

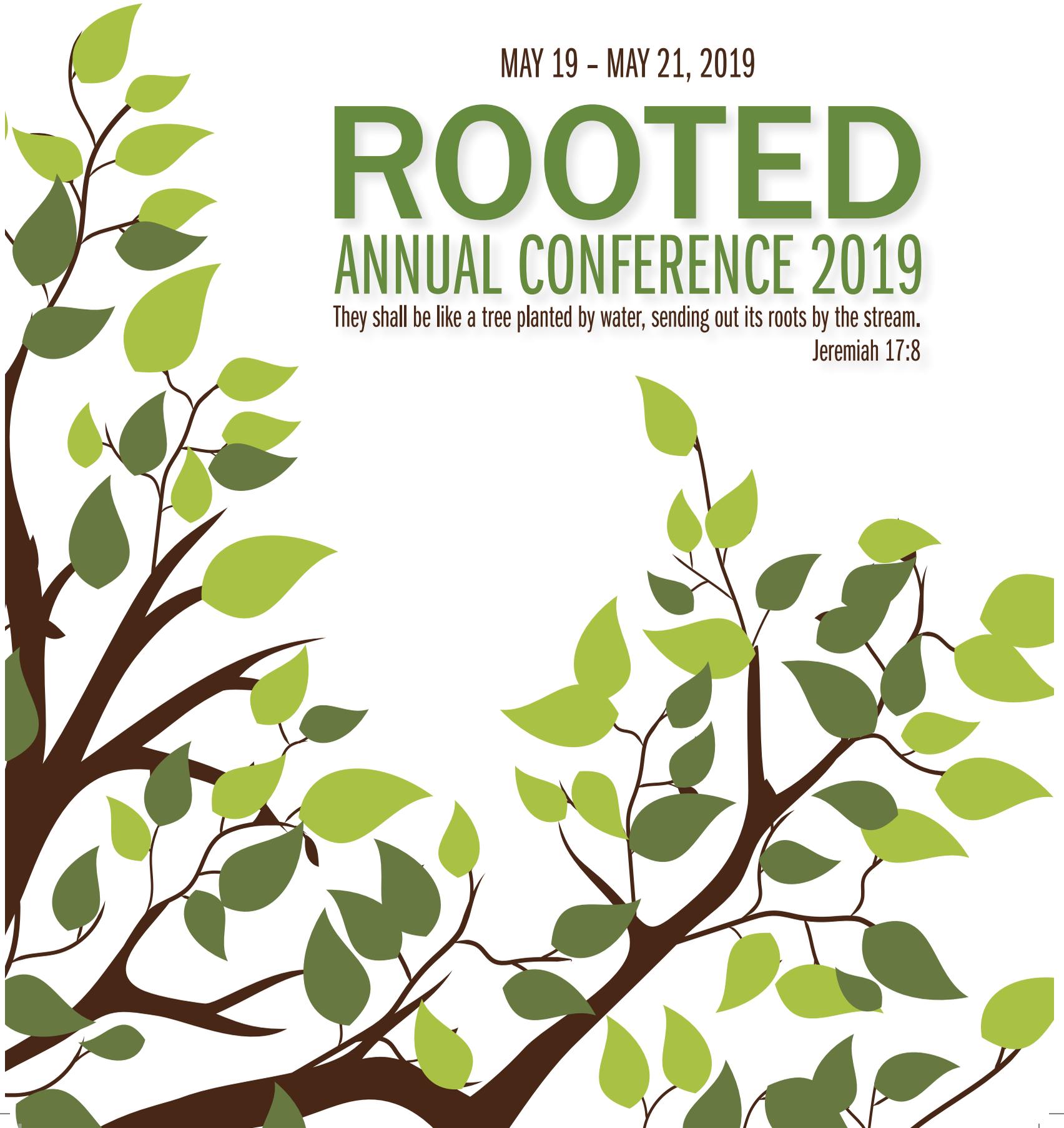
UNITED METHODISTS OF GREATER NEW JERSEY
PRE-CONFERENCE JOURNAL + HANDBOOK

MAY 19 - MAY 21, 2019

ROOTED

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.
Jeremiah 17:8





God has miracles in store for Greater New Jersey

250 Youth Groups with 2000 Youth Engaged for Christ

10 College Campus Ministries with 1000 Students

5000 Students at IGNITE & 1000 Student Campers

100 Hope Centers in Greater New Jersey

Hurricane Recovery: Partnerships with UMCOR and Puerto Rico

Health Center, School & Mission Center in Tanzania

*Miracles
Everywhere*

A special offering will be received for Miracles Everywhere at Annual Conference during the Service of Remembrance on Monday morning. You are invited to share the gifts from your congregation.

To learn more about Miracles Everywhere go to: www.gnjumc.org/miracleseverywhere



*They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.
Jeremiah 17:8*

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Roots that run deep yield healthy growth, vitality and fruit. As United Methodists, we have deep roots that continue to draw us together to worship, serve and grow in our faith.

The journey began in New Jersey in the mid 1700's as a Methodist lay person, James Early, organized class meetings in Southern New Jersey. At the same time, George Whitfield, an inspiring evangelist in the New Brunswick area had many new believers convert to Christ and Methodism in response to his preaching. Their efforts launched the Methodist movement in Greater New Jersey giving birth to and rooting the 540 churches that make up GNJ today.

This year, we gather in a season of tension and disagreement following the recent General Conference Session. We have had conferences under difficult circumstances before: while the country was at war, during the Great Depression, with debate on women's ordination, at the end of segregation within the church and when joining together northern and southern New Jersey as one conference. We have seen challenges and can testify that we have come this far by faith.

As we gather in the shadow of General Conference, its shadow does not dim the light of Christ within us and the commitment that we can find a way forward that will be a testimony and example for the rest of the church. Why? Because we are rooted in the grace and example of Jesus Christ, because our diversity has taught us how to live with difference and because we are committed to being better for the mission of the church.

I am proud and glad to serve with you during this time in the life of our church. You have taught me how to serve better and you are excelling with our vision of making disciples of Jesus Christ through passionate faith, boundless hope, courageous spirit, transformational leadership congregational vitality and regenerative resources. I am convinced that as we continue to work together we will make more, younger and diverse disciples of Jesus Christ and we will grow more vital congregations to continue to transform lives, communities and the world.

This annual conference session we will:

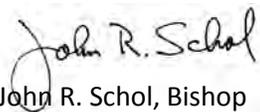
CELEBRATE the Miracles Everywhere Campaign that has raised more than \$4 million in pledges toward the \$6 million goal. There will be an offering for Miracles Everywhere during the Service of Remembrance on Monday morning. I encourage you and your congregation to take an offering to share at Annual Conference. We also will celebrate the new Way Forward Team which will help us be one church that honors traditional congregational ministry and ministry with the LGBTQ community.

CONFERENCE about our finances, intercultural competency, ministries and mission.

CONFIRM through ordination, commissioning, baptism, election of General and Jurisdictional Conferences delegates that God has a future with hope for us.

Seeds of renewal and transformation have been planted, the tree continues to grow roots and seek fruitfulness. As in Jeremiah 17:9, our destination is not in the planting of the tree but in the sending out of the roots. Transformation of hearts, minds and systems is the long-term to bear fruit is the goal of our holy conferencing. We have evidence of these changes and fruitfulness and will continue to as we remain rooted in Christ.

Keep the faith!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Schol". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John R. Schol, Bishop
United Methodists of Greater New Jersey

LEADERSHIP 100

Greater New Jersey's 2019-2023 Strategic Plan calls us to lift clergy, laity and congregations to make disciples who make disciples.



THE WAY WE GATHER MAKES A DIFFERENCE

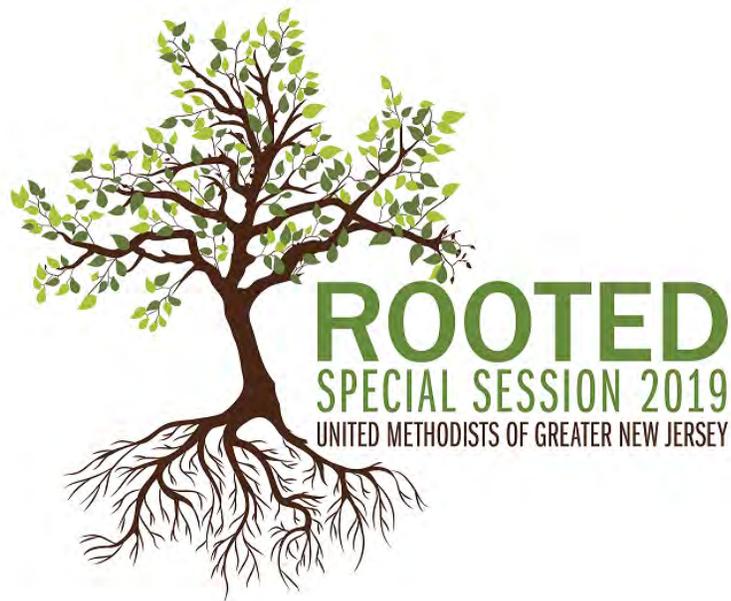
The Way We Gather Makes A Difference equips those ready to move to the next level. Resources curated for small, medium and large congregations that include best practices for the five markers of vitality:

- **Worship**
- **New Disciples**
- **Small Groups**
- **Mission Giving**



**Download a copy of The Way We Gather
and start preparing for what's next.**

www.gnjumc.org/congregationalvitality



**20th Annual Conference Session
for United Methodists of Greater New Jersey**
May 19 - May 21, 2019 | Wildwood, NJ

Agenda

Sunday, May 19

- 1:00 p.m. **Registration Opens**
Exhibits and Cokesbury Bookstore
- 4:00 p.m. **Clergy Executive Session and Introduction of General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegate Nominees** | Ballrooms A, B, C
Laity Session and Introduction of General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegate Nominees | West Hall
- 5:00 p.m. **Clergy Dinner** | Ballrooms A, B, C
Laity Dinner | East Hall
- 7:00 p.m. **Commissioning and Ordination Worship** | West Hall A, B, C
- 9:30 p.m. **Clergy Session** (continued) | Ballrooms A, B, C

Monday, May 20

- 7:00 a.m. **Breakfast**
Breakfast on your own. Group prearranged breakfasts

- 7:30 a.m. **Communion at the Beach** | East Hall Deck
- 8:00 a.m. **Clergy Balloting** | West Hall
- 8:45 a.m. **Praise and Worship** | West Hall
- 9:00 a.m. **Organizing the Conference** | West Hall
- 9:10 a.m. **Episcopal Address** | West Hall
- 9:45 a.m. **Legislation** | West Hall
Nominations, Trustees Enabling, Advance Specials, Historic Sites, Discontinuance of Churches
- 10:15 a.m. **Vital Mission Partners** | West Hall
Relationship Statements, Update on Desegregation Lawsuit
- 11:00 a.m. **Service of Remembrance** | West Hall
Bishop Ernest Lyght
Miracles Everywhere offering
- 12:00 p.m. **Clergy Lunch** | East Hall and East Deck
Laity Balloting | West Hall
- 12:45 p.m. **Laity Lunch** | East Hall and East Deck
- 1:15 p.m. **Clergy Balloting** | West Hall
- 2:00 p.m. **Praise and Worship** | West Hall
- 2:10 p.m. **Leadership Address** | West Hall
- 2:40 p.m. **Legislation** | West Hall
Shared Ministries Formula, Shared Ministry Plan and Budget, Policy Recommendations, Pension, Equitable Compensation, Health Insurance Guidelines, Standards for Parsonages
- 3:30 p.m. **Service of Passage with Anointing** | West Hall
- 4:00 p.m. **Clergy or Laity Balloting** (as needed) | West Hall
- 4:30 p.m. **Workshops** | Assigned Locations
Mission Project – Rise Against Hunger | East Hall
Reception for Retirees | Location TBD
- 6:15 p.m. **Adjourn**
- 6:30 p.m. **Extension Ministry Dinner** | Location TBA
Dinner for Groups (pre-arranged) | Location TBA

8:00 p.m. **Laity and/or Clergy Balloting** (as needed) | West Hall

Tuesday, May 21

7:00 a.m. **Breakfast**
Breakfast on your own; Group prearranged breakfasts

7:45 a.m. **Communion on the Beach** | East Hall Deck

8:00 a.m. **Clergy and/or Laity Balloting** (as needed) | West Hall

8:30 a.m. **Praise and Worship** | West Hall

8:45 a.m. **Teaching Session** | West Hall
Kristina Gonzalez, Director of Innovation for an Inclusive Church
for the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area

9:45 a.m. **Reading of the Appointments** | West Hall

10:15 a.m. **Holy Conferencing** | West Hall
Path Forward for GNJ Following the Special Session of General Conference

11:00 a.m. **Legislation** | West Hall
*Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline, Inclusive Church, Boycott Israel,
Statement after GC*

12:30 p.m. **Closing Worship with Holy Communion** | West Hall

1:00 p.m. **Adjournment**

Sign up by June 1, for the best available discounts!



MOVE MOUNTAINS

IF YOU HAD THE FAITH OF A MUSTARD SEED, YOU COULD MOVE MOUNTAINS

Matthew 17:20

OCT. 4-6, 2019

WILDWOODS CONVENTION CENTER | WILDWOOD, NJ

Join nationally recognized speakers, artists and Christian youth from Greater New Jersey and beyond as we learn what it means to recognize the divine spark within us and change the world.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Find out more at: www.ignitenj.org



NEXT GENERATION
UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY



UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

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NEXT GENERATION
UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

SUMMER CAMPS

COMBINING FAITH AND FUN



2019 SUMMER CAMPING PROGRAMS

FINE ARTS CAMP: CAMP INSPIRE | JULY 22 – 27

Creativity and performance! Celebrate God’s gifts with music, theater, photography and video. *Open to students in grades 5 through 10.*

HIGH SCHOOL CAMP | JULY 29 – AUG 3

Connection and leadership! Connect with God and each other while building leadership skills and preparing for God’s call. *Open to students in grades 9 through 12.*

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP | AUG 5 – 10

Multicultural fun and discovery! Grow in faith and build bridges between different cultures. *Open to students in grades 6 through 8.*

NIÑOS Y JOVENES PARA CRISTO | AUG 12 – 16

Faith and Hispanic heritage! Dive into faith and celebrate Hispanic heritage. *Open to students in grades 1 through 12.*

Next Gen Summer Campers will spend a week in the Pinelands making friends, having fun and growing deeper in faith. Students will explore music, theater and video, be immersed in multicultural experiences and learn leadership skills. Spend your summer growing in confidence, getting more connected and ready to take on the school year.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Go to: www.gjnnextgen.org



NEXT GENERATION
UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY



UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

**SWIMMING | KAYAKING | PADDLE BOARDING | SOCCER | ARCHERY | MUD HIKES | TETHER BALL
BASKETBALL | VOLLEYBALL | PAINTBALL | GAMES | WORSHIP | BIBLE STUDIES | PRAYER AND MUCH MORE!**

Welcome from Conference Secretary

Dear Annual Conference Lay and Clergy Members,

Welcome to the 2019 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference!

We've prepared the 2019 Pre-Conference Handbook for you. It is a valuable resource for you to use as an active member of the 2019 Annual Conference Session. Please be sure to bring it with you to Conference – there is a charge for additional books. As an alternative, the Pre-Conference Handbook is posted and available for download on the GNJ website.

Included in these pages are reports, legislation and nominations received for consideration at Annual Conference. We have included all legislation submitted by the deadline of February 15 and two pieces of legislation submitted after the deadline which were reviewed by the agenda committee and recommended to and approved by the Bishop. We hope the material prepared in these pages will be helpful to you as you share with your congregation and join in the worship, business, fellowship and celebration at the 2019 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

The conference begins at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday with clergy and laity sessions. Registration starts at 1:00 p.m. at the Wildwoods Convention Center, Wildwood, NJ.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. David E. Wiley
Conference Secretary

Reports and Resolutions:

Although reports and resolutions may be amended on the floor of Annual Conference, we urge those wishing to amend a resolution to contact the chairperson/originator of the report/resolution prior to the beginning of Annual Conference to work out a mutually agreeable revision. For the sake of time management, we encourage you to give your attention to this important detail.

Elected Lay Members Unable to Attend All Sessions:

If for any reason the elected Lay Member can no longer be seated at the Annual Conference, s/he is responsible for passing on the Pre-Conference Journal and Handbook and any other program materials to the elected Alternate (Reserve) Lay Member. The Alternate (Reserve) Lay Member can proceed to the Registration Table, identify him/herself, and obtain the necessary credentials to use while serving as the Lay Member. Before leaving the hotel to return home, s/he is asked to return the packet of materials and name badge to the Registration Table at the Convention Center.

Attendance and Name Badges:

All members are required to register for Annual Conference beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 19 in the Main Lobby of the Convention Center. Name badges will be given out at the attendance/registration desk and will serve as your meal ticket for dinner on Sunday and lunch on Monday.

Late Registration for Annual Conference:

Members who are not registered online by the May 1 registration deadline may register at the Wildwoods Convention Center on Sunday, May 19 at the Late Registration desk. Late registrants are responsible for obtaining and paying for their own hotel room.

Hotels:

You will receive a confirmation email once you register. Information on hotels will be linked to this email. Conference members and visitors who register after May 1, are responsible for obtaining their own hotel room.

Childcare:

Childcare will be offered at the Convention Center on Sunday from 3:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., Monday, 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Please register for childcare by May 1. Additional information regarding childcare will be sent directly to parents after they register their children. Due to Safe Sanctuary guidelines, no walk-ins will be allowed.

Offering:

One offering will be received during the Service of Remembrance on Monday, May 20 and dedicated to the Miracles Everywhere Campaign. Come prepared to witness through your generous giving.

Workshops:

A selection of five workshops will be offered on Monday, May 20 starting at 4:30 p.m. You can sign-up for the workshop of your choice when you register for the Annual Conference. Pre-registration is required! See a description of the workshops and presenters in this booklet.

Exhibits:

Information booths for associated organizations and agencies will be in the Main Lobby of the Convention Center.

Mission Project:

Rise Against Hunger mission project will take place in the East Hall on Monday, May 20 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Sign-up when you register for the Annual Conference. Walk-ins are welcome.

Service of Remembrance:

The Service of Remembrance will be held on Monday, May 20 at 11:00 a.m. It will be followed by a lunch for the families of those honored and members of the Cabinet immediately following in Ballroom C.

Meals:

- Breakfast is not provided. There are numerous restaurants, coffee shops and diners nearby and on the boardwalk.
- Dinner on Sunday, May 19 – Elected Lay Members will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the East Hall. Clergy will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the Ballrooms.
- Lunch on Monday, May 20 – Clergy are scheduled for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and elected Lay Members are scheduled for lunch at 12:45 p.m.
- Visitors to the Annual Conference may join members for dinner and/or lunch if pre-registered and paid for in advance. Pre-payment and reservation are required.

Focus Group Meals:

Focus group leaders will provide information on location of meals directly to all pre-registered attendees. Leaders must register in advance. Focus group leaders have until April 15 to sign up for a group meal. Focus group leaders can request space for a group meal on the Annual Conference pages of the GNJ website www.gnjumc.org/2019-annual-conference.

Emergency Phone:

Should an Annual Conference participant need to be contacted in case of emergency, call Joy Foley, 732-239-4107.

Parking:

Parking is conveniently located on the grounds of the Convention Center. An area for those with handicap license plates and placards is clearly marked. Golf carts will be available to take those with mobility issues to the entrance.

Trolley to and from Hotels:

Free transportation is available between all hotels and the Convention Center via trolley car from 2:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Sunday; 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Monday; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

Directions to the Wildwoods Convention Center:

From Philadelphia: Atlantic City Expressway to Exit 7 South onto the Garden State Parkway South to Exit 4B (Wildwood/Wildwood Crest). You will be on Rt. 47 South (Rio Grande Ave.). Continue 2.3 miles to Ocean Ave. and turn left. The Convention Center is on your right directly after the turn.

From New York and Points North: Garden State Parkway South to Exit 4B and follow directions above.

From Cape May and Points South: Cape May-Lewes Ferry to Cape May. Follow signs to the Wildwoods via Garden State Parkway North to Exit 4 and follow directions above.

From Delaware Memorial Bridge: Rt. 40 East to Rt. 55 South to Rt. 47 South to the Wildwoods.

Little Italy Restaurant Incident:

During the IGNITE 2017 Youth Conference, there was an incident at Little Italy restaurant in Wildwood involving a group of African American youth from several of our churches. Our youth and our leaders experienced a lack of respect and unresponsiveness. They politely left the restaurant and were served at another restaurant. As United Methodists, and particularly GNJ United Methodists, we condemn racism and value respect, diversity, inclusion and equal treatment of all people.

Bishop Schol met with the students and their leader who had gone to the restaurant and spoke with all of those gathered at IGNITE. The pastor and Bishop Schol both contacted the owner of the restaurant to request a meeting to discuss and resolve the matter. The restaurant declined their requests and has not responded to several letters.

As you make plans for your visit to Wildwood for the 2019 Annual Conference, you should not patronize Little Italy. We have also instructed Wildwoods Convention Center not to promote Little Italy when we are there for events.



BREAKTHROUGH

A GNJ guide to best practices for worship

A resource designed to provide easy to use best practices and worship series so that GNJ congregations can re-tune their worship, spend less time preparing the details and focus on what really matters – preaching the gospel to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world.

Find out more and download today:

www.gnjumc.org/breakthrough



UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

Check out these worship series available now!

WORSHIP SERIES TITLES:

Stop Being Nice
Catch Your Breath
Take a Hike
Plugged In
Ghost Stories

EACH SERIES INCLUDES:

Worship Resources
Preaching Resources
Small Group Resources
Creative Graphics + Resources
Song & Hymn Suggestions
Videos

Name Badges and Voting Rights

Badge Color	Affiliation	Voting Rights
Yellow ¶602.4 ¶602.6	Elected Lay Member, At Large Member Youth-Young Adult Elected Member Diaconal Minister, Deaconess Home Missioner under GNJ, appointment, GNJ Lay Leader District Lay Leader, GNJ Director of Lay Servant Ministries, GNJ UMW President, GNJ UMM President	May vote on all matters except granting, validation, of license, ordination, reception into full conference membership, or any question concerning the character and official conduct of ordained ministers. Lay members who are elected members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and Committee on Investigation can vote on all matters of ordination, character and conference relations of clergy.
Red ¶602.1	Full connection (Elder and Deacons)	May vote on all matters except election of lay delegates to general, jurisdiction or central conferences.
Blue ¶602.1c	Associate Members (<i>Associated Members that are elected members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, have the right to vote at clergy session on matters of ordination, character and conference relations of clergy.</i>)	May vote on all matters except constitutional amendments and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.
¶602.1b	Provisional Members (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who have completed educational requirements towards ordination</i>)	May vote on all matters of the annual conference, except constitutional amendments, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.
¶602.1d	Full Time/ Part Time Local Pastors (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who have completed course of study or an M.Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment before the election</i>)	May vote on all matters except constitutional amendments and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. <i>(Licensed Local Pastors that are elected members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, have the right to vote at clergy session on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy)</i>
Green ¶602.1b ¶602.1c	Provisional Members (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who have not completed educational requirements toward ordination</i>) and Affiliated Members	May vote on all matters except constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General/Jurisdictional/ Central Conferences and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.
¶602.1d	Full Time/ Part Time Local Pastors (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who have not completed course of study or an M.Div. degree</i>)	May vote on all matters except constitutional amendments, election of delegates to the General/Jurisdictional/ Central Conferences and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.
White ¶320.5	Retired Local Pastors	May attend with voice, but not vote.
Teal ¶602.9	Visitors, Student Pastors (from other conferences), Lay Missionaries, Members of Other Conferences, Interim Supply Pastors	No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor.
Pink	GNJ Staff Members	No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor.
Purple	Official Guest and Episcopal Staff	No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor.
Orange	Non-Voting Youth	No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor.

Workshops



Intercultural Competence: A Leadership Skill for Vital Ministry

Intercultural Competence is a leadership skill. It is arguably the leadership skill for this moment in the life of the church (though the Apostle Paul argued its importance in ancient times as well). Explore how to develop increasingly nuanced understandings of cultural differences and commonalities, and how intercultural competence as a practice may lead to freedom and joy in building an inclusive body of Christ.

Kristina Gonzalez, Director of Innovation for an Inclusive Church, Greater Northwest Episcopal Area

Kristina develops curriculum and offers leadership development opportunities with a specialty in intercultural competency. Kristina is a member of the Innovation Vitality Team in the Greater Northwest which works in three practices for vitality of local congregations and new expressions of Wesleyan theology in the world: inclusion, innovation and multiplication.

Discipleship Pathways

We know discipleship is important, but have we taken the time to define exactly what it means? Do the opportunities we offer throughout the year correspond to what we believe about discipleship? Can we explain the way our church practices discipleship in an easy and accessible way that a first-timer could quickly understand? Using GNJ's workbook, *A Discipleship Pathway*, we will sort out how to sort it all out.

Trey Wince, Director of New Disciples for Great New Jersey



During his years of church leading, planning, consulting and pastoring, Trey has remained convinced that high impact churches are really just churches who know how to take care of the little stuff first. He has served as Pastor of Princeton UMC and Kingston UMC, College Director (serving students at Vanderbilt, Belmont and Lipscomb Universities), Director of Young Adult Ministries at First Presbyterian Church in Nashville and international missions coordinator with Joshua Expeditions.

Financial Security

Resources are available for clergy and spouses when it comes to thinking and planning for a healthy financial future. Learn about benefits and how they can be supportive in retirement, free and optional services offered through Wespath Benefits and Investments, how to gain access to your online account, helpful tools that are available and individual retirement benefits projections.

Robert Christophel Manager of Benefits Education at Wespath



Prior to joining Wespath in 2014, Bob worked for 12 years at the Cultural Institutions Retirement System in New York City, a not-for-profit multi-employer pension and 401(k) system, providing benefit communications and participant education for employees of New York City museums, botanical gardens, zoos and performing arts centers. Bob also has over 12 years of experience at Dreyfus Corporation, as a licensed investment representative in a corporate retirement services division, focused primarily on participant education for national corporate 401(k) plans.



Safe Sanctuaries

God calls for churches to be safe places, protecting children and other vulnerable persons from abuse. We'll review and learn requirements for Safe Sanctuaries Procedures, obtain a firm grasp of importance and the biblical mandate for having a Safe Sanctuaries policy in the local church and create a Safe Sanctuaries policy for local church ministries. All participants receive a certificate of completion. Churches that have a Safe Sanctuaries policy that need to be certified are invited to bring policies to the training.

Rev. Erica Munoz, Senior Pastor of the Aldersgate UMC in East Brunswick, NJ; Chair of the Raritan Valley District Committee on Ministry and GNJ Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator

In addition to serving as the GNJ Child, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator from 2008-2014, Erica passionate about raising up young disciples in the church and believes every Church should serve as a safe and encouraging place for young people to learn and grow in God's love.



You Can't Grow Inside the Box!

Breakthrough, a worship series resource, serves as the guide for best practices in worship for congregations and clergy to use to make worship planning easier so that they can focus on what really matters — preaching the gospel to make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world. Learn how to use these resources and go deeper in discussion around worship planning for relevance and growth.

Lan Wilson, Director of Worship for Greater New Jersey

Lan recently joined Greater New Jersey staff after serving as a church musician since the age of ten and as a worship pastor from the age of twelve. He has served churches in rural areas, the projects, inner-city, suburbs, megachurches and a multi-cultural, multi-generational, multi-site United Methodist Community in Central PA.



Rise Against Hunger Mission Project

Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources to end hunger by 2030. To date, Rise Against Hunger has distributed food to 74 countries and has packaged over 455,000,000 meals. Make a difference by participating in an exciting, high-energy, inter-generational mission to pack 30,024 meals.



UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

BISHOP'S CLERGY CONVOCATION

STORYTELLING

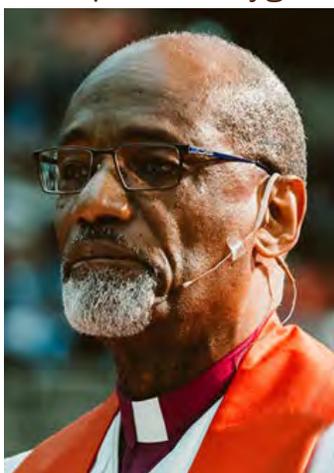
SAVE THE DATE
JANUARY 13-15, 2020

Ocean Place Resort & Spa
Long Branch, NJ

Congregations wishing to gift the convocation to their pastors should look for more information in the GNJ Digest this fall.

Guest Preacher: Service of Remembrance

Bishop Ernest Lyght



Bishop Ernest Lyght is a retired Bishop of The United Methodist Church. He was ordained in the Peninsula-Delaware Conference and later transferred to the Greater New Jersey area where he served churches in both the Southern and Northern Jersey Conferences including ten years as pastor of St. Mark's in Montclair. He served as District Superintendent of the Raritan Valley District, as a delegate to Jurisdictional Conferences and General Conferences on the boards of Drew University, the General Board of Church and Society and the General Board of Global Ministries. Bishop Lyght was elected to the episcopacy in 1996 and served both the New York Area and the West Virginia Area.

The son of William and Attrue Lyght, he was born in Salisbury, Maryland. He received the B.A. degree in history from Morgan State University and the M.Div. degree from Drew University. Princeton Theological Seminary awarded him the Th. M. degree and the D.Min. degree. Bloomfield College (Bloomfield, NJ) awarded him an honorary doctorate degree, as did Centenary College (Hackettstown, NJ) in 1996.

He and his wife Eleanor Bell Lyght have two sons and live in Delanco.

Guest Teacher

Kristina González



Kristina Gonzalez, Director of Innovation for an Inclusive Church for the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area of the UMC (GNW), develops curriculum and offers leadership development opportunities with a specialty in intercultural competency. Kristina is a member of the Innovation Vitality Team in the GNW, which works in three practices for vitality of local congregations and new expressions of Wesleyan theology in the world: inclusion, innovation and multiplication.

Kristina is a Qualified Administrator in the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) and an Associate with the Kaleidoscope Institute for leadership in a diverse changing world. She has served as faculty of the annual orientation for United Methodist supervising clergy for 15 years and consults and trains ecumenically in the field of intercultural competency.

Kristina has professional experience in the public and non-profit sectors working in the arts and human services. Her community service work includes 8 years on the Curriculum Committee of Leadership Tomorrow, a community leadership program serving the greater Seattle area, and a term on the Board of Trustees. She served on the UM Connectional Table, the denomination's global leadership body from 2004-2008 and chaired the Washington Association of Churches for two terms. She currently serves on the Boards of Directors for Bayview Retirement Center in Seattle, a United Methodist founded institution and is a member of Seattle First United Methodist Church.



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UNITED METHODISTS
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Greater New Jersey Awards

The Robert B. Steelman Methodist History Award:
Eve Casey, Phyllis Casey, Susan Champion and Betty Inglis,
First United Methodist Church of Dover

Sponsored by the Commission on Archives to recognize the best church history.



The Commission on Archives and History is proud to present the 2019 Robert B. Steelman History Award to the First United Methodist Church of Dover, NJ and their team of local church historians Eve Casey, Phyllis Casey, Susan Champion and Betty Inglis. The co-chairs submitted a thorough and engaging history of 180 years of Christian ministry and service, from 1838 through 2018. The anniversary co-chairs and historians are life-long members of First Church and together they represent 251 years of First Church membership. Based on Betty Inglis' *1938: 100 years of Methodism in Dover*, the current team researched and crafted a history of church events and ministry with snippets of local history for nuance. In the later twentieth century disciples of First Church recognized a growing influx of Hispanic persons and planned accordingly for worship and other ministries to meet and welcome this growing population. Today English and Spanish speaking services are only a part of this multi-lingual church with Rev. Dr. Charles Perez serving as pastor. Church histories were judged by Morgan Glossbrenner, Nikolay Petrov, Todd Lattig, Ben Ridings and Donald DeGroat.

The Helenor Alter Davisson Award: Rev. Dr. Eunice Vega-Perez

Sponsored by the Commission on Status and Role of Women for leadership, vision, passion, resilience, purpose, inclusiveness and perseverance.



Rev. Dr. Eunice Vega-Perez has served in four churches where she demonstrated her deep love for God and for people. She built a strong Hispanic ministry to serve the community including worship, Bible study and ESL programming. She is also a mentor and has guided several people to ministry through ordination and as licensed local pastors. Eunice has a deep passion for social justice. She champions the causes of immigrants and women with great fervor and energy. She has led mission trips to

Costa Rica, Haiti, Puerto Rico and Red Bird Mission.

The Francis Asbury Award: Rev. Dr. Drew Dyson

Sponsored by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Drew Dyson has been dedicated to youth and young adults throughout his ministry, bringing to GNJ a new structure for the Next Gen local church and campus ministry. He has served as Executive Director of Shared Mission Focus on Young People of the General Board of Discipleship, as Team Leader and primary author of General Conference legislation creating the Board of Discipleship's Division on Ministry to Young People in 2004, is James C Logan Chair in Evangelism at Wesley Theological Seminary and teaches at both Princeton and Memphis



Theological Seminaries. Drew is also the author of several books on the practice of youth ministry. Drew has guided the Raritan Valley District, GNJ churches and Conference in ministry to youth and young adults. Drew's vision and commitment to ministry at the New Brunswick-Piscataway campus of Rutgers University has led to a pastor-chaplain being appointed to the New Brunswick campus at Rutgers University.



