service. Bishop McKee spoke about his family's experience with the California-Pacific Conference and its churches and thanked Bishop Hagiya and the Annual Conference for their welcome. Bishop McKee and Bishop Hagiya spoke about the similarities between the the North Texas and California-Pacific conferences and how they work better together.

Orders of the Day: Rev. Bob Rhodes presented the orders of the day for approval. He announced that the second Plenary of the day (Plenary 6) has been moved from 1PM to 2PM. **Rev. Bob Rhodes moved the Orders of the Day. They were approved.**

Announcements: Rev. R. Preston Price, III, announced that keys need to be turned in by 10PM Saturday or 12PM Sunday. Linens can be bundled and left in rooms. Cal-Pac is charged for missing linens and he asks that the body be good stewards of resources. He asked for prayer for Rev. Karen Clark Ristine (Conference Secretary) and her mother, who is actively passing away.

Rev. Sandy Olewine announced that Rosie Rios is the commencement speaker for her graduation ceremony from University of California Los Angeles.

Rev. Bob Rhodes announced that Susan Strombotne left the conference gathering in order to be with her mother, who is passing away, and invited the body to pray for them.

Action on 2018 Budget (Recommendation 17-8): Archana Carey (Executive Director of Finance and Facilities) and Dan Griffin (Council on Finance and Administration) presented the budget.

Rev. David Berkey and Miranda Lohr gave an update on Young People's' Ministry, sharing that over 60 youth and young adults here at Annual Conference have met and created a new structure for youth and young adult ministries in Cal-Pac. Miranda invited youth and young adults not already involved to reach out to Conference leaders. Rev. Berkey said there are currently 40 youth and young adults interested in leadership within the new structure. He asked for prayer and the Holy Spirit's leading in this process. Bishop Hagiya challenge all present to mentor a young person, especially someone who is different from themselves.

Dan Griffin recommended the 2018 budget to the body. A question was asked from the floor about the salaries, pensions, and benefits for campus ministers, now that they are no longer employees of the conference. Rev. David Berkey reported that campus ministers will become employees of the boards of the Wesley Foundations at their respective schools. Grants and funding will be provided to those boards as needed. Jan Hansen, who is not present due to health issues, will have more information on this matter. Bishop Hagiya shared that a meeting will happen soon. Bishop Hagiya shared that the official documentation of the Annual Conference's decision to do this has been found and the Conference staff and boards will work to make sure the process for this transition is run well. **Bishop Hagiya called for a vote and the 2018 budget was supported.**

Amendment 1 (Seconded): Edna Burems moved the Campus Ministries quota be changed from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The motion was seconded. Archana Carey explained quotas at the bishop's request. Four speeches were made in support of the motion. **Bishop Hagiya called for a vote and it was supported.**

A young adult asked about the availability of program funds allotted for a Director of Age-Level Ministries in the 2017 Budget in which the position was only filled for 3 months. Dan Griffin said that while the money is available in this budget year and is managed by Connectional Ministries, apportioned monies are not carried over from one budget year to another. Rev. John Farley (South District Superintendent) reiterated the question for further clarification. Mr. Griffin clarified that continued discussion on this matter should be directed toward the CFA.

Amendment 2 (Seconded): Rev. Eric Schmidt moved the Hunger Appeals quota be changed to \$30,000. The motion was seconded. Bishop Hagiya clarified that it is the responsibility of

related ministry areas to promote specific quota items. **Bishop Hagiya called for a vote and it was supported.**

Bishop Hagiya called for a vote on the 2018 quotas and it was supported.

COSROW Report: Krista McVey presented the COSROW report. In monitoring plenaries and legislative sections, COSROW notes that white men (mostly older) have done the most speaking, followed by white women (mostly older). She also noted that our conference is one of the most diverse in the United States UMC.

Retirement Recognition: Rev. Adiel de Pano and Rev. Paige Eaves recognized and thanked Gail Kendall, who is retiring from her position as Executive Assistant to the Bishop. They presented her with gifts. Gail thanked everyone for their support during her 11-year tenure.