The Harry Denman Evangelism Award: Douglas K. Bull

Sponsored by The Foundation for Evangelism to recognize a clergy member, lay person or a youth pastor who has an outstanding personal evangelism ministry

Douglas Bull grew up in Jefferson Township and attended Milton UMC as a child. His faith journey found him both questioning and adventuring as a youth and young adult. In more recent years, Doug has returned to being active in living out his spiritual journey by bringing witness and leadership to several areas in the church community. His commitment was key in MUMC’s involvement with the Christian Outreach Project, a youth/adult housing repair ministry for people unable to afford it in local communities. Doug helped launch ongoing Adult Bible studies and brought praise music alive to Milton in coordinating the church Praise Band SPIRIT. Doug is gifted in producing multimedia to support worship and illustrate the tone of worship. His leadership has been blessing and his faith commitment strong as many lives have been touched by his lived witness to Christ.

Harry A. Seese Memorial Scholarship: Rev. Brendon Galvin

Given to a pastor whose plans for continuing education will lead to strengthening his/her ministry in the local church. Guided by Rose Seese of Gibbsboro, his widow and supported by ongoing gifts, the scholarship honors her late husband, the Rev. Harry A. Seese, who died while serving the Medford UMC.

Rev. Brendan Galvin is currently serving First Passaic UMC and Leonia UMC. He received a Master of Divinity from Duke and is originally from Los Angeles. His passion for innovative urban ministry has taken him from a community house in LA to justice ministries in Chicago, and now a new home in Greater New Jersey.



Harry A. Seese Memorial Scholarship: Rev. Ji Sun Yang

Given to a pastor whose plans for continuing education will lead to strengthening his/her ministry in the local church. Guided by Rose Seese of Gibbsboro, his widow and supported by ongoing gifts, the scholarship honors her late husband, the Rev. Harry A. Seese, who died while serving the Medford UMC.



Ji Sun Yang is currently serving Repaupo UMC and St. Paul’s UMC in Bridgeport. Ji Sun is passionate about sharing God’s love story for all people in scripture and today. She is gifted in music and loves to learn something new. Her husband, SungWoo Aiden Lee, is her best friend and supporter.



A FUTURE WITH HOPE

UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

Hope emerges and people's spirits rise when education, housing, hunger, employment and human needs are addressed and progress is made. People and communities need real hope.

A Hope Center collaborates with community residents, leaders and organizations to build on community assets to address human and community, educational, social and economic challenges.

Examples of Established Hope Centers:

Camp Y.D.P. | The Crisis Room | Pathways to Prosperity



Hope Centers across the region connect United Methodists with community residents, schools, non-profit organizations, businesses, town governments and other faith groups to feed the hungry, provide high quality childcare and educational enrichment for students, build affordable housing, assist the homeless and offer job training.

A Future With Hope, founded to mobilize volunteers and funding after Superstorm Sandy, has transformed as a non-profit organization to cultivate and develop Hope Centers.



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3. Meet with your assigned Hope Center Developer.
4. Engage in community assessment and participate in an individualized development process.

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Executive Director, The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation

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www.gnjumc.org/umsf

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UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

Electronic Voting Instructions



Overview

We will use electronic handsets to register votes for electing lay and clergy delegates for the General and Jurisdictional Conferences in 2020. Voting electronically reduces the time involved and increases the accuracy of the balloting process.

There will be four lay and four clergy elected to General Conference, an additional four lay and four clergy elected to Jurisdictional Conference, and three lay and three clergy alternates.

Location

All voting will take place in the West Hall. Lay and clergy will be voting at separate times as listed in the agenda.

Process

If you are eligible to vote, you can pick up a voting handset at the main entrance to West Hall. Keep this handset with you until the balloting session is complete. If you leave your seat, take your handset with you. Please guard your keypad carefully. Please return it to the voting booth at the entrance of West Hall when your balloting session is over.

How to Vote

1. Turn on your handset with the **POWER BUTTON** located on the bottom right corner of the device.
2. When the Bishop announces the start of a vote, **ENTER THE THREE-DIGIT NUMBER** for the corresponding candidate(s), and press **SEND**
3. Your handset will register the word **RECEIVED** when your vote(s) have been successfully transmitted.
4. You will have one minute to complete your vote.
5. If you don't want to participate in a vote, don't push any buttons during the one minute interval.
6. Review your entry **BEFORE** hitting the Send button.
7. If you input an **INCORRECT NUMBER** during the voting and you see it on the keypad screen before you press send and would like to change it press the **DEL** button on the upper-left to remove one number at a time.
8. If you inadvertently turn your handset off; push the **POWER BUTTON** again to turn your handset back on.

Voting

The voting handsets have numbers similar to a telephone. Each candidate for delegate is preassigned a three digit number. To vote, you will push the numbers of the candidate or candidates you prefer. In the first round, you will vote for four people. In subsequent rounds, you will vote for as many spots as are available.

Your entire ballot will be invalid if you do any of the following:

- Vote for someone who has already been elected
- Vote for someone who has withdrawn their name or is otherwise no longer on the ballot
- Vote for a number out of range
- Vote for fewer or more candidates than are required in the current election
- Vote using invalid delegate numbers

Every handset will be tested before the conference, so the probability of a handset failing is very low. Before voting, we will run a test vote at the beginning of the balloting session. If there is a problem with your device, raise your hand and an usher or teller will assist you.

Delegate Numbers for Voting

Clergy Nominations

#	Name
101	Tanya Linn Bennett
102	Héctor A. Burgos
103	Jennifer Cho
104	Kaleigh Tomich Corbett
105	Robert Costello
106	John DiGiamberardino
107	Sang-Won Doh
108	Drew Dyson
109	Jisun Kwak
110	Thomas Lank
111	Christina Lelache
112	Jessica Naulty
113	Grace Pak
114	KyuTae Pak
115	Lyssette Pérez
116	Cyndi Stouffer
117	Eunice Vega-Perez
118	David Wiley
119	Catherine Williams
120	William Williams, III

Laity Nominations

#	Name
201	Bethany Amey
202	Dale Caldwell
203	Lindsey Chew
204	Judy Colorado
205	Chuck DelCamp
206	Jane Ehlers
207	Heather Fizur
208	David Geller
209	Moselle Jules
210	Cynthia Kent
211	Edward Martin
212	Harriett Olson
213	Carolyn Pendleton
214	Creed Pogue
215	Stephen Quigg
216	Robert Schotter
217	Gyuchang Sim
218	Maria Luisa Garcia Toirac
219	Andrea Wren-Hardin

Clergy Delegate Nominations

Delegate nominations are reprinted as submitted and unedited.

Tanya Linn Bennett | Elder | Drew University Theological School, Union Village UMC



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? Commissioned in 2003, Full Member in 2006

Other appointments:

Covenant UMC, Plainfield, NJ

Chatham UMC, Chatham, NJ

Passaic UMC, Passaic, NJ

Bernardsville UMC, Bernardsville, NJ

Conklin UMC, South River, NJ

Union Village UMC, Berkeley Heights, NJ (sacramental elder)

Circuit Elder, Raritan Valley District, 2016 – 2017

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Board of Ordained Ministry, 2006 – 2016

Executive Committee, 2013 – 2016

Co-Facilitator, Residence in Ministry program, 2012 – Present

Worship Director, Annual Conference, 2006 – 2015

Sessions Committee, 2005 – 2008

Chair, Church & Society

Leadership positions in the denomination:

General Conference Delegate, 2012

NEJ Delegate, 2016

NEJ BOM, current

NEJ Planning & Arrangements, 2012 – Present

General Conference Worship Team, 2008

Previous delegate to the General Conference: Yes 2012

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My prayer we might move forward together as a body of Christ in faithful mission to the church and to all of God's creation. As we consider the future of the church in the world, we must focus on growing in discipleship in ways that will urge and usher in the kin-dom of God, a space of justice and righteousness for all God's people and for the earth. Acting in mercy and love, our United Methodist church can be a change agent in world that desperately needs a message of hope and peace.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: 2020 General Conference will need to be a building healing and renewing relationships based on the outcome of the 2019 Special General Conference. We will need to be well aware of the affects of the outcome of 2019 and strive to strengthen and regenerate the mission of the church, centering the values of social and personal holiness and growing in fait to do all the good we can, with all that we have, in all of the places we go. May we recreate our UMC for just such a time as this.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: Episcopal leaders should model the essence of our Wesleyan heritage, growing disciples for service to the world, exhibiting a high standard of ethics and morals in relationship with others, and demonstrating deep faithfulness in their leadership of the church. Creativity, ingenuity and innovation, all engaged with compassion and vision, will all be central to moving the UMC forward in generative and relevant ways. Strong communication and relational skills are critical.

Other information: I am grateful to serve the UMC which is committed to continuing to evolve in a shifting cultural landscape. I am glad to offer myself in this role as one who is equally committed to visioning forward as the Body of Christ.

Héctor A. Burgos | Full Member, Elder | Director of Connectional Ministries, GNJ



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?
14 years

Other appointments:

Director of Worship and Urban Ministries, 2014-2015
Lead Pastor. Oasis UMC, Pleasantville NJ, 2009, 2014
Associate Pastor, First UMC, Tuckerton NJ, 2005-2014
Assistant Pastor. West Creek UMC, West Creek NJ, 2004-2003

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Board of Next Generations Ministries, 2017-present
Board Of UM Communities, 2015-2019
Board of Ordained Ministry, 2012-present
Board of Church and Society, 2008-2012
Hispanic/ Latino Committee, 2004-2008

Leadership positions in the denomination:

North East Jurisdiction Vision Table, 2015–present
Director of Communications, MARCHA, National Hispanic Caucus, 2010-present
GBCS Immigration Task Force, 2008-2012

Previous delegate to the General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope for a Holy Spirit-led global movement that is UNITED in mission transforming the world as we make disciples of Jesus Christ who share faith, hope and justice; that is committed to personal and social holiness; that celebrates its rich diversity as a gift from God; that embraces ALL people as beloved children of God and allows them to live to their full God-given potential; and that while global in nature, is contextual so that we can reach as many people with th good news of Christ.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I hope that the 2020 General Conference, guided by the Holy Spirit, will affirm the essentials of our Wesleyan heritage, set a bold vision for mission in the world, and gracefully discern a clear, courageous, implementable and sustainable organizational plan that will allow United Methodists to strengthen our witness around the world, welcome and include all people, leverage the benefits of our global connection and be agents of holistic transformation in the community.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: A Bishop, above all, needs to be a passionate follower of Christ, who is deeply rooted in the Christian faith and our United Methodist tradition, and displays the fruit of the Spirit. A visionary leader who can see God-sized possibilities for the church and society where other don't, and that possess the organizational and administrative skills to strategically communicate, inspire and lead others with integrity and fairness to achieve God's preferred future for their lives and the church.

Other information: It will be my honor to represent United Methodist of Greater New Jersey at General Conference 2020 and share with the rest of the Methodist connection the hopes and aspirations of GNJ disciples, leaders and congregations.

Jennifer Cho | Elder | Bridgewater UMC



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?

18

Previous appointments:

Newton First UMC (2012 -2017)

Mt. Tabor UMC (2004 – 2012)

Westfield First UMC (2002- 2004)

Englewood Korean Community (2001-2002)

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Board of Ordained Ministry: 2017-Present

Board of Pension (Vice Chair): 2016 – Present

PaCE Group (Facilitator), Candidacy Mentor: 2015-Present

Circuit Elder (Skylands District): 2015-2017

Commission on Equitable Compensation (Chair): 2008-2016

Leadership positions in the denomination:

National Association of Equitable Compensation (Member) 2008-2016

Korean Ministry National Plan of The UMC (Board Member) 2000-2004

National Korean Clergywomen (Secretary) 2002-2004

Previous delegate to General Conference No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope the UMC will passionately share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the whole world in relevant, vital and life-changing ways, and seek to build up vital disciples and congregations for the transformation of the world; the UMC will offer a large tent of inclusiveness which embraces peoples of all backgrounds, cultures, lifestyles, theologies and convictions; and the UMC will serve as the hands and feet of Christ, and the voice of justice for the voiceless and the people on the margins.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hope is the 2020 GC will focus on being God's instrument of redemption in the world instead of being preoccupied with its concern for survival. Based on our holistic Wesleyan theology of faith, mission and ministry, we have a powerful story to share with the world. I hope that the 2020 GC will embrace the spirit of "unity in diversity," and be guided by the wisdom that "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials liberty; and in all things charity" throughout its discussion and deliberation.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: Bishops are elected to be servant-leaders to care for the spiritual and temporal affairs of the church. And each delegate must cast one's votes prayerfully and thoughtfully. For an incoming bishop, we should look for a leader with: extensive ministry experience in local churches and communities; visionary and transformation leadership; effective communication skills; deep spirituality; grace-filled compassion for pastors and laity; strong strategic thinking and planning; and team building.

Other Information: With my strong business experience as the HR Director, I offer my knowledge and wisdom, both as a spiritual leader and business leader, to help reshape our UMC as a vital living spiritual organism and fruitful organization for God's work in the world

Kaleigh Tomich Corbett | Provisional Member | Frankford Plains UMC



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?
5 years

Previous appointments:
Princeton UMC (Associate)
Bishop Janes UMC (Associate)

Leadership positions in GNJ:
GNJ Conference Youth and Young Adult Ministries Team – 2009-2013

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Previous delegate to General Conference No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: As one of the youngest clergywomen in the conference, I am invested in the future of the United Methodist Church. My hopes for the church are that we continue to honor our differences, yet create a space where all are welcome to experience the fullness of life and ministry, especially our LGBTQIA+ siblings. I hope we can remain as one church so we can continue our mission to transform the world. I truly believe with God's help, we can do great things in the world and continue to make an impact.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hopes for General Conference are that we become a more inclusive and loving church that welcomes all. The legislation around human sexuality has done significant harm to the LGBTQIA+ community, and has caused great division within our denomination. It is time to move towards reconciliation and hope in becoming inclusive to all. I believe there is a way to both honor our diverse theological perspectives and remain in ministry together. We are stronger together and can transform the world.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: I believe that Bishops should be strong spiritual leaders who can guide us to a deeper faith. Bishops also should be strong visionaries who can cast a vision which takes into consideration the diverse theological and cultural differences within a conference. They should be able to inspire clergy and laity to strive for effectiveness and vitality within their congregations. Lastly, they should be risk-takers who are willing to think outside the box and encourage new, creative forms of ministry.

Other Information: I am one of the co-leaders for the Reconciling Ministries Network here in GNJ.

Robert Costello | Full Member, Elder | Wesley - Petersburg



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?

54 years

Previous appointments:

New Brooklyn/Sickerville, West Creek/Warren Grove

Millville – Mount Pleasant UMC

Paulsboro – Saint Paul’s UMC

Somers Point UMC

Extension Ministry – E. O. and Alpha Ministries, Inc.

New Dover UMC

GNJ Coordinator of Stewardship Education and Development

Gateway North D. S. / Gateway South D. S.

Haddonfield UMC

Wesley UMC – Petersburg

Leadership positions in GNJ: Since 1963 I have been involved at various times in CF&A, BOOM, Team Vital, Nominations, GNJ Camps, the Stewardship Foundation, Missions, Discipleship, and Education.

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Previous delegate to General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I have been elected to the position of a reserve in the delegation. I have seen the United Methodist Church expand across the world, while in turmoil and shrinking in influence here at home. My hope is that the United Methodist Church will build on traditional values while being truly open to all people. We have millions of members, with awesome resources. My hope is that we will be less concerned with sustaining the institution & more on a total emphasis on making disciples.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I have attended all but two of the General Conference sessions since 1968. There has been a steady movement toward social outreach through proclamations and denominational structuring. There has been a movement away from reaching whole persons through faith put into action through loving service in local churches and the annual conferences. I hope we can unite, with less power struggles among agencies, bishops, and delegates expressing concern for a renewed emphasis on local church ministry.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: A bishop must be a servant leader, with faith and humility.. He/she must be willing to recognize that unless and until there is something better, the local churches with their witness of the laity and clergy are the foundation of our ministry. She/he must be an innovator who builds on traditions and history. A bishop must be a “people person” while being business-like. A bishop must willing to constantly learn and evolve. They must be trainers, but also be wise in deployment.

Other Information: I have enjoyed a wide variety of vital ministries, Each one has held new opportunities to serve. I am open to including all people. Experience, plus my legal and business backgrounds have aided me in ministry. I know our church and our Discipline

John DiGiamberardino | Full Member, Elder | South Seaville UMC



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?

30 years

Previous appointments:

Friendship (Monroeville) 1988-1993

Port Republic (St. Paul's) 1993-2003

Brick (St. Paul's) 2003-2013

Ocean Grove (St. Paul's) 2013-2016

Extension Ministry – CEO Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association – 2016-2018

South Seaville UMC – 2018 – present

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Board of Ordained Ministry 2008 – present

Vice Chair Finance Comm. 2000 – 2008

Chair Ministries Team 2010 – 2012

Primary Task Team 2010-2012

Convener of Executive Comm. of PTT 2010-2012

Delegate to Jurisdiction 2012

Conf. and Dist. Youth Coord.

Previous delegate to General Conference: Yes 2012

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2012

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I have grown up in the United Methodist Church and it is through the people from local churches that I have come to understand truth about God and myself. It is great to be in connection with other local churches nearby and throughout the world. Our connectionalism is a vital part of our identity and support system. We have great opportunities to impact both people's lives physically and spiritually. We need to continue preaching, teaching and witnessing the good news about Jesus.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I hope the General Conference will set some clear objectives and goals as a denomination as we move forward to make disciples. We need greater fiscal and spiritual accountability. I hope we can continue to hold firm to our values and ideals concerning scriptural authority. God's word is our source for truth, justice and love. There are many social concerns that I hope we can seek to address and hopefully move to resolving including; racism, human trafficking, immigration and global warming.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: A bishop should have had successful pastoral experiences; been involved in various conference committees; their leadership abilities should be affirmed and acknowledged by their peers; possess a knowledge of the trends of the church; be competent in their leadership and seen by others as one who has a heart for God and for God's people; be in agreement with the polity and theology of the United Methodist Church; exhibit faithfulness in all relationships.

Other Information: I have attended every General Conference since 1992 – present because I love our church and pray for our leaders daily. Attended World Methodist Conference – Seoul Korea 2006

Sang-Won Doh | Full Member | The Calvary Korean UMC



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?

22 years

Previous appointments:

Epworth UMC in Palmyra, NJ; Knowlton UMC in Columbia, NJ; Monmouth Grace UMC in Eatontown, NJ; Church of the Covenant in Jersey City, NJ

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Chair, Connectional Table of GNJAC (2016-); Member of the Primary Task Force Team(2011-2012), Board of Ordained Ministry; Executive Committee, Sub-Committee Chair (2001-2012), Co-Chair, Order of Elder (2004-2008), Chair, Korean UM Church (2016-2017)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Member of Alternative Task Force Team in Korean Association of UMC (2019), Executive Secretary, Korean Association of UMC (2013-2014)

Previous delegate to General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope that the UMC will rediscover its DNA from the early Wesleyan movement, especially as we enter into a season of uncertainty and disintegration. The theological and practical rediscovery of a fiery passion for the transformation of lives through personal and social holiness will shatter the status quo and push us beyond institutional survival and towards repositioning the Church as an alternative community for the world.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hope is that the Holy Spirit guides us through the expected clashes and chaos during the 2020 General Conference to the place of hope. I pray that new general church structures could emerge so that local churches globally can be relieved from the burdens of cultural and financial yokes, loosely connected yet united in a new sense of solidarity as Methodists in spite of differences, and focused on our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: An inspiring leader, channeling the presence of the Holy Spirit to clergy and congregations through her/his words, integrity, and character; A leader with humility, strong vision, and the ability to invoke cooperation and passion from lay and clergy leaders; A courageous and wise leader who can deal with harsh facts, yet create the future with innovative, forward and outward mindset; A deeply balanced leader who can run the organization amidst of diversity, complexities, and conflicts.

Other Information: I am privileged with experiencing growth in all different size churches, especially bringing peace to divided and hurting congregations. It would be a great honor that some lessons from my past experiences might be used for the greater church.

Drew Dyson | Full Member, Elder | Executive Director, Princeton Senior Resource Center



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?
19 years

Previous appointments:

District Superintendent, Raritan Valley District
Senior Pastor and Associate Pastor, Clinton UMC
James C. Logan Chair of Evangelism and Assistant Professor of Practical Theology,
Wesley Theological Seminary
Executive Director, Shared Mission Focus on Young People (Discipleship Ministries)
Associate Pastor, Bridgewater UMC

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Cabinet Rep. to Board of Ordained Ministry (2014 – 2019)
GNJ Episcopacy Committee (2012-2016)
Vice-Chair (Conference Relations Chair), Board of Ordained Ministry (2012-2014)
Member, Board of Ordained Ministry (2007-2014)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

NEJ Boundaries Committee (2016-Present)
NEJ Jurisdictional Episcopacy Committee (2012-2016)
General Board of Discipleship, Division on Ministries with Young People (2004-2008)

Previous delegate to General Conference: Yes 2012
Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2012 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: A recovery of our missional identity and proclamation of a compelling, synthetic Wesleyan faith that weaves personal spiritual formation with passion for societal transformation towards the embodiment of God’s kingdom. The missional church that I envision welcomes, challenges, and equips all of God’s people to live as agents of God’s grace in the world. Such a church moves beyond institutional survival and sees vitality not only in metrics, but also in lives changed and communities transformed.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: Witness to the world that the UMC is both enthusiastically evangelical and radically inclusive, welcoming and affirming all, deeply rooted in scripture, and profoundly committed to Jesus; advocating for social justice and boldly fighting oppression; new general church structures that recognize new financial realities/challenges and commit more resources to the local church while continuing our connectional mission in the world; renewed and strengthened commitment to ministry with young people.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: A person of deep spiritual integrity; leads with Spirit-centered authenticity; innovative missional leader in a rapidly changing cultural context; invitational & culturally competent leader who values diversity, effectively empowers laity & clergy, and holds a compelling vision for the church; inspires people to love God and neighbor; relational leader able to guide a complex organization, deal effectively with conflict, speak prophetically to church and world, and act decisively to lead change.

Other Information: In my new extension ministry serving a diverse group of people in a community non-profit, I see the importance of the church's witness that is welcoming, serving, advocating, and willing to move beyond the walls to share Christ's love in action.

Jisun Kwak | Full Member, Elder | Christ and Embury United Methodist Churches



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?

24

Previous appointments:

District Superintendent of the Gateway North District and the Delaware Bay District
Centenary United Methodist Church
Thiells United Methodist Church
Mendham United Methodist Church

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Cabinet Liaison of the GNJ Laity Board (2014-2016)
Cabinet Liaison of the GNJ Congregational Development Team, the GNJ Youth Ministry Team (2011-2014)
Member of the GNJ Executive Committee of the Primary Task Team (2009-2011)

Leadership positions in the denomination: Director of the North East Jurisdiction Korean Ministry Commission (2011-2016)

Previous delegate to General Conference: Yes 2016

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: It is my hope that the United Methodist Church grow in mission and ministry, work toward social holiness, and innovate for the future. I believe the church will expand as we discover sacred worth of all human beings locally and globally. We will strive for cultural competency—not only addressing the disparities in gender, race, geography, and power, but also working on to bring justice to our church and the world. I also hope the church will lead changes by training and equipping young clergy

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: It is my hope that the 2020 General Conference, with the leading of the Holy Spirit, offer us channels for unity, healing, and new start in our church. I hope that we have prayerful moments of discernment at the 2020 General Conference and work together in one mind to pave a new path of our mission and ministry. Also, the 2020 General Conference can lead the church into a more balanced and healthier way; we may implement a process to call for accountability to the denominational leaders/bishops.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: An incoming bishop must be a leader who is Christ-centered with profound spirituality. A bishop must possess an open mind and courage to speak the truth in love. I also hope that an incoming bishop truly cares for all the members of the church, laity and clergy, and leads them justly and pastorally with servant leadership. I believe an incoming bishop must be equipped with a strong sense of cultural competency to embrace and navigate through differences and disagreements.

Other Information: While we strive for change and invest in younger leadership development, we also need to develop and use resources in implementing a stronger system for clergy care and clergy family support.

Thomas Lank | Full Member, Deacon | Jurisdictional Coordinator, United Methodist Volunteers in Mission – Northeastern Jurisdiction



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?
Since 2009

Previous appointments:

Associate Pastor, Princeton UMC 2009-2010
Minister for Outreach, First UMC of Colorado Springs, CO 2011-2012
Associate Pastor, Haddonfield UMC 2012-2016

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Chair, GNJ General/Jurisdictional Conference Delegation 2016-present
Vice Chair, GNJ Committee on Episcopacy 2016-present
Gateway South DCOM 2014-present
Peace With Justice Coordinator, Board of Church and Society 2007-2010

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Jurisdictional Coordinator, United Methodist Volunteers in Mission 2016-present
Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy 2016-present
Vice Chair, NEJ Committee on Episcopacy 2016-present
NEJ Appeals Committee 2016-present

Previous delegate to General Conference: Yes 2016
Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: The current moment is a test of our faith in this church which God has called together. My hope is that we will come through the test stronger and ready to tackle new challenges with prophetic voice, such as taking action on climate change to preserve God’s good creation, making efforts to fight racism and xenophobia around the world, and promoting Abundant Health for all. As one dedicated to the missional identity of the church, I pray that we turn outward and live into the Reign of God.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: The 2020 General Conference will have a lot of work to do in sorting through the implications of the 2019 Special Session. It will have to: (1) debate a quadrennial budget that is contemplating 20% reductions for the Boards and Agencies, (2) deal with more proposals that will be brought forth to clarify/extend/correct the work of the Special Session, and (3) vote on a General Book of Discipline. My hope is that we can take the momentum for unity and set the course for the next 50 years.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: Setting aside the possibility that we may not be electing new bishops in the NEJ in 2020, I believe that a bishop must have both a strategic vision for the future of the Conference and pastoral sensitivity. In Greater New Jersey, we need someone who can manage not just our churches, but the mission partnerships and associated agencies of the annual conference. Finally, any bishop consecrated now will need excellent conflict resolution and communication skills to shepherd us into the future.

Other Information: It may sound crazy, but I have thoroughly enjoyed leading the General Conference delegation this past quadrennium. I grew immensely in my understanding of the Discipline and developed good collegial relations. I would be honored to serve GNJ again.

Christina Lelache | Full Member, Elder | Haddonfield UMC



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 5 years

Previous appointments:
Haddonfield UMC, 2014-Present

Leadership positions in GNJ: I have been serving on the Board of Ordained Ministry and as the Candidacy Mentor Registrar since 2017. I have also served as a clergy mentor from 2016 to 2018.

Leadership positions in the denomination: I served as a young adult voting delegate for the Northeast Jurisdiction at the 2018 Global Young People's Convocation in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Previous delegate to General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: In a hurting world, I hope the UMC boldly proclaims God's grace and love while taking a stand against hate, judgment, and discrimination. We are a diverse church who comes together to grow spiritually and make a difference in the world through mission and justice. I hope the church embraces the beauty of this gift by affirming all people and helping them live out their gifts as a blessing to others. I hope we continue to explore new ways of being the church while remaining united in our mission.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: In the midst of our diversity, I hope General Conference commits to loving discussion and discernment as we seek to trust the Spirit's guidance. We have an opportunity to do creative, risk-taking ministry by voting for innovative solutions that keep us united in mission, help us navigate a diversity of contexts, and shape our mission in ways that welcome all people and encourage them to fully share the gifts God has given them. In all we do, we must work together and lead with love and grace.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: A bishop should have demonstrated leadership abilities as evidenced by effective administrative, pastoral, and spiritual leadership. In today's ever-changing context, bishops should be risk-takers and open to innovation. They should empower laity and clergy to live into the church's mission. A bishop should be spiritually rooted while offering a prophetic voice for justice. They should demonstrate a willingness to be in ministry with all kinds of people, with a deep love for God and all people.

Other Information: As part of the 2018 Global Young People's Convocation, I was inspired by how that global gathering of young people made space for differing perspectives while claiming our hope for a welcoming UMC. I seek to bring that spirit to GNJ's delegation.

Jessica Naulty | Elder | UMC of Red Bank



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church?
Commissioned in 2010, Ordained in 2012, Serving full-time since 2010

Previous appointments:

Haddonfield UMC, Associate Pastor (4 years)

Trinity UMC in Spotswood and Monroe Community Church, Part-time Associate Pastor (1 year)

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Board of Ordained Ministry, Vice-chair and Conference Relations Committee Chair (2014 – present)

Intercultural Competency Task Force (3/2017-present)

NS Circuit Elder (2014-2015)

NS DCOM (2014-2015)

Clergy Mentor Coordinator, BOOM (2012-2014)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Reconciling Ministries Co-Chair for GNJ (Present)

Board of Ordained Ministry Quadrennial Training (2017-present)

Youth Delegate to NEJ Youth Convocation (1996-2000)

Previous delegate to General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: The UMC used to be known as a “big tent” where people didn’t all have to believe alike to work together toward something bigger than ourselves. It is my hope that we can reclaim this spirit of unity in ministry and mission – rather than over focusing on orthodoxy and orthopraxy. I hope that we can set aside our fears and determination to be “right”, to embrace a fully inclusive church, where all are welcome to receive the blessings of the church, and respond to God’s call on their lives.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I hope that GC 2020 resolves our global structure discrepancies, allowing for the US region to contextualize our ministries, just as the Central Conferences can presently do. In our current structure, I fear there may be no resolution to our conflict around human sexuality. The harm being done to our LGBTQI+ community must stop. I hope GC 2020 can find a new way forward, one that will not bankrupt and/or fracture our denomination and congregations.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: Our church needs spiritual and institutional leaders who are not afraid of conflict and are able to lead with grace and love in this challenging time. A bishop should be humble and focused on God’s greater mission, always listening for where God is calling us next. A bishop needs to be innovative and willing to prune, in order to make space for the new thing that God is doing in our midst. A bishop’s ministry should not be about them, but one of servant leadership and empowering others.

Other Information: As a 4th generation UMC pastor, I am dedicated to our denomination. I believe God is continuing to work within our Wesleyan heritage and I will work to ensure my daughters and future generations are as blessed by the church as I have been.

Grace Pak | Full Member, Elder | General Commission on Religion & Race



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 24 years

Previous appointments:

Embury United Methodist Church – Little Silver, NJ
Bishop Janes United Methodist Church – Basking Ridge, NJ
Union Village United Methodist Church – Berkley Heights, NJ
Knowlton United Methodist Church – Columbia, NJ
Susanna Wesley Parish (Knowlton, Walnut Valley & Mt. Hermon UMCs)

Leadership positions in GNJ:

GNJ CF&A (2015-present)
Chair, DCOM, Northern Shore (2014-17)
Registrar, DCOM, Raritan Valley (2012-13)
Registrar, BOOM (2008-12)
Chair, Nom Comm, Raritan Valley (2006-09)
GNJ Primary Task Team (2003-07)
DCOM, Skylands (1998-2004)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

GCORR, Director of CRCC Leadership (2017- present)
Chair, National Association of KA UM Pastors Serving Cross Racial Appointments (2015-17)
GBGM, Korean Ministry Plan (2014-18)
GBHEM, Ministry Preparation/Mentoring Resource Team (1997-2010)

Previous delegate to General Conference: No
Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hope for the UMC is to be the church that exemplify togetherness in our polarized and divided world. The world is in desperate need of examples that show reconciliation and unity in the midst of diversity that although we may not think alike, but we love alike. I pray that UMC can be a catalyst to bring all God’s people together regardless of race, culture, social and economic status, political affiliation and gender identity expanding the “Kingdom” of God where ALL are welcomed and valued.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hopes for the 2020 GC is that we will recognize that it is not about “Us vs. THEM” depending on the theological orientation. There is no “THEM” but all are “US” as we believe in Christ and we are all redeemed by the sacrificial love of Christ. There is room at the table for everyone regardless as we have been baptized into one family of God. With this recognition, GC 2020 may chart a new and different course for future living into being the church of Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: During these challenging times in the UMC, the qualities needed for new Bishop are...

- Faithfulness in the Gospel of Christ helping the church stay focused on God’s mission.
- Leadership to bring everyone together from all different spectrum and diversity for a common goal of “Thy Kingdom come on Earth”.
- Transparency that builds trust and inspire commitment from all UM.

- Compassion that embraces all God's people regardless.
- Exhibit Emotional and Cultural intelligence and be woke.

Other Information: Serving at GCORR has afforded me a balcony view of who we are and where we are in the UMC seeing the disparity between what we profess and how we fall short. I am committed to serve bridging the gap and be an agent of transformation for UMC I love.

KyuTae Pak | Elder | Midland Park



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 19 years

Previous appointments: I served at Korean Community Church(2002-2006) in Englewood and Belle Vista Simpson Church(2000-2001) in Clifton and . I also served at Demarest UMC and Grace KUMC.

Leadership positions in GNJ: Currently I am the Chair of Order of Elders of GNJAC and a member of Board of Ordained Ministry. (I served as a full member registrar of BOOM during 2012-2016). I am also serving Palisades District Superintendency Committee as a member.

Leadership positions in the denomination: I am serving UMC as the Chair of Korean Clergy Caucus of GNJAC. I was the Worship Director for the Centennial Celebration Hawaii UMC Conference (2003) and the Chair of Korean American Praise and Worship Leaders Association (2000-9).

Previous delegate to General Conference: No.

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No.

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: God who loves us is our hope. Who can help United Methodist Church from the Crises that we are facing now? I believe that only God can help and guide us into the future with hope. Fear, as well as anger and despair generated by fear, is affecting our church that Jesus founded. Let us not hesitate to face the fear, and also, let us go back to the love of God that overcomes all fear. 'There is no fear in love (1John 4:18)

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: Can we be "United" Methodist Church together? And how?' will be the question that we may have to deal with in 2020. I think that no one has the 'right' answer. How about asking this question, 'What is the most important thing that we believe in?' When we try to answer this question, I believe that we can refine faith and values that we inherited as well as new wisdom we learned through experiences to build renewed church.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: I believe that diversity is a blessing for our church. Understanding diversity with heart is a very important qualification for the coming bishop. I believe diversity becomes a real blessing when it is not used as a tool to control the church but to build up the body of Christ. Paul says," God arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member" (1Cor 12:24). I also expect gifts of reconciliation and caring heart for the coming bishop.

Other Information: I am coming from Korean American background serving a cross-cultural ministry which, I believe, makes me a voice of minority with the heart of John the Baptist. I believe God blesses and guide me to use this unique experience for church.

Lyssette Perez | Elder | United Methodist Church of the Rockaways



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 25 years

Previous appointments:

- * Asbury United Methodist Church – Camden, NJ
- * Ministries Team Coordinator (Extension Ministry – Equivalent of DCM Conference Staff)
- * Executive Secretary of Mission Context & Relationships and Emerging Churches (Latin America & the Caribbean – (Extension Ministry – GBGM Staff)
- * Christ United Methodist Church – Lakewood, NJ
- * Lafayette United Methodist Church – Jersey City, NJ

Leadership positions in GNJ:

- * Board of Ordained Ministries – 2016 –
- * Immigration Staff Force – 2017 –
- * Church & Society – 2010-2014
- * Commission on Religion & Race – 2010
- * Multi-ethnic Committee – 2010-2014
- * Ministries Team Coordinator (Staff) – 2007-2010

Leadership positions in the denomination

- * Connectional Table – 2016 – present
- * NE Jurisdiction Multi-ethnic Center – 2012 – present
- * Vision Table NE 2007 – 2010
- * Gen. Conf. Delegate 2008
- * Manager Honduras UM Mission – 2002-2007
- * General Commission on Religion & Race – 1992-1996

Previous delegate to General Conference: Yes 2008

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2008

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hope for our denomination is that we continue to be a global church equipped to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our lives, our communities and our world. I hope for a vital and relevant church that embraces diversity as an opportunity to expand the Kingdom of God to people of all ages, genders, races, ethnicity and nations. I hope for a church that values unity and the connection that we have, because we are stronger when we work together to accomplish our mission.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I hope that our denomination finds a way to move forward in the midst of the different theological positions in relation to the matter of human sexuality. There is no doubt that our denomination is wounded and fragmented by this matter. It is my hope that we keep alive the words of Ephesians 4:3, as we try to do all we can to live in peace with one another and not lose the unity that the Spirit of God gives us. I hope that in 2020 we continue to be the Body of Christ for a wounded world.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: The Epistle of 1st Peter reminds us that the most important qualification for a leader of the church is to care for “God’s flock” with all the diligence of a shepherd, not as a duty, or for their glory (1st Peter 5:1-5) In our times, we need bishops capable of being good shepherds

to lead a broken church in need of healing and reconciliation. Bishops need a wide vision and a prophetic voice to guide congregations to be faithful and fight against evil and all kind of injustice and oppression.

Other Information: I am grateful that God has given me the opportunity to work in a variety of settings during my 25 years of ordained ministry. Such varied experiences, enrich my vocation as a Hispanic/Latina clergywoman serving in diverse mission contexts.

Cyndi Stouffer | Elder | UMC at New Brunswick



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 8 years

Previous appointments:
Suffern UMC, Pearl River UMC

Leadership positions in GNJ:
Palisades DCOM (Registrar)
Palisades Superintendency
Raritan DCOM

Episcopacy
BOOM
Raritan Latino Task Force
Rutgers Task Force
Clergy/Candidacy Mentor

Leadership positions in the denomination: None

Previous delegate to General Conference: No
Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: As a lifelong Methodist, I believe deeply in the future of our denomination, but I also understand we are at a critical point in the life of our church. How will we celebrate the beauty of our diversity, while living into the tension of our differing voices? As we move forward, my prayer is that we will find new ways and develop new structures that allow space for all God's children.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: We are on display for all the world to see when we gather for General Conference. Each day we watch the divided nature of our own government. My hope for 2020 GC is that we will be a witness to the world of God's grace even when we do not agree with one another.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: I believe we need an episcopal leader that will continue the innovative and strategic work of our Conference while also providing a presence of healing and hope as we move forward as a denomination. Our bishop should have a strong cultural competency and be able to speak to and understand the great diversity of GNJAC.

Other Information: I have been blessed to serve a church filled with a diversity of culture, race, age, and thought. With this diversity comes great challenge and great blessing. It is here we see the messy and beautiful work of God's kingdom. This is my calling.

Eunice Vega-Perez | Elder | Bishop Janes UMC



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 16 years

Previous appointments:

Butler United Methodist Church, Trinity United Methodist Church
Vernon United Methodist Church

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Circuit Elder (2017-present)
RVD Latino Task Force (2017-present)

BOOM Provisionary Registrar (2017-present)

BOOM (2008- present)

Clergy Delegate 2019

Clergy Delegate to General & Jurisdictional 2016

DCOM (2012-19)

CBCS 2012- present

Leadership positions in the denomination:

MARCHA Executive Council (2007-2012)

MARCHA Committee Education on Advocacy (2017-2012)

GCOSROW Board Member (2016-present)

UMW Program Advisory Group (2016-present)

National Latino Plan

Previous delegate to General Conference: Yes 2016

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hope for the United Methodist Church is to be a fully inclusive church. A church who is comfortable and at peace understanding that, there is great diversity (all kind) within our body and that this diversity brings great strengths not only to our denomination but to our witness in the world. My hope for this church is one that could remain relevant for future generations.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I hope that in 2020 we can amend and pass legislations that gives the freedom to pastors, bishops, churches, BOOM and Annual Conferences to use their own consciousness regarding ministry with LGBTQ+ persons. I hope that our decisions are done in a respectful and spirit filled way. I hope that we continue to be a church in mission and ministry, both locally and globally. A church that, in spite of its challenges, can continue moving forward with urgency and relevancy to a world in need.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: An incoming bishop should be a person who is genuinely spiritual and of proven pastoral effectiveness. A passionate, visionary, creative and adaptable leader. One who has conflict management skills to lead in times as this. Someone who empowers others, while not being afraid to direct when needed. He/she should possess the ability to conceptually embrace our complex diversity. Other qualifications required are: proven record of organizational skills and intercultural competency.

Other Information: A passionate, joyful, risk taker and adaptable leader with great administrative skills. Have served in cross-racial and cross-cultural appointments for more than 15 years. Have a DMin, Church Leadership Excellence. Passionate for missions.

David Wiley | Full Member, Elder | Retired



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 44

Previous appointments:

1974: to attend School

1975: Wesley Chapel Circuit (Viola, Ladentown, Wesley Chapel) Rockland County NY

1977: Wyckoff: Grace, Associate

1979: Lebanon

1991: Wayne

2002: Wyckoff: Grace, Senior Pastor

2012: Retired

Leadership positions in GNJ:

2012- Conference Secretary

2012- Connectional Table

2017- Chair CFPAS (member since 2012)

2008-2012: Chair Conf. Nom. Comm.

2000-2008: Member BO OM

1981-2000: Conf. Sec. NNJAC

1978-1981: Conf. Sec. Staff

Leadership positions in the denomination: My focus on the ministry of the local church, community and Annual Conference—and a desire to maintain a healthy vocation/family time balance—has generally led me not to extend myself in participation beyond Conf Sec. duties.

Previous delegate to General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope that our membership decline will cease—not because we need financial resources to pay our bills but because of our concern for souls and our mission to transform the world. We must organize ourselves in ways that we can meet our financial obligations whether people become members or not. I also pray that we will be open and affirming, relevant to young and old, single and married, of every race and ethnic origin and orientation.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hopes are that we will faithfully work together in the name of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world while moving in a direction that is open and affirming and respecting the fact that many regions of the world (including some within our own country and conference) are not where I am. I pledge to work with all members wherever they may be to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be a church that “does justice, loves mercy, and walks humbly with our God.”

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: “I want a strong bishop—as long as the bishop bishops the way I want the bishop to bishop. Otherwise, I want a weak bishop!” Humor aside, I want a strong leader whether I agree with that bishop or not—as long as he/she is grounded in the faith, theologically and socially progressive, and something of a prophet—prophets, after all, are those who call us to look beyond ourselves and to strive to be faithful to God in Christ. I also look for a good listener and a pastor’s heart.

Other Information:

Western Maryland: Eng Lit

Drew: M. Div/D. Min

Founding member/1st Pres: IHN (Family Promise) of Hunterdon Cty

Founding member Passaic Cty IHN

Steven Minister

Disciple Bible Ldr

Author: Why Mark: the Politics of Resurrection in the 1st Gospel

Catherine Williams | Elder | Extension Ministry, Professor of Preaching & Worship,
Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 5 years

Previous appointments:

Associate Pastor, Princeton UMC, Princeton, NJ

Administrative Pastor, Chambers UMC, Trenton, NJ

Leadership positions in GNJ: In Nov 2016 I presented a Preaching workshop at a District Day of Learning. In Jan 2019 I preached and facilitated a discussion on preaching at our Clergy Development Seminar.

Leadership positions in the denomination: I am currently under contract with the Upper Room Disciplines to write a week of lectionary meditations for their 2021 devotional. Currently I am one of two United Methodist professors at a UM Senate school, Lancaster Theological Seminary.

Previous delegate to General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope and pray that the United Methodist Church will a) come to terms with what it truly means to be a global church, b) be nimble and wise in its response to our changing church in a changing world, c) demonstrate genuine, radical hospitality to all God’s people at the level of denominational systems and policies, and d) experience a major, internal reformation that calls us back to Wesleyan values of personal and social holiness.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: For our next General Conference I hope for delegates who are fit and equipped to do the rigorous, spiritual work required of the committees. I hope for legislative processes that are just. I hope and pray for the Spirit of Love, Grace, and Unity to prevail – through us, and in spite of us.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: An incoming bishop needs to be: innovative in leading a rapidly changing church, Spirit-led in facilitating holy conferencing, able to surround themselves with – and heed – wise counsel, bold and prophetic in confronting social injustice, and pastoral in guiding and nurturing the spiritual leaders of our church.

William Williams, III | Full Member, Elder | FUMC Westfield



How long have you been a clergy member of The United Methodist Church? 7

Previous appointments:

Asbury UMC Atlantic City

Leadership positions in GNJ:

Raritan Valley District Committee on Ministry (2017-present)

Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Recording Secretary (2016-present)

Cape Atlantic District Circuit Elder (2016-2017)

Black Methodists for Church Renewal (2012-present)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Lewis Community Leadership Fellow (2017-2018)

Northeastern Jurisdiction Black Methodists for Church Renewal Recording Secretary (2015-2017)

National Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century Finance Chair (2008-2010)

Previous delegate to General Conference: No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference: No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hope is that our denomination bears witness to the inclusive love and transforming power of Jesus Christ. I'm hopeful that our commitment to personal piety and social holiness will move our Church to make strides against discriminatory and exclusionary practices. I'm hopeful that we are receptive to learning, healing, and moving forward, together, in our Christ-centered inclusive mission. I hope all of our churches will feel they are Jesus' church of Open Hearts, Open Mind, and Open Doors.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I hope to build relationships, participate in soul-tending worship, and remain responsive to the Holy Spirit. I hope GC2020 will preserve our distinctively Wesleyan denominational unity, make clear legislative statements of inclusion and hope that represents, celebrates, and affirms our denominational's theological diversity, and lead us forward with tangible plans for our local churches to live as committed disciples of Jesus Christ. I hope additional full communion agreements are presented.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop: An incoming bishop should have experience joyfully representing the theological and cultural diversity within our denomination, has shown a passion for Christ-centered evangelism, has led our people, communities, and world forward by advocating for social justice and personal piety, and has promoted healing by helping people name and confess ways in which we have hurt each other and also have forgiven each other.

Other Information: My wife & children support the energy and commitment that I will give. I recognize my privilege as an educated heterosexual black cisgender male married with children in this country; I covenant to utilize my gifts to represent the diversity of GNJ.

Laity Delegate Nominations

Delegate nominations are reprinted as submitted and unedited.

Bethany Amey | Trinity UM - Clayton



How long have you been a member of this church? 6

Previous churches:

St. John's UMC- Turnersville, NJ

West Grove UMC- Neptune, NJ

New Egypt UMC- New Egypt, NJ

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 13

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Rules Committee- 2018- present

Conference Youth and Young Adult Ministry Team- 2007-2016

CF&A- 2008

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Division on Ministries with Young People- 2016-present

General Board of Church and Society Social Principles Rewrite Team- 2017

Legislative Committee Chairwoman- Church and Society A- 2016

UMW Program Advisory Group- 2012-2016

Previous delegate to General Conference? Yes 2012 2016

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 2008 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: The United Methodist Church has been part of my life from the time I can remember. Being a third generation United Methodist is part of my identity that I am super proud to claim. My hope for the church would be a denomination where we continue to embrace love, do justice, and walk humbly with God. I pray that we continue to be change makers and leaders in the areas of disaster response and global health. I also pray that we find a way to be in ministry together as a unified denomination.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hope would be for healing and looking toward the future-growing vital and relevant United Methodist churches. It is my hope that we will be able to find new ways of working with finite resources, be creative in our approach to ministry, and continue to be a voice for the voiceless. I hope that we will continue to take stands on vital social issues. I hope that we will have the opportunity to share stories of how we are and will continue to be in ministry with all in the coming quadrennium.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? I believe that a bishop needs to be a servant leader with a transformational vision for the future of the local church and the denomination at large. They need to be an effective administrator that can balance all the responsibilities of being a bishop as well as maintain a heart for the local church, mission, service, the global connection, and social justice. The episcopal candidate also needs to be fair and be able to maintain a calm presence under immense pressure

Other information: It would be my honor to again represent the GNJAC at the 2020 General Conference and use my leadership gifts. This General Conference will be especially important for healing and progress after the Special Session in 2019.

Dale Caldwell | United Methodist Church at New Brunswick



How long have you been a member of this church? 21

Previous churches:

Hightstown United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church in New Haven, Connecticut

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 3

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Member of the Council on Finance and Administration

A Future With Hope, Board of Trustees

Leadership positions in the denomination:

I have not held official positions within the denomination. However, I have gained denominational leadership insights from helping my father Rev. Gilbert Caldwell when he was the Director of the Commission on Religion and Race and active in BMCR.

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope the Church can move beyond the current division to come together in the name of Jesus Christ. We were able to work through division around race and, with God's help, we can work through the current division. 1 Peter 3:8 reads: Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind. I pray that our church leaders demonstrate the unity, sympathy, love, tenderness and humility necessary to fully open the doors of the UMC.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: This is an extremely important time in the life of the UMC. The only way to heal the current division is for the entire Church to realize that since God is the one and only judge, we should refrain from imperfect human judgement and accept all people equally. My hope for the 2020 General Conference is that it will recognize that we are all part of one equal family of Christian believers regardless of race, nationality or gender identity.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? A Bishop should have a thorough knowledge of the history of the Bible, an intimate understanding of Scripture and its true intent, an exceptional sense of empathy, an inclusive vision to enhance and grow a diverse Church, a passion for active listening, a commitment to increase involvement of the laity, an understanding of the relationship between church growth and financial growth and the ability to inspire other Methodists to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Other information: As an African American At Large Member of the GNJAC named for Bishop Dale White; a CLM; a business executive; a Father; and, the son of Civil Rights Leader Rev. Gil Caldwell, I will bring a unique and diverse perspective to the Delegation.

Lindsey Chew | Frankford Plains UMC

How long have you been a member of this church? 15 years

Previous churches: Sparta UMC

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 15

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey: I served as Skylands District Lay Leader for 8 years. I taught the district's Basic Lay Speaking Course for 6 years. While I was district lay leader I served on the conference Vision Team, Nominations Committee and Laity Board.

Leadership positions in the denomination: I've been a Local Church Leader (20yrs), Admin Chair (2yrs) and Men's Walk to Emmaus Lay Director. I've taught Senior High Sunday School and lead youth service missions including Project Rise (6yrs) and Redbird (2yrs) and Certified Lay speaker.

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hopes include a unity of purpose within the United Methodist Church; Disciples of Christ all pulling in God's direction. Though distance and issues may separate us, the closer we all come to God then we will all come closer to each other. I pray that our denomination can reverse the trend of falling worship attendance in the USA while continuing to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ across the globe. I hope that the UMC will continue to spread the message of God's love where it is needed most.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I sincerely pray that the presence of the Holy Spirit shall be recognized by all that participate in the Conference. We will work hard, pray hard, sing and worship together. May we find faith that God is present and will work all things to good for those who love Him. I pray that at the closing of our conference that our denomination will be more unified, healthy and stronger than at the opening.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? An incoming bishop should have a strong record of effective congregational leadership. A bishop must recruit, train, and deploy pastors to start congregations, mobilize mission and lead people to active faith in Jesus Christ. A bishop must have an unwavering focus on the mission of the church. A bishop will manage a large organization comprised of a number of agencies, hundreds of churches and thousands of people, therefore a bishop should have significant organizational skills and experience.

Other information: Being a delegate will be demanding work. If elected, I will carry out all responsibilities to the absolute best of my ability. I will be open minded, a faithful disciple of Christ, open to the presence of the Holy Spirit, and bearer of God's Love.

Judy Colorado | Community United Methodist Church, Kenilworth, NJ



How long have you been a member of this church? more than 11 years (previous church Springfield UMC merged with CUMC on December, 2017)

Previous churches:

- Springfield Emanuel UMC (merged with Community UMC –Dec. 2017)
- First Filipino-American UMC in Jersey City
- Faith Filipino Mission UMC

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 11

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

- Co-chair CF&A & Chair Budget Committee (2017-present)
- Board of Laity Member (2016-present)
- Board of Director, United Methodist Communities & Chair Operations Committee (2014-present)
- Lay Leader Gateway North District (2014-present)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

- Board of Director General Commission on Finance & Administration (GCFA) & elected secretary of the Board (2016-present)
- Board of Director CF&A Northeast Jurisdiction (2016-present)
- Advisory & Strategy Team Member Path 1 Strategy of the GBOD

Previous delegate to General Conference? Yes 2016

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I have been in earnest prayer to what God is yet to do through his Church. The UMC is God’s representation to the world to share his redemptive love to all people. I am hopeful that the UMC will continue to live up to its calling to be in ministry to all, respecting the diversity and sacred worth of all God’s creation, and be the positive influence of peace and justice in the world. I am hopeful that a renewed church emerges through the work of the Holy Spirit as we seek God’s will in our midst!

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I am hopeful that the 2020 General Conference will be a renewal time for the church, celebrating who we are in ministry together to all the world. I hope for a graceful, respectful and focused deliberations and conversations on changes that we need to continue to explore and embrace in order to be more effective and efficient in our ministry work together. I hope that the experience of worship and prayer together as the global church will continue to transform our lives, and deepen our service.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop?

- A Spiritual Leader with deep faith & character; faithful servant of God.
- A Visionary & Transformational Leader, positive change agent, influencing his followers with encouragement and kind words.
- Embraces diversity as a strength in the church, inclusive, and respectful of all perspectives, and welcoming to all people.

Other information: It is truly a privilege and honor to serve the Church in which I have been nurtured, loved and accepted. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve and offer my God given gifts through this process. Not to me, but to God only be the glory!

Chuck DelCamp | Haddonfield UMC

How long have you been a member of this church? 22 years

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes
How many years? 6

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey: IGNITE planning team, board of discipleship

Leadership positions in the denomination: Lay servant within local church.

Previous delegate to General Conference? No
Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: God’s grace is abundant, but only in so much as we share it. Our denomination will need to shift to adapt to the changing world. I pray for a UMC that is strong, solid, and relevant in the lives of people all over the world. I hope the UMC will continue to be a voice of Justice in a political climate fraught with partisanship. In the future, I hope that there will truly be a place at the table for everyone, as the UMC transforms the world.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: As the denomination moves past just envisioning “a way forward”, we are called to move into action. General Conference 2020 will be critical to the future of our denomination. It is my hope that meaningful dialogue will occur to move past schism, divisiveness, and apprehension. We will emerge with a clear, aligned vision, and the resolve to achieve it.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? The Bishop is the Shepard to our flock in Greater New Jersey; as such they will lead and care for clergy and laity alike. He/She should bring vision and energy to propel us onward. With the diverse population in GNJ, and the proximity to metro areas, we have a unique calling to social justice; a Bishop should have a heart for justice and mission.

Jane Ehlers | Morrow Memorial United Methodist Church



How long have you been a member of this church? 10 Years

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes
How many years? 9

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:
Youth Council
Young Adult Council

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope that the UMC continues doing amazing work in the world, inspired by our social principles that have shaped and defined our denomination. That we embrace and celebrate these understandings of God and the church, that we pool our ideas, ministries and resources to transform the world. That we do this by embracing the diversity and gifts of all and inviting them into discipleship. The church that I hope for ensures that all know that they are loved unconditionally by God.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hope is that God does God’s work at the conference, and that all are heard equally. I hope that young people will have a booming voice, and a seat at every single table. That the conference offers reconciliation, repair, and restoration to the church. I believe in the power of resurrection,

and the power of redemption for our church body. I know that this cannot be done without demonstrating the love and acceptance of all that Jesus modeled for us.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? An incoming bishop should have an open, curious and passionate approach for the vitality, vision and unity of the church. Leadership should be grounded in the Theological Task of the church as critical, constructive, contextual, incarnational and ultimately practical. Bishops must be courageous in their prophetic leadership for social justice and holiness in the church and in the world. Churches need support to understand their context and respond to the deep need for Christ's redemptive grace.

Other information: There is beauty in the diversity of New Jersey that can serve as a testament to the global church about working together amidst difference with love and mutual understanding. I firmly believe in this ideal and would be honored to represent it.

Heather Fizur | Haddonfield United Methodist Church



How long have you been a member of this church? 15 years

Previous churches:

I formerly attended St. Paul's Presbyterian Church growing up.

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? No

Leadership positions in the denomination:

2012-2016 Disability Task Force Chair- Haddonfield United Methodist Church

-planned speakers, social events, & inclusive Christian Education

2014- present- Facilitator of our Support Group for Parents of Differently Abled

Children"

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

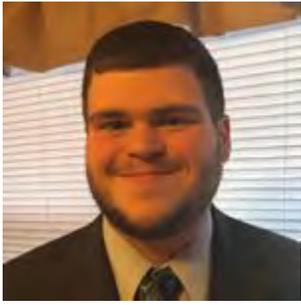
Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hope is that we live out our goal to be a church with open hearts, open minds, and open doors. Showing Christ's love for all people regardless of ethnicity, socioeconomic class, ability, or theological understanding is vital to our continued growth. Our denomination can show God's love to a hurting world by our relationships to each other as well as reaching out beyond our churches. We can make disciples for the transformation of the world through Worldwide worship and mission.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I hope that all participants can recognize God's presence in worship, conversation, and voting during General Conference. Learning to love one another and the rich diversity within our denomination is important. I hope that we can find a way to exist together or create something new while remaining mission partners.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? A bishop should have the ability to listen to all viewpoints. They should demonstrate love for the entire church, even those they disagree with. A bishop should show that there is hope despite conflict and despair. They should be able to provide needed support to congregations so that they can be fruitful in their ministry. This includes strategically placing clergy in churches while taking into account the differing needs of each congregation.

Other information: It is a passion of mine to minister to those on the margins. I have learned so much about being open to what people of all abilities can teach us. This comes from my role as a mother of a child with Autism as well as my understanding of scripture.

David Geller | St. Andrew UMC Toms River



How long have you been a member of this church? 8 years

Previous churches: First United Methodist Church of Toms River

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 5

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

District Superintendency Committee. 2015-present

Youth and young Adult Representative to Annual Conference. 2015-present

Conference Committee on Youth and Young Adults. 2016-present

Youth representative to Jurisdictional Conference 2016

Leadership positions in the denomination:

N/A

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hope for the United Methodist Church is that we would stay united in our common mission which is to make disciples of Jesus Christ to transform the world. We as a denomination can do so much more together than we can do apart. If elected, I will continue to ensure that our witness as a church continues to be strong and vibrant.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hope for the 2020 General Conference is that regardless of our positions on certain issues we would continue to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. And we would love our neighbor as ourselves. We are a multi issue church and we cannot and should not let one issue tear us apart. I stand firm in what Paul tells us. "Those members we think are less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect."

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? I believe that incoming bishops should first and foremost be a follower of Jesus Christ. Bishops should also have a pastors heart. Along with having a great administrative record bishops are pastors that need to care about people. Bishops should also have a strong Wesleyan foundation. These is just a few things I will look for in future bishops.

Other information: As a 22 year old young person, it is time for the church to be the church we say we are. My generation is often called the future of the church, but we are the church of today. It would be my privilege to serve as one of your delegates.

Moselle Jules | Haddonfield United Methodist Church



How long have you been a member of this church? 4 years

Previous churches: St. John United Methodist Church of Harrisonville

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 3

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Youth Delegate (2016-2018)

Young Adult Delegate (2018-now)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Youth Advisory Council for Youth19 – 2016 to 2018

Mission of Peace Cuba Participant – 2018

Global Young People’s Convocation Alternate Delegate – 2018

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hopes for the United Methodist Church are to fully embrace the phrase, “Open Hearts, Open Minds & Open Doors”, love, and the healing of broken hearts. We are a church that relies on many different types of people creating new disciples to transform the world. Because we are a church that is able to spread God’s love, we are also a church that can and has caused a great amount of pain. We are a church that deals with current times but also looks toward the future; I hope we stay united.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hopes for the 2020 General Conference are for people to believe in “Open Hearts, Open Minds & Open Doors”. I would hope that at General Conference people show an open heart by allowing themselves to show empathy and trying to understand others. Having an open mind by being listening to differing opinions, listening to people who you might not come to contact with on a regular basis, and then ultimately absorbing and actively reflecting on what is being said to try to have open doors.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? The qualifications required for an incoming bishop are to be an ordained elder and consecrated to the council of bishops. The characteristics I believe are needed are self-awareness, authenticity, and commitment. Self-awareness because it means someone understands their effect on people. Authenticity should be required because it pairs hand in hand with being genuine. Bishops should be committed and motivated to complete tasks and goals. To lead is one thing but to do it effectively is different

Cynthia Kent | Wesley UMC – Belleville



How long have you been a member of this church? 3 years

Previous churches: Fairfield UMC

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 31

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Committee on Native American Ministries 2013 to present

Committee on Investigation of a Diaconal Minister 2016 to present

Committee on Church and Society, 2005-2012

Committee on Ethnic Ministry 2008-2011

BOOM 2008-2010

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Inter Ethnic Strategy Development Group, Secretary 2018 to present

Native American International Caucus, Chair 2008-present

NEJ Native American Ministries Comte, Chair, 2009-present

Connectional Table member 2009-present

NEJ Vision Table, 2016-presen

Previous delegate to General Conference? No
Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 2012

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: We as the UMC are a diverse family. That is what makes us keep in constant movement. Our faith is in Jesus Christ and in God who made all of us, therefore makes us brothers and sisters. As I have worked within the denomination, I have seen the resources and talent that has and continues to make a world of difference. I see this continue in the future.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: I am excited about the 2020 General Conference. I see it as an opportunity for the church to continue in its movement of change. New ideas are coming forth to strengthen our denomination especially with the strength of our young people. I see an opportunity for people from different backgrounds coming together to work on ways for our domination to be that beacon of hope for the world.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? A Bishop needs to be a person that leads by action. They must have knowledge of the Word of God and be able to share it so that it relates to the World, their communities and their congregations. They need to know how to encourage and engage people and to hear the needs and concerns of people and know how to bring people together.

Other information: I was not born into the UMC. I was adopted. I saw the UMC as a parents that had resources and talents that helped me so in return I helped the Church. It would be an honor for me to represent this conference.

Edward Martin | Haddonfield UMC



How long have you been a member of this church? 1 year

Previous churches:

Stratford United Methodist Church 1980-2017

Westwood United Methodist Church 1958-1980

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 3

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Board of Ordained Ministry, Secretary (2016-present)

Commission on Christian Unity & Interreligious Relationships (2016-present)

Board of Church and Society (2003-2007)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

GWS DCOM Registrar (2011-present)

GWS DCOS (2001-present)

Certified Lay Servant (1990-present)

SNJAC Board of Church & Society (1985-1992, Chair 1997-2000)

SNJAC Commission on Christian Unity (1993-1996)

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope for a church that honors all people as beloved children of God, made in God's image. A church where all people can share their gifts as God calls them to transform the world. A

church that hears the cry of the poor, the oppressed, and the forgotten, advocating for justice and inclusion on their behalf. A church that demonstrates love and grace in its relationships with other Christians, with other people of faith, or of no faith, respecting all and working to build God’s Kin-dom.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: The 2019 Special Session was heartbreaking. The world saw our denomination portrayed as mistrustful, acrimonious, schismatic and possibly dishonest. I hope for a time of lament and confession for our actions in St. Louis, followed by genuine Holy Conferencing and prophetic discernment of a way that our church can continue its decades-long ministry together while truly welcoming all people to share the love and grace of God we claim is found within our Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? An incoming bishop will be respected by both clergy and laity. S/He will be a person of unquestionable integrity and moral character. S/He will be a wise teacher, making disciples of Jesus, who make more disciples. S/He will be a bold and prophetic witness to the faith, yet loving and compassionate toward all people. S/He will be a visionary, fruitful, transformational and apostolic leader with a servant’s heart; accepting all challenges and learning from them; courageous, yet grace-filled.

Other information:

Church Council and Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development – Haddonfield UMC
UM Ecumenical & Interreligious Training/Nat’l Workshop on Christian Unity 2017, 2018, 2019
Member, Jewish Christian Muslim Dialogue of Southern NJ

Harriett Olson | Morristown UMC



How long have you been a member of this church? 34 years

Previous churches:

Emmanuel UMC, Oaklyn, NJ

McKendree UMC, Nashville, TN (affiliate)

Church of the Village UMC, New York, NY (affiliate)

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 30

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Leadership roles in the former NNJAC:

Chair, Conference Council on Ministries (1992-6)

Member, Task Force on Sexual Harassment Policy

Chair, Delaware District COM (1988-92)

Member, Conference Committee on the Status and Role of Women (1985-88)

Leadership positions in the denomination:

General Secretary/CEO, United Methodist Women (2012-present)

DGS, Women’s Div, GBGM (2007-12)

VP, Editorial Director, UMC Book Editor, United Methodist Publishing House (1996-2007)

Member, Board of Directors, General Board of Discipleship (1988-96)

Previous delegate to General Conference? Yes 1988 1992 1996

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 1988 1992 1996

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: I hope the UMC will be a place that more and more people find a community that invites and welcomes them to a deep journey of faith. We can be a place where people find

their hope in Jesus Christ, find healing and support for themselves and their families, and find companions as they live out the good news in the world. I hope that we will be a church that launches and supports disciples in faithful service and passionate advocacy for persons who are marginalized, and for creation care.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: Legislation on plans for how we go forward will have to be considered in 2020, but we must not allow a replay of the 2019 session. We must find ways to treat each other with honor and respect, not just ways for our “side” to “win.” If we must develop a degree of separation (either within the denomination or as separate denominations) let us do so with charity and with an eye to building thriving expressions of Methodism in which all of us can grow in faith, in outreach and in service.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop?

Passionate faith

Sees Administration as a way of doing ministry

Includes and thrives on sharing leadership with others (lay and clergy)

Flourishes in settings with gender, racial, language and class diversity

Financially literate

Inspires and supports strategic thinking and prophetic action

Able to make independent decisions after consultation and at the right time

Sees local work in connection with the national and global church

Uses, values and supports denominational resources

Other information: I am committed to helping The United Methodist Church choose a strong future. Having both loved and lamented this church for a long time, I believe that God is at work, even in our upheaval and hurt. It would be an honor to represent the GNJAC.

Carolyn Pendleton | Asbury UMC



How long have you been a member of this church? All of my life

Previous churches: N/A

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 30

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Lay Board 2012 to present

Board of Ordained Ministry 2013- present

Cape Atlantic District Lay Leader 2017- present

Cape Atlantic DCOM 2016 – present

2019-2023 Strategic Planning Committee

Nominations 2016-present

Leadership positions in the denomination:

GNJ Black Methodists for Church Renewal -On-going BMCR

NEJ Black Methodists for Church Renewal Representative to National BMCR- 2015-present

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: My hope for the United Methodist Church is that the Holy Spirit will rest upon the Church in every space and every place. Without the presence of the Holy Spirit, confusion will

reign and Church ministry purpose will suffer. The United Methodist Church and its people must remain one with Christ and one with each other in order to continue making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. My hope continues to abide in the Church's motto- Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hope for General Conference is that we find common ground in order to prayerfully address the relevant issues for the work of the Church. Every level of the United Methodist Church is connected to another, and so, when one level is weakened it pulls strength from the others. To structure policies, make legislative decisions, or modify sections of the Book Of Discipline, delegates must employ clear thinking. Therefore, my hope is that we remind ourselves, "United we stand, divided we fall".

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? I believe the qualifications and characteristics required for an incoming bishop are to be a God-fearing, truthful, visionary with a compassionate heart for all people. A bishop must learn the dynamics of the area to which he/she shall be assigned, in addition to appreciating the uniqueness of all cultures with which he/she will serve. Bishops must be skilled in budgetary matters, moving churches out of their comfort zones in order to advance the vision and mission of the Church.

Other information: No at this time.

Creed Pogue | West Side UMC, Millville



How long have you been a member of this church? 51 years

Previous churches: none

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 16

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Co-Director of Lay Servant Ministries for Delaware Bay

District Superintendency Committee

Commission on Camps, Conferences and Retreats Vice-President

Council on Finance and Administration Vice-President

participated in # of ad hoc task forces

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference 2008 to present

Education Committee Resource Member, Association of Directors for Lay Servant Ministries 2019-currently

NEJ Rules Committee Vice-Chair 2008 to 2012

NEJ Nominations Committee Member 2008

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 10

Hopes for the United Methodist Church:

-500 characters is shorter than two tweets!