Honoring Our Retired Clergy: Videos for retirees Rev. Holly Reinhart-Marean and Rev. Luat Trong Tran were shown.

Closing Announcements: Rev. Preston Price, III, announced we will reconvene at 2PM. He invited everyone to attend the Ministry Fair. The MFSA dinner has been moved to Orton Hall. Edna Burems gave the closing prayer.

33rd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference
Plenary 6
Saturday, June 17, 2017
2:00 PM

Call To Order: Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

Orders of the Day: Rev. Bob Rhodes presented and moved the Orders on the screens.
Bishop Hagiya moved the Orders of the Day, and they were approved.

RES 17-17 “Wesley Foundation Board of Directors”: Rev. Bob Rhodes moved **Res 17-17**.
Bishop Hagiya called for a vote and it was supported.

Bishop Hagiya recognized Mic 2, and Dr. James Dwyer moved for Cal-Pac to request a Declaratory Decision from the Judicial Council to determine the legality of the sentence in the 2016 Book of Discipline ¶161.G, “and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching,” because it violates the First and Second Restrictive Rules ¶17-18, and in particular the First Restrictive Rule, which states that “The General Conference shall not ... establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine” (¶17). The motion was seconded.

One-fifth of the body is required to support a request for a Declaratory Decision. **The body voted and it was supported. The request will be sent to Judicial Council.**

Casting A Vision: Bishop Hagiya said that “Why” must be the church’s central question. What is being abandoned in order to reach core values? What can be put in place to meet core values? Churches keep adding more and more, yet the central points presented throughout this Annual Conference show that the church could benefit from giving some things up in order to meet core values. Bishop Hagiya shared a story of an experience of pastoral care in which he had the privilege of witnessing life and death in one day, which was so powerful he fell to his knees to pray in the hospital parking lot. He thanked God that he was present with two families experienced death and resurrection. We give thanksgiving for the cycle.

The “why” is important, but the “what” is also important. The “what” can be confusing, since we are in a post-religious world and people are not coming to the church like they did in the 60s-70s. The church has to adapt and change strategy to find out what works and what doesn’t. District and conference events are opportunities to share strategies about what works and what does not work.

The church needs to strengthen areas of Leadership, Discipleship, and Community so that we can meet the needs of today. The old standards are not working. Bishop Hagiya has a personal axiom of “I could be wrong,” which helps him remember that the things that do not work are just as important as the things that do work. Bishop Hagiya’s hope is that church renewal and revitalization will be fueled by our laity rather than our clergy. There are hundreds of laity waiting to be energized for ministry, which would affect all churches and communities as they fulfill the Baptismal vow through the power of Jesus Christ.

Certified Lay Ministers (CLM) are trained as lay people to serve and lead smaller congregations and settings. Sending CLMs to mission areas is a model for the future. They laity are spiritually hungry, and need a deep sense of spiritual guidance but don’t know where to find it. They try to find meaning in the secular world, but the “Age of Aquarius” let them down. The churches have let them down spiritually too. The church can reclaim spiritual vitality by having forums where any question can be welcomed, entertained, and taken seriously. A 5000 member church is doing this with great impact, and others can as well.

The UMC’s Wesleyan DNA offers answers to these theological questions through our understanding of Justifying, Sanctifying, and Perfecting Grace. Bishop Hagiya will provide continuing education opportunities with visiting scholars that provide training to equip his vision, widespread spiritual grounding, and stewardship education. He expects high accountability for clergy, but also high resourcing to help clergy be their best. A Coaching initiative has begun throughout the conference, with the goal that everyone has a professionally trained coach through the Coaching4Clergy program. Bishop Hagiya will take a group of up to 50 people will be attending 5th Transforming Ministry Conference in Portland, Oregon, in August 2017. The group will tour Nike, learn what the creative process is like from the original Jordan designer, and discern how that process can be applicable to the church. McMenamins hotels and restaurants also have a legacy from which we can learn.