-restore the balance that John Wesley sought between the Great Commission and the Great Commandment

-recognize that we need to focus on outcomes

-recognize the good that only Christians can do and focus on that

-keep the best of our unique expression of global Christianity (grace open to all, connectionalism, democratically elected General Conference) and work to modify those aspects that aren't working as well:

unequal burdens, free riders

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference:

- that we come together to focus on resourcing local churches to make disciples
- that we provide accountability for the \$130 million that local churches send to the General Church each year
- that we work out ways for as many as possible to move forward together
- that we “right-size” our structure
- be willing to ask and answer the hard questions for a global denomination in the 21st century
- create an identity where we are known for our vision and deeds rather than our disagreements

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop?

- understand that resourcing local churches where ministry happens is the most important function of an annual conference
- be judicious with the power they possess
- respect the views and opinions even of those they disagree with (being “tolerant” only of those you already agree with is not truly being “tolerant”)
- have a vision for us to move forward that they are willing to share and balances striving to move forward with being realistic about where we currently are
- servant leadership

Other information:

- will share my GC votes/reasoning with you
- 250 characters is less than a tweet(!) so feel free to call me at 609/774-0634 or email at creed.pogue@gmail.com if you would like to share your thoughts (even if you think I might disagree with you!)

Stephen Quigg | Elmer UMC, Elmer, NJ



How long have you been a member of this church?

50 years

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 20

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

None – my missionary service beyond the GNJ boundaries limits my availability to work with conference agencies. However, I volunteer with the Video Crew during annual conference sessions and serve on the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association

board.

Leadership positions in the denomination: GBGM missionary for nearly 40 years. Positions held while working as a UM missionary:

- Pilot/mechanic in Nigeria and the DR Congo
- Aviation Coordinator – UM Aviation Ministries
- V.P. Field Services – Aviation Safety
- Jurisdiction Mission Advocate

Previous delegate to General Conference? Yes No 2016

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? Yes 2016

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: Count me among the world’s 12.5 million United Methodists who believe we have to get past our impasse over human sexuality and move forward in ministry. As Jesus pointed out, “A house divided against itself cannot stand”, but we have spent 45 years trying to prove Him wrong. My

prayer is that whatever is decided in St. Louis will free our disparate members to do ministry together in spirit, even if they accomplish it apart in practice. The need for us to be Christ for the world continues.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: Regardless of which Plan (if any) is approved in February, there will be plenty of legislative work to be done to implement it during the 2020 General Conference. The spirit of open and honest dialog demonstrated by the members of the Commission on a Way Forward provide a clear and compelling model for us on how to work together despite our differences. My goal would be to carry that spirit into our gathering in Minneapolis as we lay the foundation for a fruitful and faithful UMC of the future.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? I Timothy 3 would a good place to start for a list of episcopal qualifications and characteristics. I would personally add that a bishop should be someone who is deeply spiritual, loves ministry more than politics, and has spent a significant amount of time in successful local church ministry.

Other information: 40 years of missionary service has given me perspective, understanding and insight into working with the ever-growing international part of the UMC. I was the first lay alternate to the 2016 General Conf. and an active part of the GNJ delegation.

Robert Schotter | Sparta UMC



How long have you been a member of this church? 2 years, 5 months

Previous churches:

Metropolitan Community church of the Lehigh Valley, Allentown Pa.
Salvation Army, Port Richmond Corps, Staten Island New York

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 1

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Co- Chair Church and Society Committee, Sparta UMC, 1/1/18-12/31/18

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: At its best, the UMC has born witness to the, albeit challenging, possibility of holding together various theological emphasis in tension. As the UMC now appears to be at a cross roads, my hope for the church is that we not only embrace this unique calling once more, but that we do so in discerning conjunction, with attentively listening to what the Spirit is declaring in respect to the nucleus of our shared faith and life together – the all-encompassing love of God in Christ for all persons, wh

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: My hope is that we, as a body, more clearly define the future possibilities for our church with an emphasis on viable, structural, systemic, resolved conflict; as well as fostering renewed, forward thinking, ecumenical possibilities.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? In addition to providing critical ethical pastoral care to those engaged in “front line” ministry (during this emotionally demanding time in the life of the church), a

primary characteristic needed is decisiveness. This should be demonstrably evidenced by a clear articulation of, and practical vision for, the future direction of not only the GNJ Conference, but the denomination as a whole.

Other information: If elected, it would be an honor and privilege to bring my lifetime of Social Services advocacy, my seminary education, and the insights of my personal Christian journey together in service to the church, in whatever capacity may be of use.

Gyuchang Sim | Tenafly United Methodist Church



How long have you been a member of this church? 17 yrs

Previous churches:

Arcola United Methodist Church

Arcola Korean United Methodist Church

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes

How many years? 15

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

A member of the Conference Rules of Order Committee.

A member of the Conference Board of Global Ministries.

A member of the Conference Disaster Response Committee.

District Coordinator of Disaster Response Committee of the Palisades District.

Leadership positions in the denomination: N/A

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: The United Methodist Church is for all people; the marginalized, under-privileged, oppressed, sinners and saints, the righteous and wicked. All of God's children can come close to Christ through the prevenient grace that he shows us. And, when transformed to disciples of Christ, we are called to tell others where they can find Christ, all are welcomed to the United Methodist Church and all are experiencing the presence of Christ.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: Refocusing the United Methodist Church to the mission of the church, carrying out the Gospel of Christ to others and making them disciples of Christ.

The realization of having a General Conference outside the USA.

Proactive in considering how our ministry and mission needs to continue, whatever decision the 2019 Special General Conference makes on the issue of the human sexuality. The mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church will keep going on at all levels.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? Spiritual leadership- A Bishop leads pastors and local churches to enhance and encourage the presence of Christ spiritually and faithfully. Missional leadership- A Bishop should look at the bigger picture of the mission of the church that challenges, encourages and leads the local churches in the annual conference in the mission. Administrative leadership- A bishop should demonstrate one's ability and willingness to lead the conference according to rules and regulations of the BOD.

Other information: Serving the community as a member of the Board of Education for 7 years, an EMT, Hazmat Technician, Heavy rescuer and firefighter for 15 years. Full time volunteer marshal at the 2016 General Conference and 2019 Special General Conference.

Maria Luisa Garcia Toirac | First United Methodist Church Union City



How long have you been a member of this church? 1 month

Previous churches: West New York United Presbyterian Methodist Church, member for 14 years

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes
How many years? 3

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey:

- Lay member Board of Ordained Ministries – 3 years
- Lay member Gateway North District Committee on Ordained Ministry – 3 years
- Gateway North DCOM Secretary – 2 years

Leadership positions in the denomination:

- Lay missionary with the Hispanic/Latino Plan
- Member of MARCHA, National Hispanic/Latino Caucus within the UMC
- West New York United Presbyterian Methodist Church SPR Chair – 9 years

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: To be the embodiment of God’s love authentically and inclusively so that we reflect God’s grace with all in words and deeds.

Please share your hopes for the 2020 General Conference.

To find a way to keep our denomination united in mission amid our differences.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? A spiritual leader with enduring love for Christ and the church, encourage diverse theological faith expressions, passionate about the mission of the church, with strategic planning/implementation and conflict resolutions skills to lead the conference in these challenging times.

Other information: I am a retired engineer serving the church with devotion and passion.

Andrea Wren-Hardin | Morrow Memorial United Methodist Church



How long have you been a member of this church? 19 years

Previous churches:

- Martinsville Baptist Tabernacle, Indiana
- Edmonds United Methodist Church, Washington
- Westfield United Methodist Church, New Jersey

Member of Greater New Jersey Annual Conference? Yes
How many years? 6

Leadership positions in Greater New Jersey: In 2013 I started working with A Future With Hope as a case manager and have continued to lead more recently as a Hope Center Developer. I taught the GNJAC study at the UMW’s Mission U in 2018 and will be teaching at Mission U again this year.

Leadership positions in the denomination:

Morrow UMC-

Chair, Church Council 2018- present

Lay Leader 2014-2017

Sunday School Superintendent 2003-2005

Small Group Leader 2013, 2018

Committees: Membership, Global Mission and Outreach '12, Finance '14, Staff Parish Relations '13, Education '03

Previous delegate to General Conference? No

Previous delegate to Jurisdictional Conference? No

Hopes for the United Methodist Church: Through my work across our conference and with Puerto Rico, Haiti, and Sierra Leone I have witnessed the uniting principle of mission. I have seen first hand how effective the UMC is in changing lives. My hope is that the UMC continues to be a witness of Christian love throughout the world. It is important that we maintain dialogue with our local and international partners, living into the truth that everyone is our neighbor and we are all part of the family of God.

Hopes for the 2020 General Conference: Our UMC is in the midst of turmoil, and at the 2020 conference my hope is that we can conduct the Church's business with love and not engage in hurtful and divisive rhetoric. My hope at this conference, through submitted legislation and prayerful consideration, is that we can shape the future of the Church towards full inclusion and justice locally and abroad. My hope is our focus on mission throughout the world remains resolute.

Qualifications and characteristics for an incoming bishop? A bishop must be a disciple of Christ with integrity to the values that Jesus modeled. A bishop needs to be a servant leader who through engagement, relationship building and delegation will steer the conference to develop a shared long-term vision for the Church. An effective bishop leads with humility and transparency to build trust and unity behind the shared vision. A bishop must have prophetic leadership to guide us through this period of transition and into our future ministry.

Other information: I know how amazing the UMC is and can be, and I will keep fighting for the Church to include all people, without exception, sharing the love of God in mission and making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world



CUMAC is an Advanced Special of Greater New Jersey. We fight hunger and its root causes through food pantries, depot services, disaster relief, job training, supportive housing, seasonal collections and advocacy efforts.



1 in 5 children struggle with hunger. You can help.
www.cumac.org

Our Impact In 2018:

- Over 30,000 people served in our food pantries
- An additional 19,000 people received produce & fresh items
- Over 1.9 million pounds of food distributed
- Over 250 community members assisted after disaster
- Dozens more were given job training & supportive housing

How To Get Involved:

- Hold a food drive
- Schedule a volunteer day
- Collect hygiene products
- Make a donation
- Attend an event
- Join our race team
- Tour CUMAC's programs





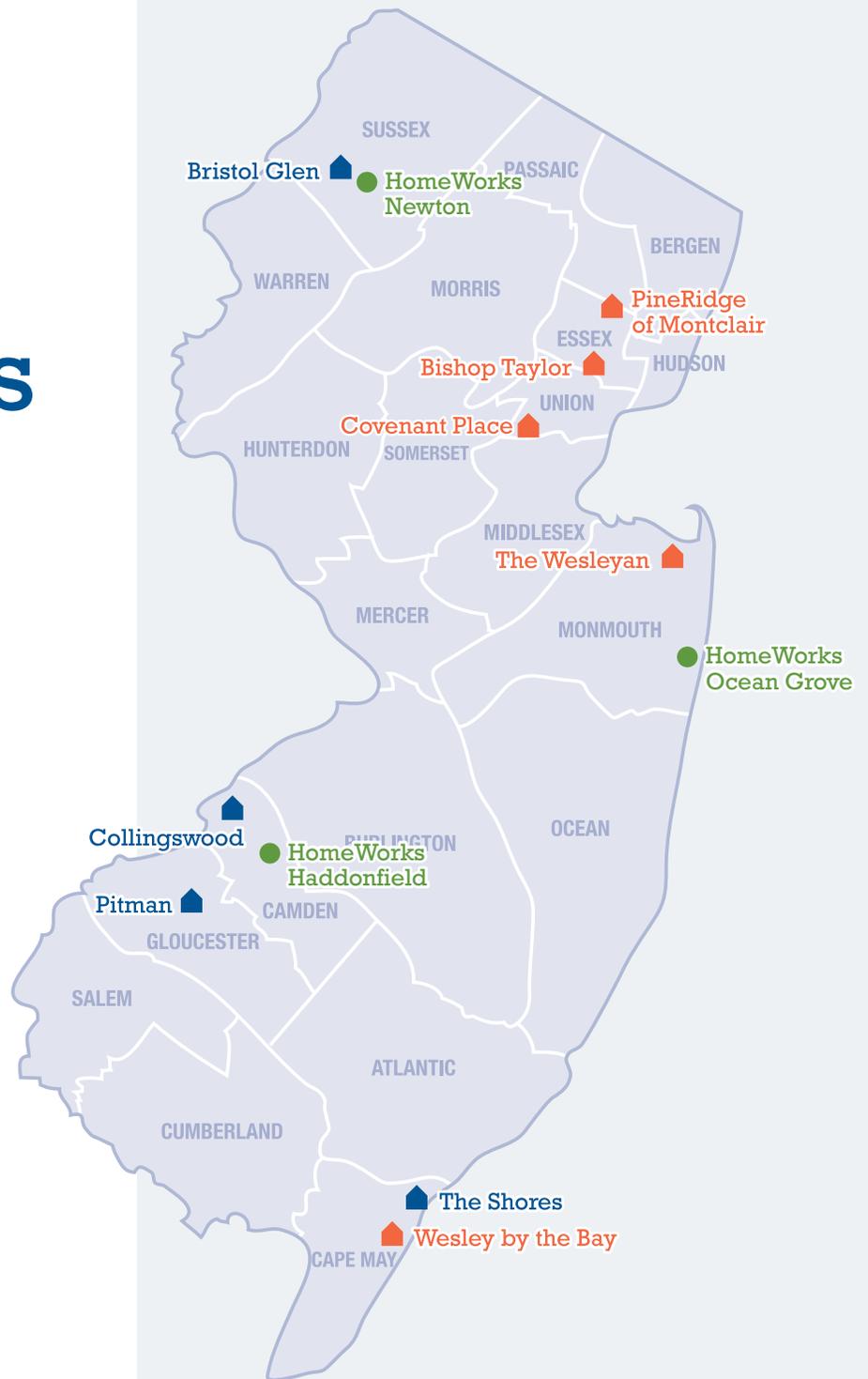
United Methodist
Communities

Abundant Choices For Seniors

United Methodist Communities brings compassionate care to New Jersey's seniors with our full suite of living and care options. This includes Affordable Senior Living; In-Home Personal Care, Case Management and Live-In through HomeWorks. We offer Independent Living, Assisted Living, Tapestries® Memory Care, Long-Term Care, Rehabilitation, Respite, and BridgesSM Hospice and Palliative Care in our full service communities.

Reach out to us for all of your senior living or care needs.

Call 732-922-9800 for additional information or visit our website, UMCommunities.org.



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3311 State Route 33 | Neptune, NJ 07753
732-922-9800 | www.UMCommunities.org



1 **Legislation and Recommendations**
2
3 **Committee on Nominations**
4 (Those to be elected since the last session of Annual Conference)
5 **Nominations to Individual Leadership, Board, Agencies and Committee Membership**
6
7 **Individual Leadership**
8 Karline Dubuisson (C), Chair, Connectional Table
9
10 **Council on Youth Ministries ¶649**
11 Class of 2020
12 Brendan Galvin (C) Richard Romero (C)
13
14 Class of 2021
15 Chad Callahan (L)
16
17 **Council on Young Adult Ministries ¶650**
18 Class of 2021
19 Charles Chung (L) Sooah Na (C)
20
21 **Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns ¶632**
22 Class of 2021
23 Leo Park (C) Yesenia Palomino (L)
24
25 **Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry ¶634**
26 Class of 2021
27 Gerald Cameron (C)
28
29 **Commission on Communications ¶646**
30 Class of 2021
31 Antoinette Moss (C)
32
33 **Commission on Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Concerns ¶642**
34 Class of 2021
35 Guillermo Javier Barroso-Rodriguez (C)
36
37 **Commission on Status and Role of Women ¶644**
38 Class of 2021
39 Merlene Taylor (L)
40
41 **Commission on Religion and Race ¶643**
42 Class of 2021
43 Pauline Wallace (L)
44
45
46

1 **Commission on Small Church Membership ¶645**
2 Class of 2021
3 Stephen Lee (L) Betty Quackenboss (L)
4

5 **Committee on Disability Concerns ¶653**
6 Class of 2021
7 Peggy Jones (C)
8

9 **Committee on Parish and Community Development ¶633.5**
10 Class of 2021
11 Aiden Lee (C)
12

13 **Commission on Equitable Compensation ¶625.1**
14 Class of 2021
15 Steve Bechtold (C)
16

17 **Committee on Native American Ministries ¶654**
18 Class of 2021
19 Joshua Gribbin (C)
20

21 **Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries ¶655**
22 Class of 2021
23 Rosa Estronza (L)
24

25 **Board of Ordained Ministry ¶635**
26 Class of 2020
27 William Williams III (C) June Tamburro (C) Heather Valosin (C) Drew Dyson (C)
28

29 **Council on Finance and Administration ¶611-618**
30 Class of 2020
31 Kwanho Choi (L)
32

33 **Board of Trustees ¶640 and 2512**
34 Class of 2023
35 Patricia Bruger (C)
36

37 **Nehemiah Properties, Inc., Board of Trustees**
38 Class of 2023
39 Cliff Still (C) Rupert Hall (C) Mary Beth Scherer (L) Christopher Heckert (C) Niurca Louis (L) Patricia Morton (L)
40

41 **Next Generation Ministries, Board of Trustees**
42 Class of 2022
43 Antoinette Moss (C) Jaemyoung James Lee (C) Claire Rich (L) Ted Nelson (L) Blair Goold (C)
44

45 **Centenary Fund and Preachers Aid Society**
46 Class of 2022
47 Moses Flomo (C) Helen Hunter (L) Vivian Rodeffer (C)
48

1 **United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of New Jersey**

2 Class of 2021

3 Roxie Hammett (L) Dave Montanye (C)

4 Class of 2022

5 Virginia Harriett (L) Jie Hayes (L) Gerry Tamburro (L)

6 **The Pennington School – Board of Trustees**

7 Class of 2023

8 Vernon Hammond Matthew Pauls Stephen Tan Peter Tucci Erich Stegich Jack Green Jason Ridings

9 Jian “Jim” Wang

10 **United Methodist Communities – Board of Directors**

11 Class of 2024

12 Ed Carll (C) Judy Colorado (L) Rosa Williams (L)

13

14 **The Wesley Foundation Board at Princeton**

15 Virginia Cetuk (C)

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17

Nominations to District Committees

18

19 Northern Region

20

21 **Gateway North District**

22

23 **Board of Church and Location ¶2519**

24 Class of 2022

25 Prescott Butler (C) Greg Harewood (L)

26

27 **District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶666**

28 Rich Baumann (L) Christina Lelache (C) Katelyn Hillis (C)

29

30 **Palisades District**

31

32 **Board of Church and Location ¶2519**

33 Class of 2022

34 Joyce McNight Young (L) Wayne Jones (C)

35

36 Class of 2021

37 Myungsun Han (C)

38

39 Class of 2020

40 Judy Karius (L)

41

42 **Skylands District**

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44 **Board of Church and Location ¶2519**

45 Ellen Bechtold (C) Ed Gilsky (L) Bob Keller (L) Jeannette Zayac (L)

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Committee on District Superintendency ¶1669

Todd Lattig-Chair (C) Ninabeth Metcalf (C)

District Poverty Task Force

Tricia Piazza (C) Amanda Rohrs (C)

Central Region

Northern Shore District

Committee on District Superintendency ¶1669

Dawn Corlew (C) Hyun Hui Kim (C)

District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶1666

Shawn Callender Hogan (C)

District Poverty Task Force

Kathleen Wilford (L) Don Stevens (C) William Wilson Jr. (C)

Southern Region

Cape Atlantic District

Board of Church and Location ¶2519

Class of 2022

John Johnson (L) Fred Marz (C)

District Poverty Task Force

Latasha Milton (C)

Delaware Bay District

Board of Church and Location ¶2519

Class of 2022

Shirley Mooneyham (L) Michael Chapman (C)

Committee on District Superintendency ¶1669

Steve Elliott (C) Brian Mickle (L)

District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶1666

Ralph Skeels (L)

Gateway South District

Board of Church and Location ¶2519

Class of 2022

Walter Mander (C) Michael Bill (C)

1 **Committee on District Superintendency ¶1669**

2 Tiffany Murphy (C)

3

4 **District Poverty Task Force**

5 Marilyn Powell (L) Prin Pappas (L) Nancy Erickson (L) Renee Corradetti (L) Virgie Williams (L)

6 Margaret Williams (L) Connie Cline (L) Son-di Lee (L)

7

8 Submitted by,
9 Rosa Williams, Chair, Nominations Committee

10

11 **Trustees Enabling Resolutions**

12

13 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church hereby ratifies,
14 approves and confirms actions taken by the Conference Board of Trustees since the last Annual Session.

15 **Be it further resolved** that if subsequent to this Annual Session of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of
16 the United Methodist Church and prior to the 2020 Annual Session, any property, real or personal, that is
17 conveyed or transferred to the Annual Conference by any church or other person, firm, partnership, or
18 corporation, the Board of Trustees is hereby authorized and empowered, in its discretion, provided that the
19 same be approved by the Bishop and Cabinet, to sell, transfer, lease or convey any such real or personal
20 property for such price and at such time or times and upon such other terms and conditions as the Board of
21 Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church shall determine; and

22 **Be it further resolved** that the proper officers of the Board of Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual
23 Conference of the United Methodist Church be and hereby are authorized in the name and on behalf of the
24 Conference, to execute and deliver the Conference deed of conveyance or instrument of transfer and all other
25 instruments and documents to implement and carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing resolution and
26 to affix the corporate seal of the Conference thereto; and

27 **Be it further resolved** that the President or Vice-President or Treasurer of the Corporation is hereby fully
28 authorized and empowered to transfer, convey, endorse, sell, assign and deliver any and all stock, bonds,
29 evidence of interest and/or indebtedness and all other securities, corporate or otherwise, now or hereafter
30 standing in the name or owned by this Corporation and to make, execute and deliver, any property to effectuate
31 the authority hereby conferred; and

32 **Be it further resolved** that whenever there shall be annexed to any instrument of assignment and transfer,
33 executed pursuant to and in accordance with the foregoing resolution, a certificate of Secretary or of an
34 Assistant Secretary of this Corporation in the office at the date of such certificate shall set forth these
35 resolutions and shall state that these resolutions are in full force and effect, then all persons to whom such
36 instrument with the annexed certificate shall thereafter come, shall be entitled, without further inquiry or
37 investigation and regardless of the date of such certificate, to assume and to act in reliance upon the
38 assumptions that the shares of stock or other securities named in such instrument were therefore duly and
39 properly transferred, endorsed, sold, assigned, set over and delivered by this Corporation, and that with respect
40 to such securities the authority of these resolutions and of such officers is still in full force and effect; and

1 **Be it further resolved** that subsequent to this Annual Session of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of
2 the United Methodist Church and prior to the 2020 Annual Session, the Board of Trustees of the Greater New
3 Jersey Annual Conference is hereby authorized to acquire or dispose of District parsonages, Program Director's
4 and Treasurer's residences, as in its discretion, it may deem necessary and advisable and in accordance with The
5 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. The Conference Board of Trustees is hereby authorized and
6 empowered to enter into such contracts of sale and such other documents as may be necessary to effectuate
7 the sale, transfer, or purchase of such properties. Such properties, real or personal, may be sold or acquired
8 from any person or persons, firm, partnership, or corporation upon such terms and conditions as the Board of
9 Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church shall determine; and

10 **Be it further resolved** that the proper officers of the Board of Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual
11 Conference of the United Methodist Church are hereby empowered and authorized to execute all such deeds,
12 mortgages, notes, bonds, and other documents necessary to implement the purchase or sale of such
13 Conference-owned properties.

14 Submitted by,
15 Clifford Still, Chair, Board of Trustees

16 **Conference Advance Specials**

18 **Be it resolved**, that the 2019 Session of the Greater New Jersey Conference designate the following ministries
19 and institutions as Conference Advance Specials for the 2020 conference year (without restricting in anyway a
20 local church's ability to support other mission work):

21 **Be it further resolved** that the Executive Committee of the Connectional Table be authorized to make any
22 additions and deletions to the Conference Advance Specials list based upon recommendations of the
23 Conference Board of Global Ministries.

24 **Amistad** - An ecumenical ministry in the greater Freehold area seeking to assist Hispanic children and their
25 families through educational, nutritional and spiritual programs. We assist children from The Learning Center
26 and Park Avenue schools. These are Spanish-origin students mostly from Mexican families. We work with
27 volunteers from the high school's area and adults to help the children with their homework, reading and
28 educational games. They also use the computers. Our students are mostly kindergarten, first and second graders
29 with a few from third and fourth grades. Before they start their homework they have a snack. There are also
30 reading prizes. A Christmas party is held for the kids and their families with gifts for children. We have 52 kids
31 registered with 35 volunteers.

32 **C.A.M.P. YDP** - Provides pre-school, after-school and summer programs for children aged 5 - 14 and their
33 families, mainly on the north side of Paterson. The program runs throughout the year. As an organization, we
34 are committed to work as a "partner" within the community. A stimulating and nurturing environment is
35 provided. Total care is available as well when schools are not in session with transportation available to pick up
36 children from certain schools.

37 **Centenary Fund and Preachers Aid Society** - Supporting retired clergy and spouses.

- 1 **Christian Outreach Project** - Provides no-cost home repairs to persons in need in the northwest area of our
2 Conference. Participants are made up of high school youth and adult volunteers. In addition to home repairs,
3 participants engage in morning devotionals, singing, worship services and recreational activities.
- 4 **CUMAC/ECHO** - Works to alleviate hunger and its root causes for those in need in Paterson, Passaic County and
5 northern NJ. CUMAC has a Pantry feeding 3,000+ monthly. Our Depot warehouses over 2 million pounds of food
6 annually for a network of about 40 partner feeding programs. This Community Food Coalition (CFC) distributes
7 food while also screening clients for member pantries. We advocate at the local and state level on behalf of CFC
8 clients. CUMAC also has a Community Closet that offers clothing & household items; Pathways to Work imparts
9 job skills and hands-on experience; Place of Promise is a supportive housing program for chronically homeless
10 individuals; and our seasonal projects for school supplies, holiday gifts and other items for area children in need.
11 All our programs rely heavily on volunteer and financial support from the community.
- 12 **C.U.M.I.** - Camden Urban Ministry Initiative, a cooperative After-School Program is a shared ministry amongst
13 Camden churches. This partnering reaches families to ensure positive development of children. We provide a
14 safe environment for youth activities, such as an after-school program, summer day camps, youth Bible study,
15 choir and a career training program. There are arts and cultural activities for all ages. The exchange of stories,
16 wisdom, advice and experience build a shared understanding of family and community. This church-based
17 intergenerational community surrounds our youth with caring Christian adults who encourage, support and pray
18 for our youth while also holding them accountable. We are dedicated to the spiritual, emotional and social
19 growth of Camden Youth.
- 20 **First Friends of New Jersey and New York** - With the expansion of detention centers in New Jersey, the need to
21 provide advocacy, research and social services to detained and released detainees has increasingly grown. We
22 provide a link to the outside world by providing toll free lines (English & Spanish) in five different detention
23 facilities where more than 2000 individuals are detained and through visiting individuals in detention. Our Pen-
24 pal Program allows volunteers who cannot visit to write to detainees.
- 25 **The Neighborhood Center** – An urban outreach has served the Camden community since 1913. Today, they are
26 a community center that provides a healthy and nutritious lunch six days a week, day care, an after-school
27 program and an evening teen program. We focus on a two-generation approach to lift families out of poverty.
28 Our commitment is to provide a safe space for Academic achievement, Athletic accomplishment and a
29 flourishing Arts program. Our hope and vision for the next century of service is to create a community living
30 room.
- 31 **Pennington School** - A college preparatory institution affiliated with the Methodist Church, reflecting the
32 principles espoused by John Wesley and core values of Honor, Virtue and Humility. Students experience an
33 environment where talents and values are forged for making a positive difference in the world. We provide half
34 scholarships for students in grade 6 to 12.
- 35 **Ranch Hope/Victory House**- Provides ministry to troubled boys ages 9 to 16 ½ and Victory House provides
36 services to troubled girls between the ages of 14–18 years. We are faith-based and provide learning
37 environments for those whose needs can best be met through experiences outside their homes. They can obtain
38 or regain their long-term academic, behavioral and spiritual focus in our residential setting. Counseling, housing
39 and recreation is offered, as well as spiritual guidance, time to attend chapel services and Bible study. We are
40 licensed by the New Jersey State Department of Children and Families.
- 41 **The Maker's Place** - Is a new initiative of the United Methodists of Greater New Jersey. The goal is to connect
42 neighbors in Trenton with neighbors in central New Jersey and beyond, by opening a neighborhood resource

center that empowers poor and marginalized people in our capital city. The Maker’s Place is a site for local mission and ministry. Starting with initiatives centered on food and families, The Maker’s Place will cultivate transformative relationships that help people build bridges out of poverty and create a multiethnic and economically diverse community hub where all people can experience the wide welcome of God.

Submitted by,
Isabel R. Quezada, Chair, Board of Global Ministries

Centenary University, Warren County, Historic Site

Whereas, in the year 1866, the Newark Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church established a Board of Trustees to create Centenary Collegiate Institute to mark the one hundredth (centenary) anniversary of American Methodism.

Whereas, the legislature of the State of New Jersey granted a charter to the Newark Conference the following year for the establishment of any kind of institution for the promotion of learning.

Whereas, developing Centenary Collegiate Institute, as a four-year, degree-granting, college for women, later known as Centenary College for Women, was a groundbreaking initiative for women’s higher education within the bounds of the Newark Conference, the State of New Jersey and one of the first such institutions in the country.

Whereas, Puera Robison, one of the first ordained women in the Methodist Episcopal Church, was a teacher at Centenary in the 1920s.

Whereas, Centenary College served the educational needs for women from diverse ecumenical backgrounds and drew students from across the nation and globe.

Whereas, Centenary College, now known as Centenary University, has served the educational needs of students in rural Northwestern New Jersey for over 150 years and remains a dynamic institution for higher and learning for both men and women from Sussex, Morris and Warren Counties and beyond. Centenary serves students from all of NJ and the tri state area.

Whereas, The Historical and Archival Trustees of the Newark Conference conferred the status of Conference Historic Site on Centenary College in 1966.

Whereas, Centenary College hosted five sessions of the Northern New Jersey Annual Conference, including its final session in the year 2000.

Therefore, be it resolved, that Centenary University, Hackettstown, Warren County, New Jersey be recognized for its significant service to the cause of Christ within the bounds of the Greater New Jersey Conference of The United Methodist Church and its predecessors by honoring it as an Annual Conference Historic Site.

Rationale: Centenary University in Hackettstown New Jersey, formerly known as Centenary College, Centenary College for Women and Centenary Collegiate Institute, was born as a significant ministry of the Newark Annual Conference that championed women’s higher education within the bounds of our conference, Methodism as a whole and our nation. Through the influence of Methodism’s global mission network, Centenary also had international impact in women’s higher education. Over 150 years since its founding, Centenary, now an

1 independent coeducational institution, serves students from all areas of New Jersey and the tri state region.
2 Therefore, Centenary University deserves recognition as a Greater New Jersey Annual Conference Historic Site
3 for its significant contribution to women’s higher education within our conference, state and nation and for its
4 ongoing ministry of providing higher education within our conference and tri-state region.

5 Submitted by,
6 John Callanan, Chair of the Commission on Archives and History

7

8 **Alpine UMC, Closure**

9 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference expresses its thanksgiving for all the blessings
10 made possible by the clergy and laity who have contributed to the ministry and mission of the Alpine United
11 Methodist Church.

12 **Be it further resolved** that since all the approvals needed by Par. 2549.2b, 2016 Book of Discipline, have been
13 given, the annual conference declares that the church is closed and that the title to all real and personal,
14 tangible and intangible property of this local church is vested in the annual conference board of trustees, who
15 hold it in trust for the benefit of the annual conference.

16 **Be it further resolved** that in keeping with the provisions of ¶229 of the Book of Discipline, 2016 Edition, the
17 remaining members of the church may be transferred to a United Methodist Church of their choice.

18 **Be it further resolved** that the Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference shall be directed to
19 distribute net proceeds from the disposition of the assets as follows:

- 20 1) 10% Approximately to pay for conference expenses and billables
- 21 2) 10% to property for work and sale
- 22 3) 15% for future development and repurposing projects
- 23 4) 40% to harvest mission fund
- 24 5) 25% to Strategic Disciple Making Fund

25

26 **Be it further resolved** that in keeping with provisions of ¶2549.4 of the Book of Discipline, 2016 edition, all
27 deeds, records, legal papers and other official documents shall be maintained in permanent safekeeping with
28 the Conference Commission on Archives and History.

29 Submitted,
30 Gina Kim, Palisades District Superintendent

31

32 **Ewan UMC, Closure**

33 **Whereas** Ewan UMC in Harrison Township has voted to bring closure to over 100 years of ministry:

34 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference expresses its thanksgiving for all the blessings
35 made possible by the clergy and laity who have contributed to the ministry and mission of the Ewan United
36 Methodist Church in Harrison Township, New Jersey.

1 **Be it further resolved** that in keeping with provisions of ¶2549.2b of the Book of Discipline, 2016 edition, the
2 congregation is discontinued, and the assets of the church are transferred to the Trustees of the Greater New
3 Jersey Annual Conference.

4 **Be it further resolved** that in keeping with the provisions of ¶229 of the Book of Discipline, 2016 Edition, the
5 remaining members of the church may be transferred to a United Methodist Church of their choice.

6 **Be it further resolved** that the Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference shall be directed to
7 distribute net proceeds from the disposition of the assets as follows:

8 a) All outstanding loans and other obligations owed to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference shall be
9 repaid upon the sale of the property and liquidation of any other assets, and

10 b) Upon receipt, the remainder shall be directed to the Strategic Disciple Making Fund.

11 **Be it further resolved** that in keeping with provisions of ¶2549.4 of the Book of Discipline, 2016 edition, all
12 deeds, records, legal papers and other official documents shall be maintained in permanent safekeeping with
13 the Conference Commission on Archives and History.

14 **Rationale:** So that the congregation can transfer membership to other United Methodist Churches and bring
15 closure to this ministry site.

16 Submitted by,
17 Glenn J. Conaway, Delaware Bay District Superintendent

19 **Fairview Village UMC, Closure**

20 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference expresses its thanksgiving for all the blessings
21 made possible by the clergy and laity who have contributed to the ministry and mission of the Fairview Village
22 United Methodist, in Camden NJ.

23 **Be it further resolved** that, in keeping with provisions of Paragraph 2549.2b of the Book of Discipline, 2016
24 edition, the congregation is discontinued, and the assets of the church are transferred to the Trustees of the
25 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

26 **Be it further resolved** that in keeping with the provisions of ¶229 of the Book of Discipline, 2016 Edition, the
27 remaining members of the church may be transferred to a United Methodist Church of their choice.

28 **Be it further resolved** that the Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference shall be directed to
29 distribute net proceeds from the disposition of the assets as follows:

30 a) All outstanding loans and other obligations owed to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference shall be
31 repaid upon the sale of the property, and liquidation of any other assets, and

32 b) Upon receipt, the remainder shall be directed according to 2549.7 of the Book of Discipline, 2016
33 edition, and shall be invested with the Harvest Mission Fund for urban ministry and in particular the city
34 of Camden. These funds are to be directed through the grant making practices and procedures of GNJ
35 based on the Harvest Mission Fund policies.

1 **Be it further resolved** that, in keeping with provisions of Paragraph 2549.4 of the Book of Discipline, 2016
2 edition, all deeds, records, legal papers and other official documents shall be maintained in permanent
3 safekeeping with the Conference Commission on Archives and History.

4 Submitted by,
5 Myrna Bethke, Gateway South District Superintendent

6

7 **A Future With Hope, Inc., Statement of Relationship**

8 **Be it resolved** that The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church adopts the
9 Statement of Relationship with A Future With Hope, Inc.

10 The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (“GNJ”) recruits and develops
11 transformational leaders to make disciples and grow vital congregations to transform the world. This mission is
12 primarily carried out through the congregations that make up GNJ. GNJ’s primary commitment is to increasing
13 the vitality of all of our congregations.

14 GNJ also works with and through Vital Mission Partners. These partners compliment and extend the mission by
15 supporting and/or engaging with GNJ with any of the following:

- 16 • Recruit and develop leaders
- 17 • Make new and grow existing disciples
- 18 • Assist congregations to grow vitality
- 19 • Engage disciples in hands on mission
- 20 • Develop and manage Hope Centers to serve communities
- 21 • Lead community development and service ministries
- 22 • Raise funds to support the mission of GNJ

23 A Future With Hope, In (“AFWH”) is a Vital Mission Partner of United Methodists of Greater New Jersey and
24 serve as the mission arm of the organization. Formed in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy in 2012, AFWH has
25 the following vision: Hope emerges where residents, business, organizations, government and institutions work
26 together to heal communities.

27 During the relief phase in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, AFWH:

- 28 • Provided more than 50,000 meals
- 29 • Provided day and night shelter for more than 5,000 people
- 30 • Distributed more than 11,000 cleaning buckets, more than 3,000 health kits, tons of clothing and
31 other material supplies such as non-perishable food, heaters, blankets, etc.
- 32 • Assessed community needs and “mucked” out nearly 2,000 homes

33 During the recovery phase of Superstorm Sandy, AFWH:

- 34 • Rebuilt or repaired 273 homes
- 35 • Provided case management for 461 families
- 36 • Hosted 12,173 volunteers from 46 states and two countries for a labor value of \$8,095,413
- 37 • Received more than \$17 million in funding

1 Today, AFWH is focused on community renewal with an asset-based community development ministry that
2 creates Hope Centers.

3 AFWH’s community development ministry focuses in three areas:

- 4 1. Engaging congregations and communities in Communities of Hope training. Communities of Hope
5 trains congregations and communities in strategic planning, community organizing, systemic
6 change, and working inter culturally. At the end of the training, each Community of Hope team has a
7 community strategic plan to guide its work.
- 8 2. Developing, overseeing and resourcing Hope Centers. Hope Centers are congregations and
9 community centers affiliated with GNJ that identify and provide needed services within a
10 community.
- 11 3. Leading community economic development projects that include housing development and
12 repurposing church buildings.

13 Although GNJ and AFWH share missional purposes and goals and although both of them support conformity
14 with the high standards of service, each recognizes the other as an independent entity, making independent
15 governing decisions.

16 AFWH offers members of local churches of GNJ, opportunities to serve in mission in various ways including as
17 members of its Board of Trustees (“Board”). The persons elected as Trustees do not represent, nor are they
18 amenable to GNJ. The Trustees of AFWH operate autonomously from GNJ

19 The Bishop or the Bishop's designate will serve on the Board of AFWH with voice and vote. The Treasurer of the
20 Annual Conference will serve on the Board of AFWH as an ex officio member of the Board with voice but
21 without vote.

22 The President of AFWH shall provide a written report through the preconference journal to GNJ at its Annual
23 Conference session. The roster of the Board of AFWH will be included in GNJ’s Journal.

24 The Board of AFWH will recommend nominees to the GNJ nominations committee who will move the
25 nominations before the Annual Conference session who will elect Trustees of the AFWH Board. Nominees will
26 have the skills necessary to serve the Board and ensure a diverse Board.

27 GNJ encourages and recommends that local churches and individuals contribute to the financial support of
28 AFWH. This support is voluntary and without guarantee of amount or continuation. GNJ does not guarantee nor
29 assume any responsibility for the obligations of AFWH.

30 The legal and financial relationships between GNJ and AFWH shall also be governed and controlled through a
31 shared services agreement (“Services Agreement”) with GNJ's rights and obligations being represented through
32 its Council on Finance and Administration. The services agreement may be amended when deemed proper by
33 GNJ and AFWH. All provisions of the services agreement are to be construed based on the principle that each
34 party is independent of each other and separately responsible for its own actions.

35 A Future with Hope, Inc. will follow the Human Resources Policies of GNJ.

36 This Statement of Relationship shall be reviewed and amended as necessary by AFWH and GNJ upon
37 recommendation of their appropriate committees and Board. The date of approval by each of the parties shall
38 be stated on the agreement.

1 Note: This Relationship Statement is in conformance with the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church
2 (2016),

3 ¶633.4.b. (27) which calls on Annual Conferences “[t]o strive to ensure mutual representation between the
4 annual conference unit responsible for health and welfare ministries and each health and welfare institution
5 related to the annual conference where such representation is called for by mutual agreement of the institution
6 and the annual conference.”

7 Submitted by,
8 Chris Heckert, Chair, AFWH Board of Trustees

9

10 The Centenary Fund, Statement of Relationship

11 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church adopts the
12 Statement of Relationship with The Centenary Fund.

13 The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church ("GNJ") recruits and develops
14 transformational leaders to make disciples and grow vital congregations to transform the world. This mission is
15 primarily carried out through the congregations that make up GNJ. GNJ's primary commitment is to increase the
16 vitality of all our congregations.

17 GNJ also works with and through Vital Mission Partners. These partners compliment and extend the mission by
18 supporting and/or engaging with GNJ with any of the following:

- 19 • Recruit and develop leaders
- 20 • Make new and grow existing disciples
- 21 • Assist congregations to grow vitality
- 22 • Engage disciples in hands on mission
- 23 • Develop and manage Hope Centers to serve communities
- 24 • Lead community development and service ministries
- 25 • Raise funds to support the mission of GNJ

26 The Centenary Fund (the "Fund") is a Vital Mission Partner which extends the mission as identified below. A
27 charter was granted by the Legislature of the State of New Jersey on March 20, 1857 to the corporation named
28 The Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society of the Newark Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal
29 Church. It was reincorporated on March 15, 1972, as the Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society of the
30 Northern New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The charter was amended on July 19,
31 2000 renaming said corporation The Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society of the Greater New Jersey
32 Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

33 The purposes of the Fund are to acquire and receive by purchase, gift, devise or otherwise, real and personal
34 property; or administer, invest, reinvest, lease and convey the same as an Endowed Fund; and to provide
35 maximum income, consistent with the preservation of principal, for the support of the retired clergy who have
36 served appointments with annuity claim in GNJ, and for the support of the surviving spouses and dependent
37 children of deceased clergy who have served in GNJ and for no other purpose; provided, however, that the
38 Board of the Fund may establish and maintain an Annual Fund, supplemental to the Endowed Fund, the
39 principal and income of which may be distributed currently to the Fund's beneficiaries. Allocation of funds

1 received by the Board shall be in accordance with the direction of the donor or, in the absence of specific
2 directions received from the donor, as the Board in its sole discretion, may determine.

3 Although GNJ and the Fund share missional purposes and goals and although both support conformity with the
4 high standards of service, each recognizes the other as an independent entity, making independent governing
5 decisions.

6 The Fund offers members of local churches of GNJ, opportunities to serve in mission in various ways including as
7 members of its Board. The persons elected as Trustees do not represent, nor are they amenable to GNJ. The
8 Board of the Fund operates autonomously from GNJ.

9 The Bishop or the Bishop's designate will serve on the Board of Trustees of the Fund with voice and vote. The
10 Treasurer of the Annual Conference will serve on the Board of Trustees as an ex officio member of the Board
11 with voice but without vote.

12 The President of the Fund shall provide a written report through the preconference journal to GNJ at its annual
13 session. The roster of the Board of the Fund will be included in GNJ's Journal.

14 The Fund will recommend nominees to the GNJ nominations committee who will move the nominations before
15 the annual conference session who will elect Trustees of the Fund Board. Nominees will have the skills necessary
16 to serve the Board and ensure a diverse Board.

17 GNJ encourages and recommends that local churches and individuals contribute to the financial support of the
18 Fund. This support is voluntary and without guarantee of amount or continuation. GNJ does not guarantee nor
19 assume any responsibility for the obligations of the Fund. In like manner, the Fund does not guarantee nor
20 assume any responsibility for the obligations of GNJ.

21 The legal and financial relationships between GNJ and the Fund shall also be governed and controlled through a
22 shared services agreement ("Services Agreement") with GNJ's rights and obligations being represented through
23 its Council on Finance and Administration. The Services Agreement may be amended when deemed proper by
24 GNJ and the Fund. All provisions of the Services Agreement are to be construed based on the principle that each
25 party is independent of each other and separately responsible for its own actions.

26 The Centenary Fund will follow the Human Resources Policies of GNJ.

27 This Statement of Relationship shall be reviewed and amended as necessary by the Fund and GNJ upon
28 recommendation of their appropriate committees and Board. The date of approval by each of the parties shall
29 be stated on the agreement.

30 Note: This Relationship Statement is in conformance with the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church
31 (2016),

32 ¶633.4.b. (27) which calls on Annual Conferences "[t]o strive to ensure mutual representation between the
33 annual conference unit responsible for health and welfare ministries and each health and welfare institution
34 related to the annual conference where such representation is called for by mutual agreement of the institution
35 and the annual conference."

36 Submitted by,
37 David Wiley, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees

1 **Nehemiah Properties, Inc. Statement of Relationship**

2
3 **Be it resolved** that The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (“GNJ”) recruits
4 and develops transformational leaders to make disciples and grow vital congregations to transform the
5 world. This mission is primarily carried out through the congregations that make up GNJ. GNJ’s primary
6 commitment is to increase the vitality of all our congregations.

7 GNJ also works with and through Vital Mission Partners. These partners compliment and extend mission the
8 mission by supporting and or engaging with GNJ with any of the following:

- 9 • Recruit and develop leaders
- 10 • Make new and grow existing disciples
- 11 • Assist congregations to grow vitality
- 12 • Engage disciples in hands on mission
- 13 • Develop and manage Hope Centers to serve communities
- 14 • Lead community development and service ministries
- 15 • Raise funds to support the mission of GNJ

16
17 Nehemiah Properties, Inc. (hereinafter “Nehemiah”), assists the Conference, Board of Trustees, its
18 congregations and other United Methodist entities in selling, repurposing or developing property so that we
19 maximize mission opportunities through property and/or increase financial resources for mission.

20 Although the Annual Conference and Nehemiah share missional purposes and goals and although both support
21 conformity with the high standards of service, each recognizes the other as an independent entity, making
22 independent governing decisions.

23 Nehemiah offers members of local churches in GNJ opportunities to serve in mission in various ways including as
24 members of its Board of Trustees ("Board"). The persons elected as Trustees do not represent, nor are they
25 amenable to GNJ. The Trustees of Nehemiah act autonomously from GNJ.

26 The Bishop or the Bishop's designate will serve on the Board of Nehemiah with voice and vote. The Treasurer of
27 the Annual Conference will serve on the Board of Nehemiah as an ex officio member of the Board with voice but
28 without vote.

29 The President of Nehemiah shall provide a written report through the preconference journal to GNJ at its annual
30 session. The roster of the Board of Nehemiah will be included in GNJ’s Journal.

31 Nehemiah will recommend nominees to the GNJ nominations committee who will move the nominations before
32 the Annual Conference session who will elect Trustees of the Nehemiah Board. Nominees will have the skills
33 necessary to serve the Board and ensure a diverse Board.

34 GNJ encourages and recommends that local churches and individuals contribute to the financial support of
35 Nehemiah. This support is voluntary and without guarantee of amount or continuation. GNJ does not guarantee
36 nor assume any responsibility for the obligations of Nehemiah.

37 The legal and financial relationships between GNJ and Nehemiah shall also be governed and controlled through
38 a shared services agreement (“Services Agreement”) with GNJ's rights and obligations being represented
39 through its Council on Finance and Administration. The Services Agreement may be amended when deemed

1 proper by GNJ and Nehemiah. All provisions of the Services Agreement are to be construed based on the
2 principle that each party is independent of each other and separately responsible for its own actions.

3 Nehemiah Properties Inc. will follow the Human Resources Policies of GNJ.

4 It is understood that no church would participate in Nehemiah Properties, Inc.'s services without a vote of a
5 church conference presided by their District Superintendent.

6 This Statement of Relationship shall be reviewed and amended as necessary by Nehemiah and GNJ upon
7 recommendation of their appropriate committees and Board. The date of approval by each of the parties shall
8 be stated on the agreement.

9 Note: The Relationship Statement is required by The Discipline, (2016), Conference Board of Global Ministries,
10 ¶633.4.b.(27) "The annual conference and each health and welfare institution shall have a clearly stated
11 document that describes their legal and financial relationships; provided that no such document shall impose as
12 a party to it The United Methodist Church and/or the General Board of Global Ministries."

13 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church adopts the
14 Statement of Relationship with Nehemiah Properties, Inc.

15 Submitted by,
16 Clifford Still, Chair, Board of Trustees
17

18 **Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc., Statement of Relationship**

19 **Be it resolved** that The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church adopts the
20 Statement of Relationship with Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc.

21 The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church ("GNJ") recruits and develops
22 transformational leaders to make disciples and grow vital congregations to transform the world. This mission is
23 primarily carried out through the congregations that make up GNJ. GNJ's primary commitment is to increasing
24 the vitality of all of our congregations.

25 GNJ also works with and through Vital Mission Partners. These partners compliment and extend the mission by
26 supporting and/or engaging with GNJ with any of the following:

- 27 • Recruit and develop leaders
- 28 • Make new and grow existing disciples
- 29 • Assist congregations to grow vitality
- 30 • Engage disciples in hands on mission
- 31 • Develop and manage Hope Centers to serve communities
- 32 • Lead community development and service ministries
- 33 • Raise funds to support the mission of GNJ

34 The Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. is a Vital Mission Partner which extends the mission
35 as identified below.

36 The Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. have served persons of all ages in the Greater New
37 Jersey area in profound ways since it acquired Pinelands Center and Aldersgate Center in 1947 and 1964,

1 respectively. The mission of Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc., is to cultivate and catalyze
2 new generations of enthusiastic disciples for Jesus Christ who connect, grow and lead in their congregations and
3 communities for the transformation of the world.

4 The purpose of Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. include such activities as:

- 5 a) To own and operate The Pinelands Center and Aldersgate Centers, its residential camps, retreat and
6 conference facilities, and to create other ministries to enhance growth in the Christian faith and
7 outreach;
- 8 b) To assist local churches of the Greater New Jersey Annual-Conference of the United Methodist Church in
9 the planning of camp, conference and retreat ministries, either at the Aldersgate and Pinelands Center
10 or at other locations;
- 11 c) To communicate the need for and benefits of a camp, conference and retreat and other student's
12 ministries to local churches of the Conference, their congregations, and to the general public;
- 13 d) To develop programs and resources for youth, youth workers and local churches so that students
14 commit to being disciples of Jesus, become involved in leadership at all levels of the UMC, and develop a
15 sense of vocational calling.
- 16 e) To coordinate the resources and efforts of campus ministries throughout Greater New Jersey so that
17 new United Methodist campus ministries are added, existing campus ministries are growing, and college
18 students grow in faith and leadership.

19 Although GNJ and Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. share missional purposes and goals
20 and although both of them support conformity with the high standards of service, each recognizes the other as
21 an independent entity, making independent governing decisions.

22 Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. offers members of local churches of GNJ, opportunities
23 to serve in mission in various ways including as members of its Board of Trustees ("Board"). The persons elected
24 as Trustees do not represent, nor are they amenable to GNJ. The Trustees of Next Generation Ministries of
25 Greater New Jersey, Inc. operate autonomously from GNJ.

26 The Bishop or the Bishop's designate will serve on the Board of Next Generation Ministries of Greater New
27 Jersey, Inc. with voice and vote. The Treasurer of the Annual Conference will serve on the Board of Next
28 Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. as an ex officio member of the Board with voice but without
29 vote.

30 The President of Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. shall provide a written report through
31 the preconference journal to GNJ at its Annual Conference session. The roster of the Board of Next Generation
32 Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. will be included in GNJ's Journal.

33 Trustees are to be nominated by the Nominating Committee of the Greater NJ Annual Conference of the United
34 Methodist Church, in consultation with Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. and elected to
35 serve by the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

36 GNJ encourages and recommends that local churches and individuals contribute to the financial support of Next
37 Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. This support is voluntary and without guarantee of amount or
38 continuation. GNJ does not guarantee nor assume any responsibility for the obligations of Next Generation
39 Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc.

1 The legal and financial relationships between GNJ and Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc.
2 shall also be governed and controlled through a shared services agreement (“Services Agreement”) with GNJ's
3 rights and obligations being represented through its Council on Finance and Administration. The Services
4 Agreement may be amended when deemed proper by GNJ and Next Generation Ministries of Greater New
5 Jersey, Inc. All provisions of the Services Agreement are to be construed based on the principle that each party is
6 independent of each other and separately responsible for its own actions.

7 Next Generation Ministries of Greater New Jersey, Inc. will follow the Human Resources Policies of GNJ.

8 This Statement of Relationship shall be reviewed and amended as necessary by Next Generation Ministries of
9 Greater New Jersey, Inc. and GNJ upon recommendation of their appropriate committees and Board. The date
10 of approval by each of the parties shall be stated on the agreement.

11 Submitted by,
12 Brandon Cho, Chair, Board of Trustees

14 Shared Ministry Apportionment Formula 2020

16 **Whereas** the United Methodist Church continues our focus to grow Vital Congregations; and

18 **Whereas** in GNJ we remain focused on developing vital congregations and prayerfully do so through our
19 financial stewardship; and therefore

21 **Be it resolved** that the Shared Ministry percentage be set at 15.2% of a congregation’s Shared Ministry base for
22 the 2020 budget and that each year the Annual Conference approve the Shared Ministry percentage. The Shared
23 Ministry base be set at a congregation’s total expenses as follows:

- 24 1. Lines 41a-47 of Table II of The Local Church Statistical Report
 - 25 41a – Pastor Wages
 - 26 41b – Associate Pastor Wages
 - 27 41c – Deacon Wages
 - 28 42 – Parsonage Expenses
 - 29 43 – Accountable Reimbursements
 - 30 44 – Other Cash Allowances
 - 31 45 – Staff Compensation
 - 32 46 – Church Program Expenses
 - 33 47 – Church Operating Expenses
- 34 2. Billed amounts for prior year Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP), Clergy Retirement Security Program
35 (CRSP), Health Insurance, Property Insurance and Workers Comp

36 **Rationale:** This existing formula uses the present Shared Ministry base calculation but prevents automatic
37 percentage increases and requires GNJ to set budgets that are within a fixed percentage of the Shared Ministry
38 base. In effect, will reduce each congregation’s shared ministry percentage for 2020.

40 Submitted by,
41 Robert Dietz, Chair, Council on Finance and Administration

1 **Shared Ministries Plan**

2 Be it resolved that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference approves the adoption of the Shared Ministries
3 Plan for 2020, the details of which are provided on the following pages.

4 Submitted by,

5 Council on Finance and Administration

2020 SHARED MINISTRY PLAN			Approved	Approved Revised	Recommended
INCOME:		2018	2019	2019	2020
		Actual	Budgeted	Budgeted	Budgeted
SM Base		N/A	67,250,000	67,250,000	67,250,000
Shared Ministry Percentage		N/A	16.1%	15.6%	15.2%
Shared Ministry Apportioned		N/A	10,827,250	10,491,000	10,222,000
Expected SM Giving Rate		N/A	91.5%	91.0%	92.0%
Expected Available SM		9,716,715	9,906,934	9,546,810	9,404,240
Investment		70,000	72,800	72,800	75,712
Centenary Fund		100,000	103,000	103,000	106,090
Shared Services Income		446,929	437,750	437,750	450,883
	TOTAL INCOME	10,333,644	10,520,484	10,160,360	10,036,925
EXPENSE:					
CLERGY SUPPORT					
A. District Superintendents Salary, Benefits & Office Exp.		1,645,827	1,741,549	1,691,549	1,795,703
B. Episcopal Fund		382,545	374,064	374,064	361,305
C. Conference share of Bishop's housing		28,135	28,135	28,135	28,979
D. Annuity Health Insurance & Benefits		2,088,112	1,896,112	1,886,112	1,569,712
E. Equitable Compensation		123,348	158,400	158,400	130,100
F. Conference Board of Ordained Ministry admin expenses		40,825	41,163	41,163	40,305
G. Bridge Fund		28,878	67,200	35,000	40,000
	TOTAL CLERGY SUPPORT	4,337,670	4,306,623	4,214,423	3,966,104
ADMINISTRATION					
A. Conference Council on Finance and Administration exp.		2,162	3,840	3,840	3,760
B. Conference Staff		1,072,184	1,048,584	1,003,584	1,042,507
C. Administrative Expenses		425,125	433,051	423,051	413,129
D. Conf. Sessions (3 days)		230,862	231,831	201,831	212,002
E. Episcopal Area Office Supplement		141,003	141,003	138,003	138,065
F. Bishop's Discretionary Fund		9,600	9,600	4,400	9,400
G. Jurisdictional conf. admin apportionments & related exp.		36,480	36,480	36,480	35,720
H. General Administration Fund		153,387	149,987	149,987	145,906
I. Interdenominational Cooperation Fund		34,121	33,366	33,366	32,457
	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	2,104,924	2,087,742	1,994,542	2,032,946
WORLD SERVICE AND CONFERENCE BENEVOLENCE					
A. World Service Fund		1,291,766	1,263,131	1,263,131	1,228,763
B. Connectional Ministry Staff		911,026	954,045	820,045	992,504
C. Administrative Expenses		190,709	196,800	196,800	230,500
D. Connectional Table		785,135	884,433	784,433	784,433
E. Supplemental Strategic Salary Support		135,000	134,400	130,400	131,600
	TOTAL WORLD SERVICE/CONF.BEN.	3,313,636	3,432,809	3,194,809	3,367,800
OTHER APPORTIONED FUNDS					
A. Black College Fund		174,036	170,177	170,177	165,547
B. Africa University Fund		38,948	38,085	38,085	37,049
C. Ministerial Education Fund		388,299	426,627	426,627	415,019
	TOTAL OTHER FUNDS	601,283	634,889	634,889	617,616
Resolve a complaint resolution				110,000	
	TOTAL EXPENSE	10,357,513	10,462,062	10,148,662	9,984,466
	SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(23,869)	58,421	11,698	52,459

Conference Benevolence Budget		
Calendar Year 2020 Budget		
	2019	2020
	Approved	Budgeted
Board of Church and Society	2,218	3,105
Discipleship	160,547	160,547
Board of Discipleship	887	887
Camps & Conferences	159,660	159,660
Global Ministries	15,967	16,631
Board of Global Ministries	2,218	3,105
Disaster Response	3,992	4,656
Mission School	9,757	8,870
Board Higher Education & Campus Ministry	57,655	61,203
Board of Laity	11,531	11,531
Commission on Archives and History	6,209	7,317
Christian Unity/Inter. Concerns	15,966	15,079
Commission on Christian Unity/Inter. Concerns	3,548	4,435
NJ Council of Churches	12,418	10,644
Commission on Religion and Race	7,096	7,096
Commission on Small Membership Church	443	443
Commission on the Status and Role of Women	4,435	4,435
Committee on Disability Concerns	443	443
Ethnic Local Church Concerns	45,237	43,906
Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns	887	443
Korean American National Plan	15,966	17,740
Strengthening the Black Church Plan	10,644	9,757
National Hispanic Plan	17,740	15,966
Committee on Native American Ministry	443	443
Council on Young Adults	8,870	8,870
Youth Ministry	30,601	26,610
Council of Youth	10,644	8,870
IGNITE	19,957	17,740
United Methodist Men	443	443
Sub-Total - Conference Sch. D Benevolence Budget	368,104	368,102
Community Outreach Grants	161,655	161,434
Connectional Table	14,787	11,915
Congregational Development	37,697	35,480
Emerging Needs	15,079	15,966
District Resourcing	110,875	115,310
Communications	17,740	17,740
Relay	58,496	58,486
	89	
Grand Total	784,433	784,433

1 **Policy Recommendations**

2
3 **Whereas** The Book of Discipline ¶ 608.4; 610.1b; 612.1; 612.5 a)(4) gives CFA the ability to issue fiscal policies.

4
5 **Be it resolved** that the Council on Finance and Administration recommends to amend GNJ policies to include the
6 following.

7 **Bank Accounts**

8 No GNJ staff person may open a bank account for any aspect of ministry within GNJ without the approval of the
9 council on finance and administration. All GNJ ministry related bank accounts overseen, supervised, influenced
10 or managed by a GNJ staff person will be audited by a CFA approved auditor.

11 Any group of GNJ clergy together or with laity who desire to open a new bank account that is not part of a
12 congregation's ministry shall seek the district superintendent's approval and when a superintendent is involved,
13 the bishop's approval. When there is a request to open a bank account, the district superintendent shall notify
14 the cabinet and the GNJ treasurer.

15 **Grants, Loans and Bequests**

16 The conference treasurer and district superintendent are to receive prompt notification from the pastor or
17 appropriate church official, within 30 days of the receipt of any external (non-conference) grants, loans and
18 bequests received by a region, district or congregation. The treasurer, superintendent and connectional
19 ministries director will be sent copies of all documents and terms of these external grants.

20 Only the Director of connectional ministries in consultation with the grants committee can amend any of the
21 terms or conditions of the local church grants. Specifically, only the director of connectional ministries can
22 authorize to change the recipient and/or manager of local church grants.

23 **Complaints and Just Resolutions**

24 Any resolution of a supervisory or misconduct matter involving a GNJ clergy person or GNJ official that has
25 financial implications shall be reviewed by the council on finance and administration and any resolutions that
26 presently or in the future may require GNJ to provide financial payments or settlement shall be approved by the
27 council on finance and administration.

28 **GNJ Emails, Documents, Files, Computers, Tablets and Phones**

29 All electronic documents, files and emails for GNJ staff including district superintendents' computers, tablets and
30 phones are the property of the conference. As such, these electronic materials are to remain intact, never to be
31 deleted from the conference server without the approval of the Bishop, treasurer and appropriate district
32 superintendent. When a staff person or district superintendent completes employment or an appointment with
33 GNJ, computers, tablets and phones are not to be erased clean but turned in with their documents.

34 **Falsifying Information on GNJ Documents or Legal Documents**

35 No district superintendent, GNJ staff member, committee, clergy person, lay leader or local church is to falsify
36 any information on documents.

37 *The Book of Discipline ¶ 424.2 gives the Cabinet the ability to set policies to include the following.*

38 **Clergy Gifts**

39 Any GNJ clergy person or family member who receives a gift \$1000 or more in cash, property or goods, or \$2500
40 or more over a 10 year period of time, from a current or former member or attendee of a congregation to which
41 he or she is or has been appointed shall report the amount of the gift to the SPRC chairperson and the district
42 superintendent, who will inform the cabinet of the gifts. The cabinet will follow up as appropriate.

1 Any congregation that considers giving a cash, property, or other type of gift from their budget or reserves in the
2 amount of \$2500 or more shall report to the district superintendent their intention to determine if a special
3 charge conference should be held to treat such a gift as income based on IRS guidelines. Congregations may
4 receive an offering to thank or honor a clergy person as a special gift and provide the clergy person with one
5 check in the amount that was received from individuals.

6 **Complaints and Just Resolutions**

7 The general nature of all complaints filed against clergy will be shared with the chairperson of the Board of
8 Ordained Ministry along with the disposition of the complaint, including any just resolution. The chairperson of
9 the board will inquire yearly of the bishop the progress on just resolutions until a resolution has been fulfilled.

10 The cabinet shall maintain a log of all complaints and resolutions of the complaint and the dean of the cabinet
11 shall share with a new dean of the cabinet a log of all complaints and just resolutions with the status of those
12 complaints and just resolutions. Further the dean of the cabinet will share with a new bishop a log of complaints
13 and just resolutions and status of those complaints and just resolutions.

14 Outgoing bishops are strongly urged to share with their successor each complaint handled during her/his tenure
15 and the status of those complaints and just resolutions.

16 **Cabinet Documents**

17 Superintendents are not to share cabinet documents or confidential clergy information with other clergy or laity
18 unless approved by the cabinet. Any clergy person or lay person who receives cabinet documents that are not
19 released by the cabinet or bishop or documents that contain information about another clergy person from any
20 superintendent or GNJ staff member shall notify the bishop immediately.

21 **GNJ Appointments and Assignments**

22 Any clergy person or congregation who believes they are not appropriately represented by their district
23 superintendent or asked to do things by their district superintendent that seem inappropriate, is to contact the
24 bishop immediately.

25 No district superintendent or GNJ staff member may unilaterally assign her/himself as the representative for the
26 conference to GNJ or outside entities unless assigned by The Book of Discipline, or the bishop or elected by the
27 cabinet or elected by the annual conference.

28 Submitted by,

29 Robert Dietz, Chair, Council on Finance and Administration

30

31 **Pension and Health Benefits**

32

33 **Be it resolved** that the Past Service Annuity Rate for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 be set at \$699 per
34 approved service year prior to January 1, 1982.

35

36 **Be it further resolved**

37 1. That effective January 1, 2020, the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference will continue to sponsor CRSP
38 for full-time, three-quarter time and one-half time clergy and continue to sponsor UMPIP for those
39 clergy in one-quarter time appointments.