Bishop Hagiya said that we all have resources which we need to gather together to maximize our collective resources! He is energized by these hopes and visions and assures the body that together we can do great things. Normally the Episcopacy is 8 years, and effective change takes about 7 years. However, Bishop Hagiya only has 4 years with us, so he is accelerating the process. The possibilities are exciting, and all ideas and energy are welcome.

Honoring Our Retired Clergy: A video was shown celebrating Rev. Dr. Gary Alan Dickey

J.P. Harris reported that there is a wildfire one mile outside of Wrightwood. The community is under mandatory evacuation. A prayer was offered.

Eastern Congo “Mama Lynn Women’s Center”: Rev. Greg Batson (Cal-Pac Foundation) reported that Cal-Pac has partnered with two other Conferences (Tennessee and Memphis) with a \$350,000 campaign to build the Mama Lynn Center in the East Congo, which will provide safety and support for survivors of violence and domestic abuse. The body is encouraged to step up support in local churches. James Kang created a website: calpacumc.org/congowomenarise.

Rev. Jim Powell (North District Superintendent) reported that this work began when the North District challenged its members to raise funds for a motorcycle for Bishop Unda, and enough funds were raised to pay for a van in addition to the motorcycle. Then, the North District began to raise funds for the Mama Lynn Center through a variety of fundraisers. Rev. Powell presented a check for over \$38,000 to Archana Carey.

Sessions Committee: Rev. Lew Fry reported on behalf of Bishop Hagiya, who is Chair of Sessions. Toby Bushy and Amy Metcalf (University of Redlands) have been most responsive to needs. Rev. Fry acknowledged the hard work of the many people who make Annual Conference possible, such as: John Demaree (Media Team) and his team of volunteers; Jennifer Gaylord (Registration and Housing) and her team of volunteers; Rev. Karen Clark Ristine (Conference Secretary); Rev. Bob Rhodes (Orders of the Day); Rev. Rachel Tabutol and Rev. Stephen Wilson (UM Daily) and their team of volunteers; Ken Ellis (Chapel Stage Coordinator); and Susie Strombotne, Beth Rhodes, and Rev. Camille Maddock (Child Care); and Barbara Call-Day (Nurse).

Bishop Hagiya set the dates for the next Annual Conference: **Wednesday, June 13 - Saturday, June 16, 2018**. Rev. Lew Fry moved that the 2018 Annual Conference be held at the University of Redlands. There will be discussion of alternative sites in the future. **Bishop Hagiya called for the vote and it was supported.**

Bishop Hagiya thanked the worship team, soloists, and all provided inspiration: Session Committee, Media Team, Cabinet and Staff who put in countless hours, Support Staff, Board of Ordained Ministry, and especially the laity. The body applauded. After break, the Inaugural Class of the Bishop’s Awards for lifetime achievement will be awarded.

Closing Business: Rev. R. Preston Price, III, announced that UM Daily reports will be on the Cal-Pac website. Suggestions or changes needed should be reported to Rev. Karen Clark Ristine. Rev. Price moved that the Annual Conference will be concluded after the Ordination Service is concluded this evening. **Bishop Hagiya called for a vote and it was supported.**

Scholarships & Awards: Rev. Curtis Brown (Discipleship Ministries) presented the “One Matters” award. He affirmed that reaching out to one more person matters, because God has not created any extra persons or extra churches. A video was presented to recognize Aiea United Methodist Church in Hawaii, which opened in 1976. In December 2016 they consecrated a new Korean ministry, now known as Aiea Korean UMC, and received 105 new members and 15 baptisms that day. Rev. Brown introduced Rev. Hoyong Kim, pastor of Aiea Korean UMC, and presented him the “One Matters” award, giving thanks to all the laity who worked together to make it happen. Bishop Hagiya noted that the church was also awarded \$1000.

Bishop Hagiya granted the body a 15 minute break.