2. That contributions for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 for the Clergy Retirement Security Program for full-time and less-than-full-time (¾-time & ½-time) clergy and for Conference sponsored UMPIP Plan for ¼-time clergy, be set at 12.5% of plan compensation.
3. That contributions for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 for the Comprehensive Protection Plan be set at 3% of plan compensation for full-time and ¾-time ordained clergy, and for Conference Sponsored UMLife Options for ½-time ordained clergy to be set 2% of plan compensation. That local churches may sponsor ¼-time ordained clergy and ¾-time part-time local pastors in UMLife Options.
4. That the starting date for retirement payments for new retirees commences July 1, 2019, unless otherwise stated.
5. That grants approved in lieu of pension to Bernard Shropshire are continued through 2020.
 - a. That the following members of the former Southern Conference be grand-parented in terms of eligibility for conference-paid health benefits. Specifically, the following persons, upon becoming annuitants with at least 10 years of service, will be eligible for Conference-paid health benefits: Edward F. Conway, Ruth Propert Taenzer, Jae Jeong Shim, Mildred E. Bender, Charles H. Mayer, J. Evans Dodds, Eileen Murphy, Nicholas Connolly, Daniel Gueh, William R. Hess and Charles D. Mitchell.
 - b. That Robert L. Webster and family be eligible for Conference-paid health benefits upon retirement and receiving an annuity.
6. That Rev. Patricia Bruger’s actual years of appointment and service at CUMAC/ECHO, INC. from June 16, 1995 through retirement be fully credited for the purpose of calculation of service year credits to determine allocation of pro-rated health insurance premium payment responsibility upon retirement.
7. That the following clergy be grand-parented to five years “under appointment through the Conference immediately prior to retirement” to meet eligibility requirements for health benefits in retirement, rather than the seven years as approved at the 2011 Annual Conference meeting (Paragraph 3 under Eligibility, p. 365 of the 2011 Conference Journal). Specifically, the following persons, if, at the time of retirement, meet all other eligibility requirements for health insurance in retirement, shall be grand-parented under this provision: Rev. Vena Murphy, Rev. William Jacobsen, Rev. Christina Zito and Rev. Sherrie Dobbs Johnson.
8. That clergy participants in the Conference Health Insurance Plan who have expenses associated with the adoption of a child will be reimbursed up to \$10,000 per child upon the presentation of the necessary documentation.
9. The Greater NJ Annual Conference (the “Conference”) adopts the following resolutions relating to rental/housing allowances for active, retired, terminated, or disabled clergypersons of the Conference:

Be it resolved that an amount equal to 100% of the pension, severance, or disability payments received from plans authorized under *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (the “*Discipline*”), which includes all such payments from the Wespeth Benefits and Investments, during the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, by each active, retired, terminated, or disabled clergyperson who is or was a member of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each such clergyperson; and

That the pension, severance, or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance designation applies will be any pension, severance, or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized under the *Discipline*, including such payments from Wespeth and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a Wespeth plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the *Discipline*, that result from any service a clergyperson rendered to this Conference or that an active, a retired, a terminated, or a disabled clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the clergyperson to perform services related to the

1 ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under,
2 such a plan, annuity, or fund for such an active, a retired, a terminated, or a disabled clergyperson's pension,
3 severance, or disability plan benefit as part of his or her gross compensation.
4

5 NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a clergyperson's gross income in any year for
6 federal (and, in most cases, state) income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section 107(2),
7 and regulations there under, to the least of: (a) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the
8 clergyperson's employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing
9 resolutions) for such year; (b) the amount actually expended by the clergyperson to rent or provide a home in
10 such year; or (c) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage),
11 plus the cost of utilities in such year. Each clergyperson or former clergyperson is urged to consult with his or her
12 own tax advisor to determine what deferred compensation is eligible to be claimed as a housing allowance
13 exclusion.
14

- 15 1. That clergy retiring before July 1, 2020 be reimbursed for one-time moving expenses up to \$5,000.00
16 incurred while moving from church-owned housing to personal housing. This reimbursement is limited
17 to actual moving expenses, not to include moving company packing costs. The same benefits and
18 restrictions shall also apply to a surviving spouse moving out of the parsonage upon the death of a
19 pastor while in active service in the Annual Conference, and to those entering disabled relationships.
- 20 2. That the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits be authorized to make modifications to the
21 current Insurance Plan as the health care market demands. In addition, modifications to the Plan that
22 could reduce premium costs to local churches and Annual Conference are to be studied and enacted as
23 the Board determines appropriate. These changes might include increased participant deductibles, co-
24 payments, greater use of generic medications, and other avenues of cost saving and sharing. Such
25 changes will be subject to prior review of CFA and the Cabinet.
- 26 3. That the Guidelines for Health Insurance Participation, below, be approved and upon approval printed in
27 the 2019 Conference Journal and Yearbook.
28

29 Submitted by,
30 William Wilson Sr., Chair, Board of Pensions
31

32 Clergy Equitable Compensation for 2020

33 **Be it resolved** that the Annual Conference adopt the following recommendation for minimum salary for persons
34 under full-time appointment in the local church effective January 1, 2020:

35 a) a) Elder and Deacon in Full Connection	\$ 46,887
36 b) b) Provisional & Associate Members	\$ 43,605
37 c) c) Full time Local Pastor	\$ 41,261

38 Any changes in clergy minimum salaries related to a change of clergy status through ordination, commissioning
39 or licensing in 2019 will become effective as of January 1, 2020.

40 These salaries apply to clergy (elder, provisional elder, provisional deacon, deacon in full connection, associate
41 members and local pastor) serving in full-time appointments. The years of service record for each clergy can be
42 found on the Clergy Service Record at the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and it does not include

1 part time appointments or a time of leave of absence. The salaries of Provisional and Associate Members and
2 Full Time Local Pastors are determined as a percentage of the salary of the Elder and Deacon in Full Connection.

3 The minimum equitable salary for $\frac{3}{4}$ time pastoral appointments shall be $\frac{3}{4}$ of the required minimum in the
4 pastor's salary. The minimum equitable salary for $\frac{1}{2}$ time pastoral appointments shall be $\frac{1}{2}$ of the required
5 minimum. All appointments less than $\frac{1}{2}$ shall be considered $\frac{1}{4}$ time appointments for pension purposes and the
6 salaries shall be determined by the District Superintendent in consultation with the pastor and the local church.

7 Each pastor's salary is determined by the local church or by the charge in consultation with the district
8 superintendent, as long as minimum salary is met. Each Pastor (Staff) Parish Relations Committee takes into
9 consideration the pastor's experience, education, leadership, health and dental insurance coverage, social
10 security and family needs, when determining the pastor's salary.

11 All full-time pastors shall be provided with a parsonage or a housing/rental allowance as part of their
12 compensation package.

13 All full-time pastors shall have an accountable reimbursement expense line item in the church budget to cover
14 mileage for pastoral work, continuing education and other professional ministerial expenses as allowed by the
15 IRS. This reimbursable amount shall be at least \$2,500. For the churches that are receiving Equitable
16 Compensation support, their accountable reimbursement expense line should not exceed \$2,500.

17 All full-time pastors shall be entitled to receive the following vacation per appointment year:

18 Minimum 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays) of vacation for the first 10 years of full-time service, after that it is 5
19 weeks (including 5 Sundays).

20 Vacation time shall not be cumulative from year to year. Local churches may not consider time spent in
21 leadership responsibilities in conference activities as vacation time. This includes Course of Study, Local Pastors
22 Licensing School, Camps, Annual Conference-related Ministries and other education and renewal as required by
23 The Book of Discipline (§1350.2).
24

Minimum Equitable Salaries

Salaries for 2020

Years of Service	Clergy in Full Connection	Provisional & Associate Members	Full Time Local Pastors
0	\$46,887	\$43,605	\$41,261
1	\$47,206	\$43,901	\$41,541
2	\$47,524	\$44,197	\$41,821
3	\$47,842	\$44,493	\$42,101
4	\$48,160	\$44,789	\$42,381
5	\$48,479	\$45,085	\$42,661
6	\$48,797	\$45,381	\$42,941
7	\$49,115	\$45,677	\$43,221
8	\$48,393	\$45,006	\$42,586
9	\$49,752	\$46,269	\$43,781
10	\$50,070	\$46,565	\$44,061
11	\$50,388	\$46,861	\$44,341
12	\$50,706	\$47,157	\$44,621
13	\$51,024	\$47,453	\$44,902
14	\$51,343	\$47,749	\$45,182
15	\$51,661	\$48,045	\$45,462

- 1
- 2 Each pastor’s salary is determined by the local church or by the charge in consultation with the district
3 superintendent, as long as minimum salary is met. Each Pastor (Staff) Parish Relations Committee takes into
4 consideration the pastor’s experience, education, leadership, health and dental insurance coverage, social
5 security and family needs, when determining the pastor’s salary.
- 6 The years of service record for each clergy can be found on the Clergy Service Record at the General Board of
7 Pension and Health Benefits, and it does not include part time appointments or a time of leave of absence.
- 8 Submitted by,
9 Christine Day, Chair, Commission on Equitable Compensation

10

11

2019 Health Insurance Guidelines, Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits

The mission of the Conference Health Insurance Plan (the Plan) is to provide primary health insurance coverage to full-time full, provisional and associate ministerial members and full-time local pastors of the Annual Conference and to eligible full-time lay employees.

The Plan provides secondary health insurance coverage for retirees who are receiving Medicare which requires both Medicare Parts A & B for coverage. For those who have retired early and are not yet eligible for Medicare, primary health insurance coverage is through the same plan as those in active ministry. The Plan is a non-vested current benefit for active and retired pastors and lay employees.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Clergy Eligibility:

- (a) Active clergy under full-time Episcopal appointment to serve a local church including Elders, Deacons, Local Pastors, Associate Members, and Provisional Members
- (b) Those under full-time appointment as district superintendents, clergy staff members of Conference councils and boards, treasurers, bishop's assistants, or directors of parish development, general evangelists and campus ministers for whom the Conference provides pension contribution to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) who are:
 - a full elder or associate member (other than a missionary) (Book of Discipline ¶344.1a(1))
 - or an ordained clergyperson from another annual conference or another Methodist denomination (Book of Discipline ¶344.1a(1), ¶346.1)
 - an ordained clergyperson from another denomination if not covered by the group health plan of the denomination to which he/she belongs. (Book of Discipline ¶344.1a(1), ¶346.2)
- (c) Enrollment in the Active health insurance plan must be completed within 31 days of appointment
- (d) Waiving coverage in the Plan - Contact the Benefits Specialist for required documents. Documents must be completed and returned within enrollment deadline periods
 - within 31 days of initial eligibility; or
 - once per year during the Conference open enrollment period for the following January 1; or
 - within 31 days of an open enrollment period for a spouse's plan; beginning January 1, 2016.
 - see PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – ACTIVE for Waived Coverage Fees.
- a. Participant must certify that:
 - The plan is through a former employment or a spouse's current or former employment. Proof of such coverage is required.
 - The plan is not a marketplace plan. Under these guidelines and marketplace rules, Full-time clergy are ineligible for any Premium Tax Credit.
- b. Re-admittance to the plan is during any open enrollment period, or within 31 days of a Special Enrollment event (loss of other coverage, employment status change, divorce, death of a spouse, or gain a dependent).
- (e) Clergy in any category under Episcopal appointment to full-time service in an Extension Ministry [¶344.1a (3)(4); 344.1b; 344.1d; 331.1a,b; 326.1; 331.8; 346.1; 346.2], may enroll in the Plan within 31 days of initial appointment. Late enrollments are permitted only during the Annual Election Period or in the case of a Special Enrollment event - loss of other coverage, employment status change, divorce, death of a spouse, or gain a dependent.
- (f) Part-time clergy in any category are not eligible for coverage through the Plan.

- 1 **2. Ministerial members who are placed on Medical Leave status by the Conference** shall continue enrollment
2 in the Plan regardless of whether they are eligible for Medicare disability benefits. The Conference Plan
3 remains primary until the participant becomes eligible for Medicare due to disability, at which time the
4 Conference Plan becomes secondary to Medicare. Beginning January 1, 2016, participants obtaining Medicare
5 due to disability, may choose to remain in the Active Health Plan as their secondary insurance, or to enroll in
6 the United HealthCare Retiree Plan (Medicare Advantage Plan). The premiums for ministerial members on
7 Conference Medical Leave (and their enrolled family) will be paid by the Conference with Conference Board
8 of Pension and Health Benefits funds.
- 9 **3. Clergy in Retired Status** may be in the Plan if they were under appointment through the Conference for the
10 seven years immediately prior to retirement. Retired participants and spouses age 65 and over are required
11 to carry Medicare Part A and Part B in order to be eligible for Conference insurance in retirement. Monthly
12 premium for Part A if any, and for Part B is a personal expense. A Retiree (and eligible dependents) not
13 enrolling (waiving coverage) in the Plan at the time of retirement, or who left the plan as a retiree, may enroll
14 during any open enrollment period, or within 31 days of a Special Enrollment event (including but not limited
15 to voluntary or involuntary loss of coverage) (refer to Clergy Eligibility #1, subparagraph 1d). For dependent
16 eligibility, see #5 under “Eligibility.”
- 17 **4. Any of the following lay persons** are eligible to enroll in the Plan upon application within 31 days of hire. Late
18 enrollments are permitted only during the Annual Election Period as allowed by the Plan, or in the case of a
19 Special Enrollment Event - loss of other coverage, employment status change, divorce, death of a spouse, or
20 gain a dependent.
- 21 (a) Lay employees of the Conference or any of its subsidiary agencies working a minimum of 1,560 hours
22 annually (30 hrs. per week)
- 23 (b) Full-time (minimum of 1,560 hours annually) lay employees of any church in the Conference that adopts
24 the program, completes a Salary Paying Unit Sub-Adoption Agreement and whose church enrolls a
25 minimum of 75% of its full-time lay employees
- 26 (c) Retired lay employees of the Conference, local churches, Conference-affiliated UM institutions, the
27 Episcopal office, units of the Conference whose lay employees are not on the Conference payroll and the
28 surviving spouse of such employees, may participate in the Plan provided they have received or will
29 receive a UMPIP benefit from Wespath Benefits and Investments through their salary-paying unit.
- 30 **5. Dependents eligible for coverage** in the Conference Plan are limited to the spouse, children who are qualified
31 adult dependents, and children who are under age 26. Dependents may be added only during the Annual
32 Election Period as allowed by the Plan, or in the case of a Special Enrollment event - loss of other coverage,
33 employment status change, divorce, death of a spouse, or gain a dependent. If an annuitant marries
34 (remarries), coverage of spouse and/or children may be available and premium for dependents is at the
35 retiree’s expense.
- 36

1 **PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – ANNUITANTS**

2
3 The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall establish rates of premiums for the participants, based
4 upon the premiums charged by the insurance carrier(s).

5 Unless it has already been stated above under Eligibility, the Conference shall pay the premiums for all enrolled
6 annuitants of the Conference, lay or ministerial, from appropriate funds, except that:

- 7 A. **A clergy person age 65 or older**, becoming an annuitant on or after July 1, 2002, who has less than 20
8 approved years with annuity credit in (CRSP), the Clergy Retirement Security Program (includes prior
9 plans), with Wespeth Benefits and Investments, shall, in order to receive health insurance coverage
10 under the Plan, be responsible for the payment of a pro-rated share of his/her Plan premium. Such
11 share shall be 5% times the number of full years by which such years are short of 20. Monthly premium
12 for Part A if any, and for Part B (both required) is a personal expense.
- 13 B. **A lay person age 65 or older**, who has received or will receive a UMPIP benefit on or after July 1, 2002,
14 who has less than 20 approved years with pension credit in UMPIP, the United Methodist Personal
15 Investment Plan (includes prior plan), of Wespeth Benefits and Investments, shall, in order to receive
16 health insurance coverage under the Plan, be responsible for the payment of a pro-rated share of
17 his/her premium. Such share shall be 5% times the number of full years by which such years are short
18 of 20. Monthly premium for Part A if any, and for Part B (both required) is a personal expense.
- 19 C. The Active premium for an **annuitant under the age of 65 commencing benefits**
- 20 1. **on or before July 1, 2003** shall be paid by the Conference subject to paragraphs A and B
21 above until the annuitant reaches age 65.
 - 22 2. **after July 1, 2003**, the Conference shall contribute an amount equal to the coverage cost of
23 a Medicare-eligible annuitant, subject to paragraphs A and B above, and the annuitant shall
24 be responsible for the remainder of the Active premium until the annuitant reaches age 65.
25 Premium responsibility will be frozen at the calendar year 2014 level for annuitants retiring
26 prior to July 1, 2014.
 - 27 3. **on or after July 1, 2014**, the Conference shall contribute an amount equal to the coverage
28 cost of a Medicare-eligible annuitant, subject to paragraphs A and B above, and the
29 annuitant shall be responsible for an annual fixed amount determined in the year of
30 retirement until the annuitant reaches age 65.
- 31 D. **Extension Clergy serving approved Conference Advance Specials** in the geographic bounds of the
32 Annual Conference who are not eligible to enroll in the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP)
33 will be credited, solely for the years appointed to that Advance Special, with actual years of
34 appointment and service to the Conference, for the purpose of calculation of service year credits to
35 determine allocation of pro-rated premium payment responsibility upon retirement.

36
37 **PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – PRE-ANNUITY RETIREES**

38 The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall establish rates of premiums for the participants, based
39 upon the premiums charged by the carrier.

40 For those who have retired early and are not collecting an annuity, the retired enrollee is responsible for the full
41 Active premium payment until they reach annuity age.

1 **PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – ACTIVE**

2
3 The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall establish rates of premiums for the participants based
4 upon the premiums charged by the carrier.

5 Unless it has already been stated above under Eligibility, the Conference shall pay the premiums for all enrolled
6 active participants, lay or ministerial, from appropriate funds, except that:

7 A. Each church shall pay the premium(s) or Waived Participation Fee(s) (which is equal to the blended premium)
8 of each of its full-time appointed clergy (including clergy spouse and dependent children if enrolled) who are
9 either a full, provisional, or associate member of the Conference or a local pastor.

10 1. The salary paying unit shall also be responsible for remitting premium for its lay employees who are
11 enrolled in the Plan.

12 2. Plan participants are to pay 2% of their cash salary to their own salary paying unit as their share of the
13 premium the employer (church) pays on their behalf.

14 3. In the case of clergy couples the following will apply:

15 a. Each spouse shall contribute 1% of their salary to every salary paying unit that is paying health
16 premium, regardless of percentage of health premium paid

17 B. Each eligible enrollee, whose fees are not paid as provided above, shall pay his or her own premiums either
18 directly or with employer participation. In every case, the individual enrollee is responsible for seeing that
19 payment of his or her own premium is made if the party with PRIME responsibility fails to make the payment.

20 **CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE AFTER CERTAIN EVENTS**

21 **A. Voluntary and Involuntary Termination** - If a person’s participation in the Plan ceases due to voluntary
22 or involuntary termination of Conference membership or employment or discharge or removal from the
23 Annual Conference, Continuation Coverage for health insurance may be available through application to
24 HealthFlex.

25 **B. Loss of Dependent Status** - If a dependent’s participation in the Plan ceases due to divorce or to
26 attaining the limiting age, Continuation Coverage may be available through application to HealthFlex.

27 **C. Medical Leave** - See #2 under Eligibility.

28 **D. Leave of Absence** (§353 and §354) - Clergy placed on voluntary leave of absence (personal, family, or
29 transitional) or involuntary leave of absence may continue in the Plan for a period of twelve months,
30 provided they pay the premiums. Continuation Coverage for up to an additional 12 months may be
31 available through application to HealthFlex. Leave of absence is not an appointment, causes a break in
32 appointment years, and does not accrue annuity credit towards health benefits in retirement.

33 **E. Sabbatical Leave** (§351) Clergy placed on sabbatical leave may continue in the Plan for a period of
34 twelve months, provided they pay the premiums. Continuation coverage may be available through
35 application to HealthFlex. Sabbatical leave is not a break in appointment years for the purposes of
36 health benefits in retirement.

37 **F. Death** - Surviving spouses of clergy members are subject to the same rules (see Eligibility Guidelines #1
38 and 3) as the clergy member. Surviving spouses of lay employees of the Conference and District offices
39 are subject to the same rules (see Eligibility Guideline #4 c) as the lay employee.

40 **ADMINISTRATION**

41 All concerns, issues, requests, etc., relating to premiums, benefits, coverage (including voluntary termination of
42 coverage, additions or deletions to policies) and benefits at retirement must be “in writing” from the Plan
43 participant to be considered official. Such correspondence, concerns, or requests for changes in coverage must

1 be sent to the Plan Administrator or his/her designated coordinator. Commitments or resolutions of issues must
2 come in writing directly from the Plan Administrator or his/her designated coordinator.

3 The Benefits Officer and Administrator for the Conference Plan is the Conference Treasurer/Director of
4 Administrative Services. The Benefits Officer shall be a member of the Conference Board of Pension and Health
5 Benefits without a vote. He/she shall be responsible for promptly enrolling all eligible persons, for collecting all
6 amounts due from churches, agencies or individuals for participation in the Plan, for arranging for their prompt
7 deposit in a Conference account, for checking all billings from the Insurance Carrier to certify their completeness
8 and accuracy and for making proper remittances on schedule for the Plan; and such Officer shall delete from the
9 Plan any enrollee whose premium is not paid by the end of the month for which the premium is due. Termination
10 is effective the first day of the month for which no payment has been received.

11 Submitted by,
12 Christine Day, Chair, Commission on Equitable Compensation
13

14 **2019 Standards for Parsonages**

15
16 **Be it resolved** that the following recommendation be adopted on the standards for parsonages for GNJ
17 effective, July 1, 2019:

18 **Responsible Group in the Local Church**

19
20
21 The United Methodist Book of Discipline does not mandate a parsonage committee however, it strongly
22 recommends that each local church Charge Conference form a parsonage committee.

23
24 The committee will follow-up to assure timely resolution of parsonage problems affecting the health of the pastor
25 or pastor's family. The chairperson of the committee on pastor-parish relations, the chairperson of the board of
26 trustees and the pastor shall make an annual review of the church-owned parsonage to assure proper
27 maintenance. (§ 258.2 g (16) and § 2532.4)

28 **Standards for Parsonage (Existing Parsonages)**

29
30
31 All parsonages shall meet local requirements for a Certificate of Occupancy.

32
33 For existing parsonages, each local charge shall provide and maintain the following furnishings:

- 34 1. Living room and family room furniture.
- 35 2. Dining room furniture.
- 36 3. Kitchen, including stove, refrigerator with separate freezer compartment, exhaust fan and dishwasher.
- 37 4. Laundry equipment – automatic washer and dryer.
- 38 5. Standard television connection (providing at least 30 channels), high speed internet service and one
39 telephone line (cell or land line). Where possible consider bundling the services.
- 40 6. Floor coverings, solid surfaces are preferred.
- 41 7. Window shades and blinds, or curtains and drapes, functioning.
- 42 8. One fire extinguisher in kitchen and one extinguisher outside of the furnace room. There shall be at least
43 one extinguisher per floor level. All fire extinguishers, smoke detectors and Carbon monoxide detectors
44 are to follow local code requirements for rental properties or certificate of occupancy.
- 45 9. Closets or free-standing storage units in each bedroom.

- 1 10. Drives and walks should be hard surfaced.
- 2 11. Minimally acceptable outside lighting, for safety and to illuminate walkways and driveways.
- 3 12. Trash cans. In municipalities where garbage pickup is not part of the tax base and is billed to the
- 4 parsonage, that local churches pay for this service.
- 5 13. Suitable equipment for lawn care and snow removal, and/or appropriate service shall be provided.
- 6 14. A study for the pastor in either the parsonage or church building. Office furnishing shall include a desk,
- 7 desk chair, minimally acceptable shelving for the pastor's library, additional chairs and a locking filing
- 8 cabinet.
- 9 15. Furnishings for special rooms such as sun porch, den, etc., that may be different from one charge to
- 10 another.
- 11 16. Parsonage electrical service shall conform to the current National Electrical Code.
- 12 17. Parking space for a minimum of one (1) car shall be provided.
- 13 18. Each charge shall decide if it will provide a security/alarm system.
- 14 19. The septic or sewer system shall be fully functional and meet the needs of the parsonage family.

15 **Additional Suggestions**

- 17 1. Electrical service to be inspected every five (5) years by a licensed electrician.
- 18 2. Roof inspection every five (5) years.
- 19 3. Energy Audit every five (5) years.

20 **Standards for Parsonages (Purchasing or Building a New Parsonage)**

21 All parsonages shall meet local requirements for a Certificate of Occupancy.

22 All newly constructed or newly purchased parsonages shall be in full compliance with the dictates of the Book of

23 Discipline. Consideration shall be made for those with handicapping conditions -

24 *Provide on the ground-floor of a newly constructed parsonage: (1) one room that can be used as a bedroom by a*

25 *person with a disability; (2) a fully accessible bathroom; and (3) fully accessible laundry facilities (§ 2544.4d)*

26 **1. Option One**

- 27 a. The use of maintenance-free materials in building and in finishing and furnishing, these contribute to
- 28 keeping maintenance costs lower.
- 29 b. The following room requirements:
 - 30 1) Living Room/Family Room
 - 31 2) Dining Room
 - 32 3) Kitchen
 - 33 4) Study
 - 34 5) Baths (2)
 - 35 6) Bedrooms (3)
- 36 c. A minimum electrical service of 200 amperes.
- 37 d. A garage of a size to accommodate 2 cars, plus room for storage of lawn mowers, bicycles, tools, garden
- 38 equipment, ladders, paint supplies, etc.
- 39 e. Space to store large articles of furniture and equipment.
- 40 f. The use of materials meeting the most energy efficient standards for insulation and windows.
- 41 g. Careful consideration should be given in choosing the location of the parsonage. This consideration
- 42 might include the distance from the church, accessibility from main streets of the community and the
- 43 church, the neighborhood and its future and the community itself and its future growth.

1 **2. Option Two**

- 2 a. The standards of Option One would apply with consideration by the church of purchasing, leasing,
3 renting a townhouse or condominium. This option would be negotiated by the District Superintendent,
4 the local charge and the pastor following consultation with the District Committee on Church Location
5 and Building.
6 b. The purpose of this option is to provide an alternative to the “traditional” church parsonage for ministry
7 in special situations. Allowing for the wide variety of townhouse/condo choices, it is difficult to
8 recommend a standard for such a setting.

9 **Responsibility**

10 1. ***Each pastor is responsible for:***

- 11 a. Furnishings for as many bedrooms as the family needs.
12 b. Personal items such as television, vacuum cleaner, small appliances, dishes, glassware, flatware,
13 cleaning tools, wastebaskets and decorative accessories.
14 c. The following regular maintenance:
15 i. Floor maintenance
16 ii. Trash disposal and recycling
17 d. It is expected that the pastor shall provide tenant (renters) insurance to cover property loss and
18 personal liability.
19 e. Restitution for any damage beyond normal wear and tear.
20 f. Exiting pastor shall remove all personal items and furniture from the parsonage and property
21 and leave in a broom clean state.

22 2. ***Each charge shall provide:***

- 23 a. Utilities – heat, electricity, gas/oil, water, sewage and basic non-personal telephone services.
24 b. Maintenance for all parsonage equipment.
25 c. Basic furniture for all rooms except the bedrooms.
26 d. Funds for the repair of the parsonage and its maintenance should be allocated and allowed to
27 accumulate so that continuing care and major repairs can be made when needed.
28

29 **Multiple Charge Appointments and Clergy Couples**

- 30 1. In appointments where clergy is appointed to more than one church and a parsonage is provided by one
31 of the churches the utility expenses (heat, water and electric) will be divided equally between the
32 churches. Any capital improvements and maintenance on the parsonage are the responsibility of the
33 church that owns the parsonage.
34 2. In cases of clergy couples (when the couple resides in the parsonage of one of the appointments), the
35 utility expenses (heat, water and electric) for the parsonage will be divided equally between the
36 appointments.
37

38 **Miscellaneous**

- 39 1. We recommend that, in addition to the required written reports filed annually with the Annual Church
40 Conference paperwork, there be a complete video/photo inventory of all church-owned furnishings in the
41 parsonage. The inventory and all videos and photos shall be maintained annually.
42 2. It should be the responsibility of the Parsonage Committee to become acquainted with the parsonage and
43 after a new pastoral appointment, meet with the parsonage family to discuss the minimum acceptability
44 of housing and furnishings and to meet annually thereafter with the parsonage family.
45 3. During the transition of pastoral appointment – the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Chair, the exiting
46 pastor, the new pastor and the Board of Trustee Chair will walk through the parsonage together for

- 1 inspection and planning. It is recommended to utilize the Church Conference Parsonage inspection report
2 for this walk through.
- 3 4. The right of the pastor to own furniture and equipment cannot be challenged. However, if s/he does own
4 furniture and goods that s/he wishes to use in the parsonage and parsonage furniture has to be stored,
5 s/he should make every effort to store it properly, so it is in good condition and does not suffer damage
6 from being stored. The site or method of storage for any church owned furniture shall be determined by
7 agreement between the pastor and the Board of Trustees. The pastor assumes financial responsibility for
8 the storage of any unused furniture.
- 9 5. The parsonage is the pastor's for his/her tenure in that church or charge. S/he has therefore the
10 responsibility to care for the furniture to protect it from damage by pets or children and if it is damaged,
11 to return it to a condition equal to that when s/he received it to use. If an item of furniture is damaged
12 beyond repair, s/he is obligated to replace it.
- 13 6. To respect the privacy of clergy and his/her family, the church has responsibility to make an
14 appointment and secure the approval of the pastor or an adult member of the household, prior to
15 visiting the parsonage at any time.

16
17 **Appeals**
18 Appeals by the churches or pastors should be made to the District Superintendent as the final authority to
19 interpret and implement the foregoing standards.

20
21 Submitted by,
22 Christine Day, Chair, Commission on Equitable Compensation
23

24 **Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline**

25 **Whereas** segregation in public schools have a disproportionate negative effect on the high school graduation
26 rate of Black and Latino students and resources available to them, and

27 **Whereas**, United Methodists of Greater New Jersey joined a coalition that sued the State of New Jersey on
28 behalf of all our children in order to end segregation in the public schools, and

29 **Whereas**, students that do not graduate from high school are statistically at higher risk to enter the "school to
30 prison pipeline."

31 **Be it resolved** that the GNJ Annual Conference encourage its churches to establish, wherever possible, summer
32 educational programs like "Freedom Schools" or a targeted reading enrichment and mentoring program for
33 children who are under-performing in reading as assessed by testing in the public schools, giving special
34 attention to Black and Hispanic/Latino children

35 **Be it further resolved** that the members, lay and clergy, of the GNJ Annual Conference encourage "restorative
36 justice" rather than "zero tolerance policies" in all public schools, to encourage the continuity of a positive
37 educational experience where the end goal is high school graduation for all students.

38 **Rationale:**
39 One of the objectives of breaking the "School to Prison Pipeline" is to make sure that Black and Latino children
40 have educational opportunities in all schools and encourage the practice of "restorative justice" in dealing with
41 their students. Proficiency in Reading is essential to keeping students in school and motivating them to learn.

1 We can support this initiative, as a conference and as individual churches, with our hearts, our minds, our
2 resources and our Biblical mandate, as given by Jesus in Matthew 22: 37, 39: "You must love the Lord your God
3 with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind'.....And the second is like it: 'You must love
4 your neighbor as you love yourself.'" CEB

5 John Wesley gave us the Wesley Quadrilateral, but if the tradition and experience sides of the Quadrilateral go
6 against the scriptures and reason sides, then we are called to administer "restorative justice" to change the
7 situation. In promoting reading fluency throughout the GNJ, we will be encouraging students to learn to read, to
8 love to read, and to stay in school as respected members of a supportive school community!

9 Submitted by,
10 Kathleen Schulz, GNJ UMW President

12 Call for GNJ to Recommit to be an Inclusive Church

13 **Whereas**, the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church (GNJ) encourages its
14 churches to be of Open Minds, Open Hearts and Open Doors; and

15 **Whereas**, GNJ is a diverse conference that works through its differences, and most importantly, thrives when we
16 honor each other through our differences; and

17 **Whereas**, GNJ is a vital conference that is proud to be welcoming to LGBTQIA+ people in our churches; and

18 **Whereas**, GNJ encourages its churches to be in ministry with all people, including the LGBTQIA+ community; and

19 **Whereas**, the recent adoption of an amended version of the Traditional Plan during General Conference 2019
20 seeks to expand the restrictions in the Book of Discipline and hinders our ministry with LGBTQIA+ people in GNJ;

21 **Therefore, be it resolved**, that GNJ reaffirms its commitment to and work for the full civil and ecclesiastical
22 rights and privileges of all persons, including LGBTQIA+ persons, and declares its opposition to continued
23 restrictions of church law on the participation of LGBTQIA+ people in the United Methodist Church; and
24 **Be it further resolved**, that GNJ acknowledges that when following the Book of Discipline requires us to do harm
25 and injustice by discriminating against, diminishing, or demeaning our LGBTQIA+ brothers and sisters, it places
26 us in an impossible situation as to be guided by our Scripture, Tradition, Reason and Experience or by the Book
27 of Discipline; and

28 **Be it further resolved**, that GNJ work together to build a fully inclusive church that is in ministry with all people,
29 regardless of their economic status, race, age, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability, or immigration status.

30 **Be it further resolved**, that GNJ commits to contextualizing our ministry as is appropriate to the needs of our
31 communities and congregations.

32 Submitted by,
33 Rev. Tanya Linn Bennett, Ph.D., Chair, GNJ Board of Church and Society

1 **Boycott Israel**

2

3 **Whereas** the Palestinian people including Christians are being oppressed mercilessly by Israel,

4

5 **Whereas**, Israel has blocked any possibility for a two-state solution by its settlement activities,

6

7 **Whereas**, Israel is not willing to engage in any negotiations with Palestinians,

8

9 **Whereas** a solution is not in sight in any form or shape,

10

11 **Whereas** the attacks on Gaza and its destruction is disproportionate cruelty,

12

13 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church ask its churches
14 and individual members to boycott Israel and postpone holy land trips until a peaceful solution is reached and
15 Israel ends its occupation of Palestine.

16

17 **Rationale:** Boycotting Israel and visiting Holy land seems the only peaceful solution possible to resolve the Israeli
18 Palestinian conflict because the parties are not equal in power to negotiate a just peace settlement.

19

20 Submitted by,
21 Nehemiah Thompson

22

23 **Call for GNJ to Adopt a Public Statement in Response to General Conference 2019**

24 **Whereas** many in the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference are grieving, and others are feeling forsaken due
25 to the decisions made at the 2019 Special General Conference;

26 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference adopt the following statement in response to the
27 results of the 2019 Special General Conference Session held in St. Louis earlier this year:

28 We, the United Methodists of Greater New Jersey, are a diverse body of Christ. We cherish this diversity in all
29 its forms, including in regard to sexual orientation and gender identity. We acknowledge and grieve the hurt
30 done to our LGBTQ+ congregants, clergy, families, and friends by the 2019 Special General Conference Session.
31 When one member of the body suffers, we all suffer (1 Cor 12:26).

32 We believe God's grace is a gift to all people, and all are accepted and celebrated in the kin-dom of God. We
33 believe Christ's church is most effective as ONE body of Christ and is only complete when those who are LGBTQ+
34 are included in all aspects of ministry.

35 **Be it further resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference session expresses its disagreement with
36 the decision of the 2019 Special General Conference Session. The Greater New Jersey Annual Conference is
37 committed to working toward a more loving, wholistic, and effective church—one that is inclusive of all.

38 Submitted by,
39 Rev. Amanda Hemenetz and the Administrative Council of The UMC at Mount Tabor

40

1 Rules of Order

2 RULES OF ORDER¹

3 Paragraph (¶) references are to the **2016 Book of Discipline,**
4 **as corrected by Errata notations issued by the General Conference**

5 Portions in “quotations marks” are Disciplinary wording.

6 GENERAL

7 These Rules (hereafter called the "Rules") shall be standing rules for the governance of the Greater New Jersey
8 Annual Conference. At all times, the Rules shall be subject to the provisions of the applicable provisions of the
9 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (hereafter called the "Discipline". Unless otherwise indicated,
10 all paragraph references below shall refer to the paragraph numbers and letters indicating provisions of the
11 Discipline). Except as they may be inconsistent with applicable provisions of the Discipline, the Rules shall
12 remain applicable unless and until modified or suspended as set forth below.

13 I. MEMBERSHIP

14 1) **Composition** – “The annual conference shall be composed of clergy and lay members. The clergy
15 membership shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, provisional members, associate
16 members, and local pastors under appointment. The lay membership shall consist of professing lay
17 members elected by each charge, the diaconal ministers, the active deaconesses, and home missionaries
18 under episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference, the conference president of
19 United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference lay leader,
20 district lay leaders, the conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, conference secretary of Global
21 Ministries (if lay), the president or equivalent officer of the conference young adult organization, the
22 president of the conference youth organization, the chair of the annual conference college student
23 organization and one young person between the ages of twelve and seventeen and one young person
24 between the ages of eighteen and thirty from each district. Each charge served by more than one clergy
25 shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are clergy members.” (¶ 32) Each church shall elect a lay
26 member and an alternate lay member as outlined in Rule 3a. Additional lay members, as provided in Rule 6,
27 shall be members under the lay equalization formula.

28 2) **Clergy Membership** – “The clergy membership of an annual conference (¶ 370) shall consist of deacons
29 and elders in full connection (¶ 333), provisional members, associate members (¶ 327), affiliate members
30 (¶¶ 344.4, 586.4), and local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment to a pastoral charge (¶ 317).
31 (See also ¶ 32).” (¶ 602.1)

- 32 a. “Clergy members in full connection shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters
33 except in the election of lay delegates to the general and jurisdictional or central conferences, and shall
34 have sole responsibility for all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.” (¶
35 602.1a)
- 36 b. "Provisional clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except
37 constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General and jurisdictional or central
38 conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. (¶602.b)
39 Provisional clergy members who have completed all of their educational requirements may vote to elect
40 clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional or central conferences. (See Judicial Council Decision
41 #1181 and ¶ 35, Article IV)."

- 1 c. Associate clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except
2 constitutional amendments, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.
3 When associate members are members of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they have the
4 right to vote at clergy session on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. (¶
5 602.c) Affiliate clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters
6 except the constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General, jurisdictional or
7 central conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. (See
8 Judicial Council Decision #1181 and ¶ 35, Article IV).
- 9 d. Full-time and part-time local pastors under appointment to a pastoral charge shall have the right to vote
10 in the annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments; election of delegates to the
11 General and jurisdictional or central conferences and matters of ordination, character, and conference
12 relations of clergy. When local pastors are members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they
13 have the right to vote at clergy session on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of
14 clergy. (¶ 602.d). Local pastors who have completed course of study or an M.Div. degree and have
15 served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment before the election may vote to elect
16 clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional or central conferences. (See Judicial Council Decision
17 #1181 and ¶ 35, Article IV).

18 **3) Election and Qualifications of Lay Members –**

- 19 a. Lay members and one or more alternate lay members for each church shall be elected quadrennially at
20 the regular meeting of the charge conference following the meeting of the general conference. “Both
21 the lay members and the alternates shall have been professing members in good standing of The United
22 Methodist Church for at least two years and shall have been active participants for at least four years
23 next preceding their election (see ¶ 32), except in a newly organized church, which shall have the
24 privilege of representation at the annual conference session.” (¶ 251.2) There shall be no restriction as
25 to the number of terms for which a qualified person may be elected a lay member or alternate lay
26 member.
- 27 b. District youth and young adult representatives may be elected annually by the Ministries with Young
28 People Team (or its successor, however named).

29 **4) Seating of Lay Members –** Lay members and alternate lay members shall take office as of January 1
30 following their election, and the term of office shall be for the ensuing quadrennium. If the regular meeting
31 of a Charge Conference is delayed beyond the year of the meeting of the General Conference, the lay
32 member and alternate lay members shall take office immediately upon election. If the office of lay member
33 or alternate lay member of any church becomes vacant during the quadrennium, a replacement for the
34 unexpired term shall be elected at the next regular meeting of the Charge Conference or at a special
35 meeting thereof. Each District Superintendent shall provide the Conference Secretary with a correct list of
36 lay members from charges within the district by January 15 prior to the first meeting of the Annual
37 Conference in the quadrennium. It shall be to the lay members so listed that credentials shall be issued for
38 seating at sessions of the Annual Conference.

39 **5) Lay Representation of a Local Church –** If the church’s lay representative to the Annual Conference “shall
40 cease to be a member of the charge or shall for any reason fail to serve, an alternate lay member in the
41 order of election shall serve in place.” (¶ 251.2) If there is no alternate lay member who can attend, another
42 lay member or alternate lay member may be elected by the Charge Conference.

- 43 a. The pastor may request the District Superintendent to authorize a special session of the Charge
44 Conference for the purpose of electing a lay member or alternate lay member. A special session of the

1 Charge Conference requires the written consent of the District Superintendent in his/her absence, and
2 at least ten days advance notice to its members. (§ 250)

- 3 b. The pastor shall report to the District Superintendent and the Conference Secretary, in writing, the
4 name and address of the elected lay member or alternate lay member.
- 5 c. Under no circumstances shall a person who is not duly elected as stated above be seated at sessions of
6 the Annual Conference.

7 **6) Equalization of Lay Members** – “If the lay membership should number less than the clergy members of
8 the annual conference, the annual conference shall, by its own formula, provide for the election of
9 additional lay members to equalize the number of lay and clergy membership of the Annual Conference.” (§
10 32) Members will be added in the order nominated or recommended for selection until the required
11 number of additional lay members is reached. All terms will be for the quadrennium with the exception of
12 category “i” below which shall be annually.

13 a. The following persons shall be named as additional Lay Members to Annual Conference:

- 14 i. The Conference Secretary, Conference Treasurer, and Conference Statistician, when persons elected to
15 these offices are lay persons who meet the disciplinary requirements for Conference membership and
16 are not otherwise elected.
- 17 ii. Elected Lay Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences not otherwise elected as Lay
18 Members of the Annual Conference.
- 19 iii. Lay Chairpersons of the following agencies not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual
20 Conference: Council on Finance and Administration, Commission on Archives and History,
21 Commission on Equitable Compensation, Committee on the Episcopacy, Board of Pensions, Board of
22 Trustees, Board of Church and Society, Board of Discipleship, Board of Global Ministries, Board of
23 Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Commission on Camps and Conferences, Commission on
24 Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, Commission on Religion and Race, Commission on the
25 Status and Role of Women, Commission on Communications, and Commission on the Ethnic Local
26 Church.
- 27 iv. The past conference Lay Leaders not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual Conference.
28 This includes the former Northern New Jersey and Southern New Jersey Conferences as well as the
29 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.
- 30 v. Laity members of the Council on Finance and Administration not otherwise elected as Lay Members
31 of the Annual Conference.
- 32 vi. Laity members of the Sessions Committee not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual
33 Conference.
- 34 vii. The District Presidents of United Methodist Women and District Presidents of United Methodist Men
35 not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual Conference.
- 36 viii. Lay Missionaries not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual Conference.
- 37 ix. The District Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual
38 Conference.
- 39 x. The co-secretaries of the Ministries with Young People Team, the Youth Service Fund Chairperson and
40 one additional Youth and Young Adult from each District not otherwise elected as Lay Members of
41 the Annual Conference.
- 42 b. Nominations for additional Lay members from local churches: In the year preceding the beginning of the
43 quadrennium, the Laity Council shall solicit nominations for additional Lay Members from local churches
44 through Administrative Boards or Councils. The Laity Council will receive the nominations and elect
45 those who will serve as additional Lay Members for the succeeding quadrennium. Vacancies that occur
46 during the quadrennium shall be filled by the action of the Laity Council.

1 7) **Lay Membership** – “The lay members of the annual conference shall participate in all deliberations and
2 vote upon all measures except on the granting or validation of license, ordination, reception into full
3 conference membership, or any question concerning the character and official conduct of ordained
4 ministers, except those who are lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the committee on
5 investigation.” (§ 602.6)

6 8) **Seated Without Vote** – The following shall be seated without vote in the Annual Conference and shall be
7 given the privilege of the floor without vote: student local pastors, lay missionaries regularly appointed by
8 the Board of Global Ministries in fields outside the United States, and the Conference Chancellor(s) “if not
9 otherwise a voting member of the annual conference” (§602.10) The following shall be invited to attend the
10 Annual Conference, without voice or vote, on the same financial basis as members of the Annual
11 Conference: spouses of deceased clergy members, persons not officially eligible for appointment who have
12 been assigned by the District Superintendents between sessions of Annual Conference as pastors in charge
13 with the intention of appointment or reassignment for the ensuing conference year, and persons to be
14 presented for consecration as Diaconal Ministers or ordained as Deacons or Elders. Staff and clerical
15 personnel necessary for the conducting of the Annual Conference Session shall attend at conference
16 expense.

17 9) **Attendance of Members** – “It is the duty of every member and all provisional members and local pastors
18 of the annual conference to attend its sessions and furnish such reports in such form as the *Discipline* may
19 require. Any such person unable to attend shall report by letter to the conference secretary, setting forth
20 the reason for the absence. Should any ordained minister in active service be absent from the session of the
21 annual conference without a satisfactory reason for the absence, the matter shall be referred by the
22 conference secretary to the Board of Ordained Ministry.” (§ 602.8)

23 II. ORGANIZATION

24 10) **Presiding Officer** – The bishop assigned shall preside over the annual conference, or “in case of inability,
25 shall arrange for another bishop to preside. In the absence of a bishop, the conference shall by ballot,
26 without nomination or debate, elect a president *pro-tempore* from among the traveling elders. The
27 president thus elected shall discharge all the duties of a bishop except ordination.” (§ 603.6)

- 28 a. The Presiding Officer shall see that all business pertaining to the Conference shall be brought forward
29 and conducted in a proper manner, according to the provisions of the *Discipline* and Rules for the
30 Conference.
31 b. The Presiding Officer shall decide all questions of order, subject to the right of appeal by any member of
32 the Conference.
33 c. The Presiding Officer shall appoint all committees and officers not otherwise designated to the
34 Nominating Committee, unless otherwise directed by the Conference.
35 d. The Presiding Officer shall appoint an elder to preside at the Conference during any temporary absence.

36 11) **Conference Secretary** – At the session following the General Conference, the Annual Conference shall
37 elect a Secretary to serve for the succeeding quadrennium. The Nominating Committee, in consultation with
38 the Bishop and Cabinet, shall present the nomination. Term of office shall not exceed two consecutive
39 quadrennia. “In the case of a vacancy in the interim of the sessions, the bishop, after consultation with the
40 district superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session of the annual conference.” (§
41 603.7) Term limits of Rule 58a. shall apply.

- 42 a. The Secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Conference, authenticating by
43 signature all acts of the Conference.
44 b. The Secretary shall handle all notification and communications directed by the Conference.

- 1 c. Unless otherwise directed, the Secretary shall handle all other matters that normally come under the
 2 Secretary’s responsibility.
- 3 d. The Secretary shall have the responsibility for editing, publishing and distributing the Journal, Yearbook
 4 and Minutes of the Annual Conference.
- 5 e. The Secretary shall nominate any staff that require election by the Conference.
- 6 **12) Conference Statistician** – At the first session following the General Conference, the Annual Conference
 7 shall elect a Statistician to serve for the succeeding quadrennium. “In the case of a vacancy in the interim of
 8 the sessions, the bishop, after consultation with the district superintendents, shall appoint a person to act
 9 until the next session of the annual conference.” (§ 603.7)
- 10 **13) Conference Treasurer** – The “annual conference, on nomination of its council on finance and
 11 administration, shall at the first session of the conference after the quadrennial session of the general
 12 conference or jurisdictional conference, or at such other times as a vacancy exists, elect a conference
 13 treasurer/director of administrative services. If a vacancy shall occur during the quadrennium, the council
 14 shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference.” (§ 619)
- 15 **14) Conference Chancellors** – The Annual Conference may designate as Chancellor one or more laypersons,
 16 each of whom is a member in good standing of one of the local churches or a clergyperson who is a member
 17 of the Annual Conference in the Episcopal Area, and who is a member of the appropriate bar or bars in the
 18 Episcopal Area. Each chancellor, who shall be nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Annual
 19 Conference, shall serve as legal advisor to the Bishop and the Annual Conference. (§ 603.8)
- 20 **15) Conference Parliamentarian** – There shall be a Parliamentarian at each Plenary Session of the Annual
 21 Conference. The Bishop shall select the Parliamentarian(s).
- 22 **16) Rules of Order Committee** –
- 23 a. There shall be a standing Rules of Order Committee of eight (8) members, four (4) clergy and four (4)
 24 lay, nominated by the Committee on Nominations. The Conference Parliamentarian, if not already a
 25 member, shall be an ex-officio member of this committee with vote.
- 26 b. Prior to the consideration of any other business of an Annual Conference Session, the Rules of Order
 27 Committee shall present, for informational purposes only, any changes to the Rules mandated by
 28 changes in the Discipline.
- 29 c. The Rules of Order Committee shall also present for adoption by the Conference any other changes to
 30 the Rules that the Committee recommends. If any member of the Annual Conference desires to propose
 31 any other change to the Rules, the member shall submit a resolution setting forth the proposed change
 32 in accordance with the deadline for submitting proposed legislation. See Rule 19b. Upon its submission,
 33 the proposed legislation shall be referred to the Rules Committee for its review and response, prior to
 34 any vote on the legislation by the Conference.

35 **III. BUSINESS PROCEDURES**

- 36 **17) Roll Call** – The Conference Secretary shall take the roll of all members of this Annual Conference, both
 37 clergy and lay, by card registration while the Conference is in session, and the attendance shall be recorded
 38 in the Journal. Upon registration, members shall receive a name badge which shall state name, church or
 39 position, and which shall also indicate voting rights.
- 40 **18) The Bar of the Conference** – The bar of the Conference shall be fixed at the beginning of each Annual
 41 Conference on motion of the Secretary. All members of the Conference, lay and clergy, must be within the
 42 bar of the Conference to have the privilege of the floor and to vote. Other persons shall be seated outside
 43 the bar of the Conference as indicated by the ushers.

- 1 **19) Pre-Conference Reports and Legislative Recommendations –**
2 a. Reports –
- 3 i. There shall be a Pre-Conference Workbook which shall contain all reports of Conference,
4 Jurisdictional and General agencies, boards, commissions, committees, councils or teams received at
5 the Conference offices by the first business day of March (or such other deadline as the Conference
6 Secretary may establish). Such reports are to identify how the agency or other body has helped the
7 Conference make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, how the agency has
8 furthered the goals of the Conference, and the goals of the agency or other body for the coming
9 year. Any such report may be included in the Journal of the Annual Conference, subject to editorial
10 corrections, at the discretion of the Conference Secretary. Any recommendations from such an
11 agency or other body must be submitted separately as legislation for consideration by the Annual
12 Conference, in accordance with applicable procedures and deadlines for legislation.
- 13 ii. Except as provided in (b) below, no reports or recommendations of any Conference agency
14 excepting the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Committee on Nominations, and then only with
15 the consent of the Bishop, shall be acted upon unless (1) they shall have been correctly and timely
16 submitted to be included in the Pre-Conference Workbook as reports or legislation (as indicated
17 above).
- 18 b. Legislative Recommendations -
- 19 i. The Pre-Conference Workbook shall contain all proposed legislation and all reports of agencies,
20 boards, commissions, committees, councils or teams that have been received by the Annual
21 Conference offices by the first business day in March (or such other deadline as the Conference
22 Secretary may establish).
- 23 ii. All proposed legislation and reports received after March 1, (or such other deadline as the
24 Conference Secretary may establish), shall be submitted to the agenda committee for review. Upon
25 the agenda committee's recommendation and the bishop's consent, such items may be included in
26 the agenda where urgent and appropriate.
- 27 iii. The agenda for the Annual Conference shall contain all proposed legislation and reports calling for
28 Annual Conference action that have been timely received pursuant to paragraph 19bi above. The
29 agenda shall also contain all items approved for inclusion in the agenda pursuant to paragraph 19bii
30 above. The agenda shall be designed with best efforts to allocate sufficient consideration by the
31 Conference of all properly proposed legislation received by the submission deadline or otherwise
32 included in the agenda pursuant to Rule 19(b)i and ii. During the second day of that year's Annual
33 Conference, the agenda committee shall review the progress of the Conference in addressing the
34 matters before it in the agenda. When it appears necessary and appropriate to schedule additional
35 time for the Conference to address all legislation before the Conference, the agenda committee
36 shall propose to the Conference a motion to adjust, extend or add to the second day's sessions, to
37 facilitate the Conference's consideration of such legislation. Such a motion shall require no second,
38 and shall be privileged over all other pending motions.
- 39 **20) Program** – The program as contained in the Pre-Conference Workbook shall be the official program of
40 the session of the Annual Conference, subject to necessary modifications by the Chairperson of the Session
41 Agenda Subcommittee.
- 42 **21) Official Journal** – The Conference Journal, signed by the Presiding Officer and the Secretary, shall be the
43 official Journal of the conference. Among other materials included by the Conference Secretary, the
44 Conference Journal shall contain all legislation and recommendations agreed to by the Annual Conference.

1 22) **Copy for the Journal** – All materials for publication in the Conference Journal shall be in the hands of the
2 Editor of the Journal (who shall be the Conference Secretary, or a person selected by the Conference
3 Secretary) by the close of the Conference Session. Exceptions to this rule shall be at the discretion of the
4 Editor.

- 5 a. All substantive actions of the Conference shall be indicated in the Conference Journal. The Editor of the
6 Journal shall have authority to make all appropriate, non-substantive editorial and conforming changes
7 and corrections. Where explicitly so authorized by the Conference, the Editor of the Journal and the
8 author of the action shall also be empowered to edit the contents of a given action together, to reflect
9 the intent of the Conference. Rationales, preambles or supporting statements shall not be printed
10 except in the case of complimentary resolutions.
- 11 b. Memoirs shall be limited to five hundred (500) words.
- 12 c. Addresses delivered to the Conference Session shall not be included in the Conference Journal, except
13 for those of the Bishop, the District Superintendents and Conference Lay Leader(s). A motion to so
14 include shall be out of order unless prior permission to make the motion shall have been received in
15 writing by a committee composed of the Secretary of the Conference, the Editor of the Journal, the
16 Chair of the Council on Finance and Administration, the Chair of the Conference Sessions Committee
17 and the Dean of the Conference Cabinet.

18 23) **Distribution** – The Journal shall be distributed according to the following formula:

- 19 a. One mailed paper copy for each surviving spouse of clergy or laity member in the year the Memorial is
20 printed in the Journal at no cost.
- 21 b. One paper copy to each conference officers, agency chairpersons, and general and jurisdictional
22 agencies as required by the *Discipline*.
- 23 c. One mailed paper copy upon request to retired clergy.
- 24 d. A hard copy printed journal will be produced and available to all members upon request. A minimum fee
25 for production and mailing costs will be assessed to each hard copy journal request. The amount to be
26 paid for the journal will be published in advance.
- 27 e. An online version of the journal will be available on www.gnjumc.org and available for download and
28 review.
- 29 f. All Annual Conference reports will be made available on the conference website.
- 30 g. The Conference Journal will not be produced in CD format.

31 24) **Copyright** – In order to protect its directories and contents from unauthorized use, the Conference
32 Secretary shall copyright the Journal on behalf of the Annual Conference.

33 25) **Mail Ballot** - In an emergency situation as declared by the Council on Finance and Administration, a mail
34 ballot may be taken of the Annual Conference. All members of the Annual Conference immediately
35 preceding the emergency will receive ballots. The vote will be confidential with the outside envelope
36 requiring the signature of the member.

37 IV. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

38 26) **Order of Precedence of Motions** –

39 a. Not debatable

40 Privileged

41 Fix time at which to adjourn (when compared to other privileged)*#

42 Adjourn (when compared to other privileged)

1 Take a recess (when compared to other privileged)*#

2 Raise a question of privilege

3 Call for the orders of the day

4 ii. Subsidiary

5 Lay on the table (2/3)

6 Previous question (2/3)

7 Limit or extend time of debate (2/3)

8 b. Debatable

9 Postpone to a certain time

10 Commit or refer

11 Amend

12 Postpone indefinitely

13 Main motions

14 * Can be amended; the others cannot be amended. (from *Robert's Rules of Order*)

15 # Is privileged only when other business is before the Conference. (from *RRO*)

16 27) **Main Motion** – A main motion is a proposal that the Conference take certain action, or that it express
17 itself as holding certain views. Any member may make a motion.

18 28) **Motions Which Are Not Debatable** – The following motions shall be acted upon without debate:

19 a. To adjourn, when unqualified, except to adjourn the conference.

20 b. To suspend the rules. (2/3 vote)

21 c. To take from the table.

22 d. To call for the previous question. (2/3 vote)

23 e. To reconsider a non-debatable motion.

24 f. To limit or extend the limits of debate. (2/3 vote)

25 g. To call for the order of the day.

26 29) **Precedence of Secondary Motions** – If any one or more of the following motions are pending, the order
27 of precedence in relation to one another shall be the same as the order of their listing below:

28 a. To fix the time at which the Conference shall adjourn. (This motion is subject to amendment or it may be
29 laid on the table.)

30 b. To adjourn.

31 c. To take a recess.

32 d. To order the previous question.

33 e. To lay on the table.

34 f. To limit or extend the limits of debate.

35 g. To postpone to a certain time.

36 h. To commit or refer.

37 i. To amend or substitute.

38 j. To postpone indefinitely.

1 30) **When a Second is not Required** – The following do not require a second, pursuant to latest edition of
2 *Roberts Rules of Order*.

- 3 a. To raise a question of privilege.
- 4 b. Question of order.
- 5 c. Objection to the consideration of a question.
- 6 d. Call for the order of the day.
- 7 e. Call for the division of the question.
- 8 f. Call for the division of the Conference (for voting).
- 9 g. Call for the motion to reconsider.
- 10 h. Filling blanks.
- 11 i. Nominations.
- 12 j. Leave to withdraw a motion.
- 13 k. Inquiries of any kind.
- 14 l. Presentation of a report or recommendation by a Conference agency.

15 31) **Division of Question** – Before a vote is taken, any member has the right to call for the division of the
16 question as the member indicates, if it is subject to division. If no member objects, the division shall be
17 made; but if there is objection, the Chair, not waiting for a second, shall put the division to a vote.

18 32) **Tabling Related Motions** – No motion that adheres to another motion or has another motion adhering
19 to it can be laid on the table by itself. If they are laid on the table, such motions carry with them the motions
20 to which they respectively adhere or which adhere to them.

21 33) **Motions After Speaking on a Pending Question** –

- 22 a. A member may make a motion after a speech, although strict parliamentary practice requires motion to
23 be made and seconded before a speech is made so the Conference may determine if it wishes to hear
24 the matter.
- 25 b. No member who has spoken on a pending question shall at the close of the speech have the right to call
26 for the previous question, to move for indefinite postponement, or to lay the motion on the table.

27 34) **Previous Question** – To move the previous question is to move that the vote now be taken on the
28 motion or motions pending.

- 29 a. When moving a previous question, a member shall indicate to what such action applies if any secondary
30 motion or motions are pending. If the member does not so indicate, the chair may regard it as applying
31 only to the immediate pending question. This vote shall be taken without debate and if, in the judgment
32 of the chair, two thirds (2/3) of those present vote for its adoption, the vote shall be taken on the
33 motion or motion to which it applies.
- 34 b. It shall not be in order to move the previous question in cases involving character or Conference
35 relations, or where the Rules otherwise expressly limit when it is in order to move the previous
36 question.

37 35) **Reconsideration of a Question** – A motion to reconsider an action of the Conference shall be in order at
38 any time during the prevailing session if offered by a member who voted with the majority. If the motion it
39 is proposed to reconsider is not debatable, the motion to reconsider may not be debated.

40 36) **Suspension of Rules** – The application of any of the provisions of these Rules of Order may be
41 suspended at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Conference.

42 37) **Motions and Resolutions are to be Written** –

- 1 a. All motions, resolutions and reports shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary, properly signed by
2 the movers thereof.
- 3 b. Motions made on the floor shall be written on forms provided by the Secretary.
- 4 **38) When a Motion is in Possession of the Conference** – When a motion is made and seconded, or a
5 resolution introduced and seconded, or a report presented and/or read before the Conference, or stated by
6 the Chair it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference. But any motion may be withdrawn or altered
7 by the mover with the consent of the Conference at any time before voting has commenced.
- 8 **39) Amendments and Substitutions** –
- 9 a. Only one amendment to an amendment shall be in order.
- 10 b. It is in order to move a substitute for the main motion. In such case, the Chair shall proceed to perfect
11 the original motion. When the main motion has been perfected, the Chair shall state the question on the
12 substitute. If the substitute is adopted, it shall replace the original main motion and become the main
13 motion. The Chair will then state the question on the (new) main motion. The new main motion can be
14 amended only by addition. If the substitute does not carry, the Chair shall state the question on the
15 original main motion as it has been perfected.
- 16 **40) Order of Amendments** – When a main motion, report or resolution is under consideration, only one
17 amendment and one amendment to that amendment are permissible. While there can be only one
18 amendment of each degree pending at the same time, any number of amendments can be offered in
19 succession. A substitute and one amendment to the substitute may be offered while amendments of the
20 first and second degree are pending. The permissive order then is: 1) main motion, 2) amendment, 3)
21 amendment to the amendment, 4) substitute, and 5) amendment to the substitute. The voting in this order
22 is 3, 2, 5, 4, 1. If the substitute becomes the main motion, it shall be treated as such.
- 23 **41) Appeal** – An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be taken without debate, provided that after the
24 Chair shall have stated the reason for the decision, the appellant may give the grounds for the appeal. (¶ 51)
- 25 **42) The Question of Consideration** – The question of consideration may be raised by any member upon the
26 presentation of any matter that shall be deemed irrelevant, unprofitable or contentious, and shall be
27 decided without debate by majority vote. This applies only to the main motion.
- 28 **43) Method of Voting** – Voting shall be by voice vote and/or show of hands, or by standing count (provided
29 that in such a count those who cannot stand may vote by raising hands), or by ballot, at the discretion of the
30 Presiding Officer, unless otherwise ordered by the Conference. It shall be in order for any member to call for
31 a vote by count on any question before the Conference, and, if the call be sustained by one-third (1/3) of the
32 members present and voting, a vote shall be taken as called for.
- 33 **44) Robert's Rules of Order, Supplemental Authority** – In any parliamentary situation not covered in these
34 Rules of Order, the Conference shall be governed in its action by the appropriate provisions of the latest
35 revision of *Robert's Rules of Order*.

36 **V. SPEAKING ON THE FLOOR**

- 37 **45) Securing the Floor** – Before speaking in debate or delivering any matter to the Conference, a member
38 shall approach and wait at a microphone provided for addressing the Conference from the floor, or shall
39 raise a card provided for the purpose of gaining recognition. When the member has been recognized by the
40 Bishop, the member shall proceed to speak at a designated microphone. Before addressing the purpose of
41 speaking, members shall state their names and local church or affiliation.
- 42 **46) Limitations on Debate** –

- 1 a. The chairperson of the agency that originated the report or recommendation(s) shall present them as
2 the main motion before the plenary session, and shall have five (5) minutes for comment, except as
3 provided under h) below.
- 4 b. If there is a (are) minority report(s) or recommendation(s) from members of the agency, a
5 representative shall be allowed five (5) minutes for a presentation.
- 6 c. All debate on the floor of the Conference shall follow the principle of alternate debate, that is, a speaker
7 for, then a speaker against. When no speaker on the side opposed to the last speaker is ready, the
8 President may recognize one who desires to speak on the same side as the prior speaker.
- 9 d. No person shall speak more than once on the same question without permission of the Conference,
10 except as provided under g) below.
- 11 e. No person shall speak more than three (3) minutes at one time without permission of the Conference,
12 except as provided under a) or h).
- 13 f. The initiator of the main motion shall in all cases be entitled to three (3) minutes to either
14 i) oppose the motion to lay the report or recommendation(s) on the table.
15 ii) close the debate before the report or recommendation is voted upon.
- 16 g. An agency presenting Special Reports at the direction of the Conference shall have sufficient time as
17 determined by the Sessions Committee to present such reports and recommendations.
- 18 h. Except for non-debatable motions, no report or motion shall be put to the question without the
19 opportunity having been given for at least two (2) speeches for and two (2) speeches against the
20 pending question. After two (2) speeches pro and two (2) speeches con and provided no secondary
21 (subsidiary, privileged--other than "previous question"-- or incidental) motions come to the floor and no
22 other member seeks the floor to speak on the pending question, the question shall automatically be put
23 to the question.
- 24 i. The motion for the previous question shall not be in order on the pending question until opportunity has
25 been given for at least two (2) members to speak on each side of the pending question. If, after
26 reasonable opportunity has been offered by the chair, no member has requested to speak against a
27 resolution, motion or amendment, any member may move the previous question, to close debate.
28 Likewise, if one member has spoken against a resolution, motion or amendment, but, after reasonable
29 opportunity has been offered by the chair, no second member has requested to speak against the
30 measure, any member may move the previous question, to close debate.

31 **47) Representation of Committees** – When the chairperson of a Conference agency is not in harmony with a
32 report or recommendation adopted by the agency, it shall be the chairperson’s duty to state the fact to the
33 agency. The agency may then elect one of its members to represent it in the presentation of the report or
34 recommendation in Conference. If the committee fails to elect such a representative, the chairperson may
35 designate a member to represent the committee.

36 **48) To Limit or Extend Debate** – To move to limit or extend the limits of debate is in order at any time,
37 except when a member has the floor, except as otherwise specifically provided elsewhere in the Rules.

38 **49) Interrupting the Speaker** – No one shall interrupt a member who has the floor except for a breach of
39 order, a misrepresentation, a departure from the question, to direct the attention of the Conference that
40 the time has arrived for a special order of the day, or to raise a very urgent question of high privilege.

41 **50) Questions of Privilege** – All requests from the floor to be recognized for matters of privilege must be
42 made in writing to the Conference Secretary. They shall state the reason for the request to address the
43 conference and the purpose of the request. The requests will be reviewed by a committee composed of the
44 Conference Lay Leader, Conference Secretary, and the Chair of Conference Sessions. The committee shall
45 recommend to the Presiding Bishop whether or not to recognize the requestor for the purpose of presenting

1 the matter of privilege. The Presiding Bishop shall have sole authority in receiving and acting upon the
2 recommendation of the committee.

3 **51) Announcements, Courtesy Presentations and Distribution of papers –**

- 4 a. Announcements of matters of information to the Conference shall be submitted on the Announcement
5 Authorization Form to the Conference Secretary before the conclusion of the plenary session prior to
6 the plenary session when the announcement will be made unless it is an emergency matter which may
7 be submitted as soon as possible after the matter is known.
- 8 b. Requests to make Courtesy Presentation speeches during a plenary session by a person not a member of
9 Annual Conference or by a member are subject to the discretion of the bishop. As a general rule, no
10 presentations or speeches will be made to the Conference outside the agenda.
- 11 c. Papers or other materials may not be distributed to the members during the Conference sessions,
12 except with express prior permission by the bishop.

13 **52) Privilege of the Floor for Lay Members of Conference Agencies –** Laypersons not members of the
14 Conference but currently serving on Conference agencies shall have the privilege of the floor without vote.

15 **53) Lay Officers of a Conference Agency –** Any Lay Officer of any Conference agency, who is not a lay
16 member of the Conference, shall have the privilege to move and defend the report of the group such Lay
17 Officer represents, without vote.

18 **VI. NOMINATIONS**

19 **54) The Committee on Nominations and its Ministry –** The Committee on Nominations will consist of the
20 District Lay Leaders, the Conference Lay Leader, the Director of Connectional Ministries and the District
21 Superintendents. The Committee shall nominate the appropriate number of people each year to the Annual
22 Conference Session for election.

- 23 a. The Committee on Nominations will develop and use a system to identify nominees based on their gifts,
24 experience, and skills that will help the Conference achieve its vision, mission and goals as adopted by
25 the Annual Conference, particularly leadership evidenced in making and maturing disciples, growing
26 vital congregations and transforming lives and communities. Additionally, the Committee shall ensure
27 the nominations reflect the diversity of the Conference.
- 28 b. Agency members shall be elected and placed into four staggered classes and each class will serve for a
29 term of two years. An agency member may serve for four terms for a maximum of eight years.
30 Nominations and elections will follow the rotation schedule unless otherwise mandated by the Book of
31 Discipline.
- 32 c. In order to aid the Committee on Nominations in its work, it is requested that any member of the
33 Conference who has a personal preference to serve on any particular agency communicate such
34 personal preference to the chairperson of the Committee on Nominations on the appropriate form prior
35 to January 1.
- 36 d. Nothing herein shall exclude additional nominations from the floor of the Conference. All nominations
37 from the floor must be submitted on forms supplied in the pre-conference mailing or secured from the
38 Chairperson of Nominations prior to placing the name in nomination. The signatures of the nominator
39 and nominee must be on the form or it will be declared invalid.

40 **55) Chairpersons and Officers –**

- 41 a. For the sake of empowering diverse leadership, the Committee on Nominations shall nominate, and the
42 Annual Conference elect, all chairpersons and officers for agencies, boards, commissions, committees,

1 councils and teams except where the Book of Discipline instructs differently. All terms shall be for the
2 quadrennial, or such other period as specified by the action of the Conference.