Upon return from break, Rev. Preston and Jean Price were called forward to address the body on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Rev. Price has helped the Bishop all week and been a dominant presence.

Scholarships & Awards: Rev. Bob Rhodes invited Bob Arvizu introduce the Scholarships. Mr. Arvizu presented Bishop Hagiya with a mug and a pen. Mr. Arvizu described how the scholarships were originally used and how they are distributed now to Community Colleges and UM Youth. Mr. Arvizu presented a report of the four most recent recipients. Since 2015, 12 scholarships have been awarded. The body was invited to raise funds for scholarships through the “adopt a piggy” fundraiser.

Points of Personal Privilege: Rev. Rhodes invited the following persons to share a point of personal privilege. Rev. Mark Stephenson lifted up yesterday’s court verdict regarding the tragic shooting of Philando Castille, which has prompted protests. He invited the body to work for equal protection for all people, as we use open dialogue to heal wounds, stop the hurt, fight for justice, and eliminate racial divisions. The Bishop offered a prayer.

Rev. JT Greenleaf thanked the body for participating in the Ice Cream Social at University UMC, which raised \$1100 for a youth mission trip with Sierra Service Project to Tsaille, Arizona.

Ainise Isamau thanked Bishop Hagiya for challenging the Pacific Islander churches in Hawaii and on the mainland to create a camp that would help bridge the gap between first and second generations. With 4 months of careful planning, they created a camp themed “Feed My Sheep” which used cultural and spiritual workshops and Q & A faith questions to teach kids how to spiritually feed sheep. 91 youth and young adults attended.

Bishop’s Awards: Bishop Hagiya honored six Annual Conference members who have made considerable impacts within the community with Lifetime Achievement awards for service to Cal-

Pac: Rev. Dr. John Cobb, Jr.; Gaunnie Hardin Dixon; Becky Haase; Stephen F. Harbison; Byron Hayes, Jr.; and James M. Lawson, Jr. Each recipient was given an opportunity to address the conference.

Bishop Hagiya introduced the recipients with a summary of why they were chosen:

Rev. Dr. John Cobb, Jr. - He is ranked with theological giants such as Karl Barth, and his scholarly work has been guided toward helping people understand how theology guides practice, specifically in ecology. He embodies grace and has Christ-like qualities.

Gaunnie Hardin Dixon - She served as Conference Lay Leader, is a solid rock of strength, and is willing to say "yes" and try anything with enthusiasm.

Becky Haase - Becky has expertise in finance, an ability to pinpoint problems, and is courageous enough to speak the truth through her presence in the conference.

Stephen F. Harbison - As Cal-Pac's first full-time chancellor, he often provided his time and services pro-bono.

Byron Hayes, Jr. - As the first Cal-Pac chancellor, he played a critical role in restoring financial stability and fruitfulness during a challenging time, and continues to offer his services pro-bono.

James M. Lawson, Jr. - Notable not just within our Conference, but around the world, Jim has a passion for and has worked towards racial justice and reconciliation. He continues on the forefront of the work of justice and reconciliation by teaching and mentoring new generations.

Bishop Hagiya welcomed Lucille Wheatley, who was honored at the MFSA Dinner later that evening and turned 100 years old in March. As a Quaker, she learned two things: active concern for the welfare of others, and remaining quiet until God's still small voice told her to speak. She lived life speaking the language of love by participating in marches and seeking social justice.

Rev. Rhodes asked the body to remove all personal items from the auditorium, as it will be locked immediately following this session until 6:15 PM.

Bishop Hagiya led the body in a Sending Liturgy in which clergy and laity from each district were invited to stand with the Bishop and District Superintendents and receive a blessing upon the next year of ministry. The Bishop officially closed this session and sent the body to dinner.

Commissioning and Ordination
Saturday June 17, 2017

Handel's Music from the Royal Fireworks was played as the prelude and the congregation gathered. During the processional hymn, Praise to the Lord the Almighty, while the Board Of Ordained Ministry Leadership team, worship participants, candidates, and Bishops processed.

Bishop Grant J. Hagiya greeted everyone and led the gathering in prayer. After prayer, congregation was led in a recognition of common ministry and reaffirmation of baptism.

Bishop Hagiya inquired about who presented the candidates to be ordained or commissioned. The laity recommended the candidates in their local congregations and presented them with prayer and support. The Board of Ordained Ministry confirmed the examination of the candidates and presented them with prayer and support. Rev. M. Cherie Jones presented the people for ordination as deacon: Jeffrey Alan Bishop, Martha Walz Morales, and Robin Ann Rhodes. She then presented the people for ordination as elder: Valerie Lou Weise and Stephen Jerry Wilson. Rev. Sunyoung Lee presented for commissioning as provisional members preparing for ordained ministry as elders: Benjamin Paul Camp, Christopher Robert Carter, James Hyun Choi, Ki Tae Choi, John Feaumolotu V. Finau, Matthew Ray Hambrick, Hannah Ka, Bae Sun Kim, Erin Karynn Stenberg, Blair Trygstad Stowe, Sione Tongia Tu'ipulotu, and Hee Jung Yu. She then presented for commissioning as provisional members preparing for ordained ministry as deacons: Jeania Ree Violet Moore and Chelsea Laine Simon. After the candidates were presented the Board of Ordained Ministry affirmed them with our prayers and support.

Bishop Hagiya asked the congregation to declare their assent for the ordination and commissioning of the candidates. Bishop Hagiya, Bishop Felipe Ruiz, Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan, and Bishop Michael McKee then examined the candidates for commissioning and ordination.

The congregation offered a prayer for illumination by singing "Word of God, Come Down on Earth." James Choi shared Ephesians 4: 1-16 and Rev. Martha Morales lifted up Matthew 10:1, 5-10.

Bishop Hagiya introduced Bishop Michael McKee prior to the sermon "First Things Last."

Bishop McKee spoke about his call to ministry when he was four years old, and the subsequent change of mind when he realized that all the pastors he knew were bald. He spoke of ordination services being remarkable moments in the church's life; a momentous time in a conference's life.

Bishop McKee reflected on his own ordination as a deacon 45 years ago just after his wedding. Someone commented on how shiny and new their rings were, and that his ordination night would also be shiny and new for him. Bishop McKee was also reminded that not everything in ministry is shiny and new; it is fulfilling but it is challenging and difficult also. Whether we are difficult or not, we are given to each other by God. The practice of ministry happens despite this difficultness. Only the first things last.

Bishop McKee wants all those being ordained or commissioned to remember everything about this night. When things become challenging for him, Bishop McKee draws on that well of memories of his ordination. He encouraged those being commissioned and ordained to read the fourth chapter of Paul's letter to Ephesus every week until the day they die. The scripture repeats two words over and over again - one and all. One baptism - we just remembered our own baptisms - a first thing. You need to know the story of Jesus so that his story becomes your story.

We need to remember that these people being ordained and commissioned and all of us need to remember the first things, one faith, one hope, one Lord, one baptism, one body, and one spirit.

This tells us something about who we need to be as a church too and the responsibilities we have. It is about the unity of the spirit and the unity of the body of Christ. We all belong to God. This troubled world needs to have some conversations about what it means for the abundant life of God's children.

The body of Christ is put together by ligaments. Just as ligaments connect bones together, religion connects people together as the body of Christ. Bishop McKee pointed out that the root word for ligaments is the root word for religion. He stressed that everyone has a place, a ministry, and a calling and these have to be shared among the people because no one has all the gifts which are needed in the world today. Bishop McKee is amazed about what gifted clergy and laity can achieve together. He pointed out that the people behind him may be bringing gifts which perhaps none of the rest of us has.

Bishop McKee recounted a story of "Chuck" who serves as a local pastor in a rural setting after a career at police officer. Chuck worked to establish a welcoming environment for for a family that had a child with disabilities after receiving a request from the boy's mother. Opening doors for this family, did not just welcome them but welcomed others to the church and ministry abounds.

Bishop McKee encouraged everyone to pick up the gauntlet, answer their emails, listen to what people are telling them on the streets, so that they might hear how you are knit together as the body of Christ.

Rev. Elbert Kim led the congregation in an Affirmation of Faith. "Njoo kwetu, Roho mwema (Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading)" was sung.

Bishop Hagiya commissioned Rev. Andrew Lee as a missionary and offered a prayer over him and his ministry. Rev. Andrew Lee, his spouse, and children are all leaving Hawaii to go to Cambodia to undertake missionary work. Rev. Lee was vested with an anchor cross. The congregation joined with Bishop Hagiya in covenanting to support Rev. Lee by word, gift and deed.

“Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading” was sung (in Swahili, Refrain in English) with the congregation joining in for the refrain, while those to be commissioned as provisional members came forward.

COMMISSIONING PROVISIONAL MEMBERS FOR SERVICE

As the Candidates for Provisional Membership stood behind the Communion Table, Bishop Hagiya addressed the congregation acknowledging the work of the Holy Spirit in the candidates’ lives that led them to be commissioned, and invited the gathering to continue to hold them in prayer as they prepared for ordained ministry. Bishop Hagiya extended arms over all of the candidates and prayed. Then one at a time, the candidates came forward and kneeled. Bishop Hagiya laid both hands upon the shoulders of each candidate and prayed. As each candidate was commissioned, those present to support them stood. Jeania Ree Violet Moore and Chelsea Laine Simon were commissioned as Provisional Deacons. Benjamin Paul Camp, Christopher Robert Carter, James Hyun Choi, Ki Tae Choi, John Feaumolotu V. Finau, Matthew Ray Hambrick, Hannah Ka, Bae Sun Kim, Erin Karynn Stenberg, Blair Trygstad Stowe, Sione Tongia Tu’ipulotu, and Hee Jung Yu as Provisional Elders. The gathering sang verse 1 and 2 of “Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading”.

EXAMINATION OF DEACONS

As the Candidates for Ordination as a Deacon stood behind the Communion Table, Bishop Hagiya examined them for Ordination as a Deacon, then prayed over them. A sung prayer, “Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading” (Refrain in English), was offered over the candidates. The candidates for Ordination as a Deacon were invited to kneel before the Bishop one at a time. Family members and friends were invited to stand where they were for silent prayer during the laying on of hands. Bishop Hagiya laid both hands on the head of the Ordinand and prayed. The Ordinand then placed hands on the Bible, while Bishop Hagiya charged them to take their authority as a Deacon. The Ordinand was presented with a stole to represent the mantle they took up. Jeffrey Alan Bishop, Martha Walz Morales, and Robin Ann Rhodes were ordained as deacons. The gathering sang verse 3 and 4 of “Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading”.

EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

As the Candidates for Ordination stood behind the Communion Table, Bishop Hagiya examined them for Ordination as an Elder, then prayed over them. A sung prayer, “Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading” (Refrain in English), was offered over the candidates. Candidates for Ordination as an Elder were invited to kneel before the Bishop one at a time. Family members and friends were invited to stand where they were for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for Ordinands. Bishop Hagiya laid both hands on the head of each Ordinand and prayed. The Ordinand then placed his/her hands on the Bible, while Bishop Hagiya charged them to take their authority as an Elder. Each person ordained then received a stole to represent the mantle they took up. Valerie Lou Weise and Stephen Jerry Wilson were ordained elders. The gathering sang verse 5 of “Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading,” then it was sung in Swahili.

Rev. Karin Ellis called for the Offering which was allocated to support Congo Women Arise. Concertato on “Lasst Uns Erfreuen” was played while the offering was requested. The congregation joined in the doxology after the offering.

The Bishops presided over Holy Communion and the new commissioners and ordinands helped to serve. The congregation was dismissed with a blessing and sang "Go to the World" as worship participants recessed from the chancel. "Toccata from Symphony No. 5" was played as a postlude.