- 3 b. The Committee on Nominations shall nominate all chairpersons and officers for agencies, boards,
4 commissions, committees, council and teams [hereinafter Agency/Agencies] that the Book of Discipline
5 requires to select its own chair and officers. These nominations shall not come before Annual
6 Conference, but shall be presented directly to the respective Agencies for vote at their first meeting
7 after Annual Conference. In the absence of a duly elected Chair, whose term has not yet expired, the
8 District Superintendent assigned to the agency either permanently, or for the election process, shall
9 chair the meeting until the new chair is elected.¹
- 10 c. In all nominations, special attention shall be given to seeking diversity of inclusion by gender, age, racial
11 and ethnic background, and to inclusion of people with disabilities and from all size churches. (See
12 Discipline paragraph 610.5)

13 **56) To Fill Vacancies –**

- 14 a. The Committee on Nominations is to recommend to the Connectional Table Executive Committee any
15 persons to fulfill an unexpired term of any agency vacancy between Annual Conference Sessions except
16 where the *Discipline* instructs differently.
- 17 b. Preference will be given to members of the Annual Conference to serve on conference agencies when
18 they have the skills, experience and qualities being sought for an agency.
- 19 c. The Connectional Table Executive Committee shall approve the appointments or request additional
20 nominations, in which case the Committee on Nominations is to submit new nominations. These
21 individuals serve until they or someone else is elected at the next Annual Conference Session.
- 22 d. When a person duly nominated and elected to any Conference agency does not attend three (3)
23 consecutive meetings of the agency, it shall be the responsibility of the chairperson to attempt to
24 contact that person by mail or telephone with a view to activation or resignation. The chairpersons shall
25 report in writing annually to the Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations regarding contact with
26 all non-participants and the results of such contacts. This information shall be provided by January 31 of
27 each year.

28 **57) Elections –**

- 29 a. The report of the Committee on Nominations shall be distributed in the Pre-Conference mailing and/or
30 the packet received at the seat of the Annual Conference. The report shall be presented without
31 reading. Upon adoption of a motion to close nominations, the Chairperson of the Committee on
32 Nominations shall move the election of all nominees whose elections are uncontested.
- 33 b. When the number of persons nominated exceeds the vacancies on an agency or when more than one
34 person is nominated for a specific office, there shall be a secret ballot listing only those persons where a
35 contest exists. The ballot will be taken at a time subsequent to the election in a) above. The ballot shall
36 be distributed, collected and tallied by tellers selected by the Conference Secretary, who shall report the
37 results listing only those elected. Election shall be by a majority of those voting. Lacking a majority, there
38 shall be another ballot listing only those receiving 25% or more of the votes.

39 **58) Quadrennial Agencies -**

- 40 a. An elected member of a conference or district committee, board or agency shall be eligible for not more
41 than two consecutive four year terms unless specified otherwise in the Book of Discipline. Service of two
42 years or more in filling an unexpired or vacated position shall be counted as a full four-year term. For

¹ See Judicial Council decision 1328.

1 this purpose, annual conference to annual conference shall be considered one year, regardless of the
2 actual dates of the conferences.

3 b. Persons elected by the Annual Conference to serve in an affiliated organization* may serve in accord
4 with the by-laws of the organization in which they are elected to serve, except that no term of office
5 may exceed five years. All persons elected or reelected to serve in an affiliated organization shall be
6 elected in accord with the Annual Conference rules on nomination and election.

7 *An affiliated organization is one that wishes to maintain a connectional relationship with the United
8 Methodist Church through the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

9 c. Members of the Annual Conference who are voting members of a general agency shall serve as ex-
10 officio (with vote) members of the corresponding annual conference agency or its equivalent structure
11 (§§610.6, 710.4 and 710.6).

12 59) **Quorum** – The members present and voting at any duly announced meeting of a Conference agency,
13 board, commission, committee, council or team shall constitute a quorum.

14 60) **Limitations of Service** – No person shall be elected to more than two conference agencies, boards,
15 commissions, committees, councils or teams, except for persons who are ex-officio members by virtue of an
16 office or as a member of a general agency.

17 61) **District Superintendent Voting** – A District Superintendent regularly assigned to any Conference agency
18 by the Cabinet shall have a vote in that agency, and shall be the only District Superintendent who shall have
19 the right to vote in such agency, except where the *Discipline* provides otherwise.

20 VII. PETITIONS AND ELECTIONS TO GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

21 62) **Petitions to General Conference** – All petitions to General Conference shall be presented as prescribed
22 in ¶ 507 of the *Discipline*. Petitions for endorsement by the Annual Conference to General Conference will
23 only be considered in the year in which General Conference delegates will be elected.

24 63) **Nominations** – In a year in which elections to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences are to be held,
25 the Conference Secretary shall open nominations for lay and clergy delegates on December 15 and
26 nominations will be closed on February 15. An individual who desires to be a delegate shall download and
27 complete a candidacy nominations form from the web page. On the bottom of nominations for Lay
28 Delegates shall be the names of two Lay Members of the Annual Conference who endorse the nomination of
29 the candidate. On the bottom of nominations for Clergy Delegates shall be the names of two Clergy
30 Members who are eligible to vote for such delegates, and who endorse the nomination of the candidate.

31 a. Nominees may address their respective sessions for no more than one minute each, provided that no
32 more than forty five minutes shall be allotted for speeches. If more than 45 lay persons or
33 clergy persons are nominated, the allowed times for individual speeches will be adjusted accordingly. No
34 speeches regarding nominees will be in order after the original time allotted for such speeches.

35 64) **Balloting** – The Conference Secretary shall announce the number of clergy delegates to be elected. A
36 like number of lay delegates will be elected.

37 a. The time of initial balloting shall be set by the agenda committee.

38 b. Balloting shall be by electronic or mechanical means.

39 c. The Secretary shall announce a Chief Clergy Teller and a Chief Lay Teller, and two lists each of clergy
40 and lay assistants.

1 65) **Voting** – All members, lay and clergy, must be within the bar of the Conference to be eligible to vote.

- 2 a. Before each ballot, the President shall announce the number of delegates each ballot shall elect. To
- 3 be effective, a ballot must list the exact number of names of lay or clergy delegates to be elected.
- 4 b. The intent of the voter shall be allowed regardless of mistakes in spelling.
- 5 c. Where there is more than one member with the same family name, the Christian name or
- 6 identifying initials shall precede the family name.
- 7 d. A majority of valid votes cast shall be necessary for election, except on the ballot to elect reserve
- 8 delegates pursuant to Rule 68.
- 9 e. Only those nominated are eligible for election. If a ballot lists someone who has not been
- 10 nominated, the ballot will be disqualified.

11 66) **Counting and Reporting** –

- 12 a. After a ballot has been counted, the chief teller, either clergy or lay, shall furnish a written report to the
- 13 bishop, which shall contain (a) the number of ballots cast; (b) the number of ballots not valid; (c) the
- 14 number of valid ballots counted; (d) the number of ballots necessary to elect; and (e) the list of names of
- 15 persons voted for, including the number of votes received by each. The results will be disclosed or
- 16 displayed before the next ballot is taken.
- 17 b. Minimum Votes. On the first ballot for both General Conference and the jurisdictional conference, the
- 18 presiding officer shall read or distribute all names receiving 5 or more votes, together with the number
- 19 of votes cast for each. Thereafter, the minimum number of votes received to be included in the next
- 20 ballot shall be increased by five for each delegate elected (that is, on the first ballot a minimum of 5
- 21 votes to be included in the next ballot; after the election of the first delegate, a minimum of 10 votes to
- 22 be included in the next ballot; after the election of the second delegate, a minimum of 15 votes, etc.).
- 23 After the ballot in which the last delegate is elected to the General Conference, all the names that were
- 24 originally nominated are available for election to Jurisdictional conference. Those elected to General
- 25 Conference will not be listed.
- 26 c. If necessary, another ballot shall be taken in like manner, and so on, until the proper number of
- 27 delegates has been chosen.

28 67) **Qualifications** –

- 29 a. Clergy Delegates – The *Discipline*, ¶ 35 (Article IV), permits any active or retired member of the
- 30 Annual Conference in full connection to be eligible for election to the General or Jurisdictional
- 31 Conferences.
- 32 b. Lay Delegates - The *Discipline*, ¶ 36 (Article V), asserts that lay delegates shall be elected “without
- 33 regard to age, provided that such delegates shall have been professing members of the United
- 34 Methodist Church for at least two years next preceding their election, and shall have been active
- 35 participants in the United Methodist church for at least four years next preceding their election, and
- 36 are members thereof within the Annual Conference electing them at the time of holding the General
- 37 and Jurisdictional Conferences.”

38 68) **Reserve Delegates** – After the authorized numbers of delegates have been elected, 3 clergy and 3 lay

39 reserve delegates shall be elected on a single ballot, with the 3 persons receiving the greatest number of

40 votes in each category being elected in the order of the number of votes received.

41 VIII. CONCERNING FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

42 69) **Budget** – The Annual Conference shall adopt at each Annual Session a budget for each of the following:

43 Clergy Support, Administrative Costs of the Annual Conference, World Service, Conference Benevolences,

1 and other Apportioned Funds. These budgets become effective for the fiscal year beginning on January 1st
2 following the session. Apportionments of these budgets shall be sent to the several churches as soon after
3 the session as is feasible.

4 **70) Apportionments** – The Conference Shared Ministry Budget shall be apportioned annually among the
5 churches of the Conference according to a formula recommended by the Conference Council on Finance and
6 Administration and adopted by the Annual Conference. Following adoption, the formula will remain in effect
7 until such time as changes are recommended by the CF&A and adopted by the Annual Conference. The
8 formula shall be outlined on a Shared Ministry data sheet, which shall be distributed to the churches as soon
9 as practical after the end of each year’s annual conference, but in no event later than the end of the fiscal
10 year.

11 **71) Prior Action by Council on Finance and Administration** – Every motion, recommendation, resolution or
12 other legislative act having to do with budgeting, apportionments, allotments or expenditure of funds shall
13 first be submitted to the Council on Finance and Administration. After adequate time is allowed for
14 investigation and study, the council shall report its recommendation to the Conference. This report shall be
15 received before such legislation may be acted upon by the Annual Conference.

- 16 a. No agency or member of the Conference shall commit the Conference financially for the support of
17 programs within or beyond the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference without first obtaining the
18 approval of the Annual Conference after study and recommendation of the Council on Finance and
19 Administration, and not until funds are available or have been allocated to meet such commitments.
20 b. Any person or agency requesting an emergency offering should contact one of the Team
21 Coordinators, who will present the matter to the Cabinet and the Council on Finance and
22 Administration. Any funds received as a result of such an offering will be held by the treasurer and
23 administered by a task force established by the Cabinet for that particular appeal.

24 **72) Time Limit on Submitting Budget Requests** –

- 25 a. Requests for inclusion of an item in the Clergy Support Budget and/or the Administrative Costs of
26 the Annual Conference Budget to be acted on by an Annual Conference shall be submitted to the
27 Treasurer’s office by the third Monday of January preceding the date of the Annual Conference,
28 except in cases of unavoidable emergency.
29 b. Requests for inclusion of an item in the World Service Budget and/or the Conference Benevolences
30 Budget to be acted on by an Annual Conference shall be submitted to the Connectional Table by
31 January 15 preceding the date of the Annual Conference, except in cases of unavoidable emergency.

32 **73) Amending Allotments** – An agency shall not attempt to amend its allotment in a proposed budget
33 submitted to an Annual Conference unless it has previously presented an appeal to the Council on Finance
34 and Administration at a meeting held preceding the date of the Conference.

35 **74) Increased Asking by Amendment** – In amending a proposed budget on the floor of the Annual
36 Conference, no item shall be increased above the amount originally requested by the responsible agency in
37 its asking to the Council on Finance and Administration, except when the consent of both the agency and
38 the Council on Finance and Administration has been obtained.

39 **75) Proper Use of Budgeted Funds** – No agency of the Conference shall spend budgeted funds for any
40 purpose other than the general purpose for which the funds were originally requested, unless the consent of
41 the Council on Finance and Administration and the Ministries Team has been obtained for such a
42 reallocation. An expenditure item shall be budgeted for the year when it is expected to be spent, and it shall
43 be spent only in the year for which it is budgeted. When uncontrollable circumstances warrant, an

1 emergency request may be directed through the Ministries Team to the Council on Finance and
2 Administration for a budget adjustment.

3 **76) Financial Appeals to the Churches** – Any agency planning to send a communication or appeal to the
4 churches requesting contributions to any agency or fund shall first submit its proposed communication or
5 appeal to the Council on Finance and Administration. The Council shall ascertain if the procedure is in accord
6 with existing legislation, and shall make certain that remitting instructions are correct. Any contribution
7 received by the Conference Treasurer in response to a communication which has not been cleared as herein
8 provided shall be credited automatically to World Service and Conference Benevolences through the
9 remitting church.

10 **77) Customary Draft** – When presented and endorsed, the customary draft from the United Methodist
11 Publishing House shall be turned over to the Conference Treasurer for pensions for clergy of the central
12 conferences.

13 **78) Bonding** – All persons who hold or disburse conference funds shall be bonded in such amounts as may
14 be deemed wise by the Council on Finance and Administration.

15 **79) Fiscal Year** – The fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year, unless another fiscal year is designated
16 by the Conference Treasurer after approval by the Conference. All payments to be credited to a given fiscal
17 year shall be in the hands of the Conference Treasurer not later than the following January ~~10th~~ 20th. All local
18 church financial reports shall be forwarded to the Conference Treasurer by a deadline to be announced
19 annually.

20 **80) Audit** – The Council on Finance and Administration shall be responsible for arranging that a Certified
21 Public Accountant shall audit the accounts of the Annual Conference. The Council on Finance and
22 Administration shall publish a statement of Certification of each audit in the Journal.

23 IX. CONSENT CALENDAR

24 **81) Consent Calendar** –

25 a. The Conference Agenda Committee may present to the Annual Conference a proposed consent
26 calendar, including those items which the Annual Conference may approve with one vote of approval by the
27 Conference membership.

28 b. A written list of items on the consent calendar, including the name of the motion, name of the author,
29 and page number in the Pre-Conference Workbook will be presented to all members of the Conference
30 upon check-in at the Conference session.

31 c. The consent calendar list will include a space where Conference members may check any item(s)
32 which they would like to see removed from the consent calendar.

33 d. To vote to remove an item from the consent calendar, Conference members must:

- 34 i. Check the item(s) they wish to see removed from the list, or
- 35 ii. Write in an item which has been added subsequently by Conference action.
- 36 iii. Print his or her name and church on the list, and sign the list.
- 37 iv. Bring the list to the Conference Secretary's table and give the list to the Conference Secretary or
38 one of the Assistant Secretaries.

39 e. If any item on the consent calendar receives ten (10) or more such votes in favor of removing it from
40 the consent calendar, that item will be removed and placed on the Conference agenda by the Agenda
41 Committee.

1 f. All requests for items to be removed from the consent calendar shall be delivered to the Conference
2 Secretary as early as possible, but no requests will be received within the last twenty-four (24) hours before
3 the stated time of adjournment of the Conference session. During this last twenty-four (24) hour period,
4 items may only be removed from the consent calendar by a ¾ vote of the Conference.

5 X. NOMINATION OF EPISCOPAL CANDIDATES

6 82) **Nomination of Episcopal Candidates** - The procedure for nomination of Episcopal Candidates to the
7 Jurisdictional Conference as permitted by ¶1405 of the **Book of Discipline** shall be as follows:

- 8 a. In a year in which one or more Episcopal Candidates are to be nominated by the Annual Conference, the
9 Conference Secretary shall provide for the receiving of nominations until the deadline for submission of
10 proposed legislation for that year's annual conference. Each proposed nomination shall be submitted on
11 one side of an 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet of paper or by electronic means designated by the Conference
12 Secretary. Only eligible persons may be nominated. The Bishop shall, before the ballot is taken, remind
13 the Annual Conference of the eligibility requirements for election to the office of the episcopacy.
- 14 b. The Jurisdictional Conference delegates (acting as a group) shall have the privilege to speak to the
15 Annual Conference on behalf of the person(s) they have endorsed for nomination to the episcopacy
16 (provided they have submitted such nomination in the manner described in Rule 82(a) above). If no
17 other nominations have been submitted as indicated in Rule 82(a) above, the Bishop shall call for a vote
18 of the body. A majority vote will be sufficient for this person (these persons) to be recognized as the
19 episcopal nominee(s) of the Annual Conference.
- 20 c. If there are additional nominations submitted in accordance with Rule 82(a) above, the Bishop shall call
21 for a written or electronic ballot following this procedure:
- 22 i. Nominees may each give a three minute speech. There shall be no seconding speeches.
 - 23 ii. If any ballot contains the name of an ineligible person, that name shall not be tallied, but other
24 names on the ballot shall be tallied.
 - 25 iii. Conference members may vote for one such nominated individual. An individual must receive
26 60% of those voting to be nominated by the Annual Conference. If an individual does not receive
27 60% of the vote by the fifth ballot there will be no nominee. If someone is nominated, the
28 conference will take up to three ballots to see if a second person is nominated. If no one
29 receives 60% of the vote by the third ballot there will not be a second nominee. Those who do
30 not wish to see anyone nominated may so indicate that desire on their ballots (in the
31 manner prescribed by the Conference Secretary) and the ballot shall be counted as cast.
- 32 d. Only the persons selected in the foregoing manner shall be deemed Nominees of the Greater New
33 Jersey Annual Conference.
- 34 e. This procedure shall not foreclose efforts by individuals or groups in the Annual Conference to promote
35 the candidacy for the episcopacy of other persons.

36 XI. RULES OF ORDER RESOLUTIONS

37 83) **Resolutions to change the Rules of Order** –

- 38 a. Any resolution or proposed change, by addition or deletion to the Rules of Order, with the exception of
39 **VIII. Concerning Financial Operations**, shall first be referred to the Committee on Rules of Order for its
40 recommendation. The Committee shall submit its recommendation to the body prior to any action by
41 the body. The initiator of any proposed change to be included in the Pre-conference mailing shall at the
42 same time submit a copy of said proposed change to the chairperson of the Committee on Rules of

1 Order. The Rules Committee may request a meeting with the initiator prior to the convening of the
2 Annual Conference.

- 3 b. If the change is proposed at the site of the Annual Conference, it shall be referred to the Committee on
4 Rules of Order and a report to the body will be made no later than the next plenary session.

5 **XII. HOLY CONFERCING PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN GENERAL CONFERENCE PETITIONS**

6 84) A procedure to facilitate holy conferencing shall be used, at the Bishop's discretion, to discuss petitions to
7 General Conference regarding issues related to human sexuality or such other issues that would benefit from
8 the same procedure.

9 A special order of the day will be established to provide for holy conferencing. The special order of the day
10 shall proceed as follows:

- 11 1. Representatives of the two primary positions selected by the Bishop will each make a twenty-minute
12 presentation.
- 13 2. Upon conclusion of the opening presentations, the Bishop shall bring the Conference into silent prayer
14 for two minutes.
- 15 3. Then ten minutes will be provided for delegates to share what they heard with their fellow Christians
16 seated to their immediate left and right. This is not a time for debate, but rather to listen to what their
17 neighbors heard.
- 18 4. The Bishop will then call the Conference to order. Delegates will then have the opportunity to share their
19 thoughts with the Conference. The Bishop shall establish a total amount of time for discussion, not to
20 exceed sixty minutes. No member may speak longer than two minutes. All speakers will be notified when
21 ten seconds remain of their time. The speaker will be allowed to finish a sentence at the expiration of
22 allotted time. Then, that microphone will be cut off and the next speaker will be recognized. This will
23 continue until the total allotted minutes have elapsed or everyone who wished to be recognized had an
24 opportunity to speak, whichever comes first. No subsidiary, privileged or incidental motions will be in
25 order during this time of discussion.
- 26 5. The regular business of the Conference will then resume.

27 At a previously noted time during plenary session on the following session day, the petitions will be voted
28 upon by secret written ballot. Thirty minutes will be allotted for this vote. No debate or motions will be in
29 order at this time.

30 **XIII. HOLY CONFERCING PROCEDURE FOR PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

31 85) A procedure to facilitate holy conferencing shall be used at the Bishop's discretion to discuss proposed
32 Constitutional amendments coming from the General Conference.

33 A special order of the day may be established to provide for holy conferencing. The special order of the day
34 shall proceed as follows:

- 35 1. The co-chairs of the delegation to General Conference will present the proposed amendments to the
36 Conference in a fifteen-minute presentation. Upon conclusion of the opening presentation, the Bishop
37 shall bring the Conference into silent prayer for two minutes.
- 38 2. Then up to ten minutes will be provided for members to share what they heard with their fellow
39 Christians seated to their immediate left and right. This is not a time for debate, but rather to listen to
40 what their neighbors heard.
- 41 3. The Bishop will then call the Conference to order. Members will then have the opportunity to share

1 their thoughts with the Conference. Sixty minutes will be allotted for this. No member may speak longer
2 than two minutes. Each speaker will be notified when ten seconds remains of their time. The speaker
3 will be allowed to finish a sentence at the expiration of their time. Then, that microphone will be cut off
4 and the next speaker will be recognized. This will continue until sixty minutes have elapsed or everyone
5 who wishes to speak has been recognized whichever comes first. No changes are permitted to be made
6 to Constitutional amendments.

7 4. The regular business of the Conference will then resume.
8 At a previously noted time during a subsequent plenary session, the amendments will be voted upon by
9 secret ballot. Members will be able to vote in favor of or against each individual amendment. If a member
10 wishes to abstain, the member will leave the ballot blank for that particular amendment.

11 Should any of the foregoing Rules of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference be in conflict with the
12 provisions of the current Book of Discipline, then the provisions of the Discipline shall take precedence.

13

14

15

16 ¹As amended by the Eighteenth Session of the Annual Conference, May 2018

17

18



Wespath

BENEFITS | INVESTMENTS

**NEW DATES
FOR 2019!**

JANUARY 2 – JULY 31

BFW

Blueprint for Wellness® Screening
 \$100 PulseCash

HQ

HealthQuotient (HQ)
 Save \$250 / \$500

ALL YEAR

Wellness Points on WebMD Website
 150 points = \$150 PulseCash

Virgin Pulse® (VP) Rewards
 Up to \$160 PulseCash

PHYSICAL

EARN PULSECASH/WELLNESS POINTS

Blueprint for Wellness® Is Coming

Event: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Register by: _____

Register!

Strongly recommended for on-site event; walk-ins are very limited.

Required for screening at Quest Diagnostics facility to avoid out-of-pocket costs.

- **Online**
wespath.org > HealthFlex/WebMD
 Select “Quest Blueprint for Wellness”
- **Phone**
1-855-623-9355
 Employer group:
HealthFlex or United Methodist Church

Reasonable alternatives or waivers will be made available for those who cannot achieve recommended or improved measures due to an underlying medical condition. Requests for a reasonable alternative may be made by:

- E-mail: incentiverequest@wespath.org
- U.S. mail: Wespath Benefits and Investments
 Attention: Incentive Request
 1901 Chestnut Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025

We will work with you (and your primary care provider, if you wish) to find a reasonable alternative in order for you to be able to achieve the same reward.

* Must be enrolled in HealthFlex and in Virgin Pulse to earn PulseCash.

Blueprint for Wellness Highlights

Blueprint for Wellness (BFW) provides an opportunity to learn about your health. You'll receive personalized data on 30 health factors and:

- **Incentives**—\$100 PulseCash* and up to 140 Wellness Points. Participant and spouse in HealthFlex can *each* earn incentives.
- **Convenient options**—take the screening at our on-site event or at a local Quest Diagnostics facility.
- **No cost to you if taken** at an on-site event or registered at a local Quest Diagnostics facility.
- **Wellness Points**—earn 20 Points for each of seven health measures that meet the American Heart Association’s recommended range (or for showing improvement vs. your 2018 BFW results). Seven health measures that meet the criteria = **140 Wellness Points total**. *If you didn't do BFW in 2018, don't miss out in 2019!*
- **Fast the night before** for the most accurate results. Ask your doctor or other primary care provider (PCP) if it is safe for you to fast.
- **Confidential results mailed directly to you** to share with your PCP.

Learn More!

wespath.org > “HealthFlex/WebMD”

The *2019 Well-Being Programs FAQ* includes details about registration, health measures and how to receive the screening incentive if you can't get to an on-site event or Quest Diagnostics facility.

Participation in HealthFlex well-being programs is voluntary.
The IRS considers wellness incentives as taxable income. Please consult your tax advisor.

THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL



Grades 6–12
Day and Boarding
www.pennington.org



1 Reports to Greater New Jersey

3 A Future With Hope

4 A Future With Hope, (“AFWH”) is a Vital Mission Partner of United Methodists of Greater New Jersey and serves
5 as the mission arm of the organization. Formed in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy in 2012, AFWH has the
6 following vision: Hope emerges where residents, business, organizations, government and institutions work
7 together to heal communities.

8 During the relief phase in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, AFWH:

- 9 • Provided more than 50,000 meals
- 10 • Provided day and night shelter for more than 5,000 people
- 11 • Distributed more than 11,000 cleaning buckets, more than 3,000 health kits, tons of clothing and
12 other material supplies such as non-perishable food, heaters, blankets, etc.
- 13 • Assessed community needs and “mucked” out nearly 2,000 homes

14 During the recovery phase of Superstorm Sandy, AFWH:

- 15 • Rebuilt or repaired 273 homes
- 16 • Provided case management for 461 families
- 17 • Hosted more than 12,000 volunteers from 48 states and two countries for a labor value of
18 \$8,095,413
- 19 • Received an estimated \$17 million in funding

20 Today, AFWH is focused on community renewal with an asset-based community development ministry that
21 creates Hope Centers.

22 AFWH’s community development ministry focuses in three areas:

- 23 4. Engaging congregations and communities in Communities of Hope training. Communities of Hope
24 trains congregations and communities in strategic planning, community organizing, systemic
25 change, and working inter culturally. At the end of the training, each Community of Hope team has a
26 community strategic plan to guide its work.
- 27 5. Developing, overseeing and resourcing Hope Centers. Hope Centers are congregations and
28 community centers affiliated with GNJ that identify and provide needed services within a
29 community.
- 30 6. Leading community economic development projects that include housing development and
31 repurposing church buildings.

32 AFWH has 17 Hope Centers. Hope Centers connect United Methodists with community residents, school, non
33 profit organizations, businesses, town governments, and other faith groups to feed the hungry, provide high
34 quality childcare and educational enrichment for students, build affordable housing, assist the homeless and
35 offer job training.

36 In 2019, AFWH hired a new Executive Director, Richard Reinhard and elected new board leadership to include
37 Chris Heckert as Chair and Niurca Louis as Vice Chair.

38 Submitted by,
39 Rick Reinhard, Executive Director

1 Africa University

2
3 Africa University thrives in ministry because of the steadfast support of the local congregations of The United
4 Methodist Church. Thank you to the members of the Greater New Jersey Conference for prioritizing Africa
5 University and its ministry with an investment of 100 percent of your asking to the Africa University Fund (AUF)
6 apportionment in 2018.

7 In sowing so consistently into the Africa University Fund, the Greater New Jersey Conference continues to affirm
8 the university's core mission of nurturing leaders who help communities to know Christ and to experience peace,
9 sustainable livelihoods, food security and abundant health.

10 Institutional Update:

- 11 • In 2018, Africa University enrolled more than 700 new students and maintained an overall enrollment of
12 around 2,000 students. There were 25 African countries represented in the student body. Women made
13 up 53 percent of the student population, which is almost twice the average for African higher education
14 institutions.
- 15 • Throughout 2018, Africa University weathered the challenges of Zimbabwe's depressed and uncertain
16 socio-economic environment with creativity and prudence. The university delivered teaching, learning
17 and community service activities of high-quality without interruption, while also renewing and expanding
18 its infrastructure. Key enhancements in 2018 included the refurbishment of three residence halls for
19 women students and the full implementation of an ERP software system to integrate and manage all
20 facets of the university's operations.
- 21 • With conflict, poverty, and the impact of climate change persisting as the key drivers of food insecurity
22 and the rise in internal displacement, migration, and refugeehood in Africa, the university consolidated
23 its position as a trailblazer by offering new graduate training and research opportunities. Africa University
24 has also continued to provide scholarships for refugee women so that their experiences, talents and ideas
25 are integrated into the search for solutions.
- 26 • Africa University delivered critical data for reducing malaria deaths in southern Africa and controlling the
27 spread of insect-borne diseases world-wide. AU's insectary—a laboratory for rearing and studying live
28 insects, such as mosquitos—shares its findings through the Southern Africa Centers of Excellence for
29 Malaria Research. This data informs regional policies, practices and malaria control efforts.

30 The students, faculty, administrators and trustees of Africa University thank the members of the Greater New
31 Jersey Conference for their prayers and support, which continue to grow and sustain its ministry. Thank you,
32 Greater New Jersey United Methodists, for all that you have invested in mission and ministry through Africa
33 University over the past 27 years. Our shared story is one of transformation, hope and realized dreams, ensuring
34 for the congregations of the Greater New Jersey Conference a witness that is real and far-reaching (John 13:34-
35 35). As Africa University and the Greater New Jersey Conference move forward together in missional engagement,
36 we trust in God's unending grace for the increase.

37 Submitted by,
38 James H. Salley, Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Africa University
39 jsalley@gbhem.org
40 615.340.7438
41

Archives and History, Commission on

2018 has been a productive year of engaging in the ministry of memory for the GNJC Commission on Archives and History (CAH), as we supported vital congregations by encouraging clergy, lay leaders and church historians to strengthen their Wesleyan identity and fulfilled our Disciplinary mandate to identify, preserve and make available the historic record of ministry within GNJ. We encourage the celebration of our Wesleyan heritage and the preservation of local church history through the annual Robert B. Steelman Church History award, the Morris L. Smith Ethnic Church History award and the John C. Goodwin Multi-Media History Award, as well as through the recognition of significant church anniversaries.

We recognize congregations which were transformational in the life of our annual conference by identifying and recommending churches or locations as Conference Historic Sites and nominating them for recognition by GCAH as UM Historic Sites.

Further, we post guidelines for Church Historians, suggestions for writing church histories, records retention schedules and other valuable historical resources online and available through the CAH webpage on the GNJC website. Likewise, we provide links to access digital copies of The Historical Trail and The Circuit Writer, the respective historical journals of the former SNJ & NNJ Annual Conferences, which are available on Internet Archive.

Additionally, we collaborate with local churches and the GNJC Historical Society to provide regional venues for congregations to honor their unique faith stories and share those stories within GNJC and the NE Jurisdiction. Foremost, we maintain our GNJ Archival collection in the GCAH vault at the Archives and History Center at Drew University in Madison. Our materials are available to local churches through the services of the Archival librarian. Our extensive physical archival and digital collections serve as resources within which local churches can research their “Methodist DNA” and function as repositories where they can safely and securely store, process and maintain their historical records and artifacts.

We also stand ready to provide consultation on historical issues and assistance in planning and celebrating significant anniversaries and events, including providing speakers to lift up the historical significance of the church or explore other topics related to our Wesleyan tradition, American Methodism and GNJ history.

2018 CAH highlights include:

1. Archival Space: We preserve the historical records of closed churches within the bounds of GNJC and its antecedents and provide for the retention of the corporate records of GNJC boards, agencies and committees. We manage a 1,113 cubic foot archival collection, which is located in the fire-safe and climate controlled archival depository in the vault of the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH), UMC, in Madison, NJ. Our archival space is secured through a unique and cost-effective rental agreement with GCAH, which preserves our closed church and conference agency records and demonstrates effective stewardship by limiting the impact of archival costs on our shared ministry budget.
2. Ancestry.com: Our GNJCAH page on Ancestry.com received a total of 499,410 page-views, 286,115 image views and 213,295 text views for 2018. As a result, our closed church vital statistics (births, baptisms, deaths and marriage records) are easily accessible, highly utilized and extend our CAH influence far beyond GNJ!
3. Internet Archive: We support an extensive digital library of historical journals and resources on Internet Archive (IA) and maintain a link to this resource from the GNJC website. IA is a free portal that allows us to post an unlimited amount of historical material on the internet. Utilizing IA has increased the number of

- 1 historical resources we make available online and reduced our impact on GNJC data rates. In 2018, 83 items
2 on IA were accessed, which generated 3,420 page-views.
- 3 4. Consultation and Speaking: One of our members attended a historic site dedication in 2018. Other members
4 remain available to assist local churches in reflecting upon their Wesleyan identity and role within the
5 mission of GNJC.
- 6 5. Advertising and Displays: We ran advertisements to promote our annual church history contests in GNJ
7 Digest and UM Relay, updated our commission information and resources on the GNJC Website, and hosted
8 a display table at annual conference which highlighted our awards, conference historic sites and the work of
9 the commission.
- 10 6. Conference Historic Sites: We presented three nominations for Conference Historic Site status that were
11 approved by vote of the 2018 Session of GNJAC. These three new sites are the Kingwood UMC in Hunterdon
12 County, Clarksboro: Evangelical UMC in Gloucester County and Union City: Emmanuel UMC in Hudson
13 County. All are now listed on the GCAH denominational Historic Site list and either have already or will
14 receive UMC Historic Site Markers. Nominating these sites created excitement about our historic heritage at
15 annual conference and has proven to be a way that CAH can inspire our congregations to celebrate their
16 place in the mission and ministry of GNJC. We are nominating Centenary University in Hackettstown, NJ to
17 be considered as a Conference Historic Site by the 2019 GNJ Annual Conference Session.
- 18 7. The Robert B. Steelman Methodist History Award: The Steelman Award is given annually to the local church
19 that submits a history which best exemplifies an inclusive narrative on the life and ministry of the
20 congregation from its beginnings to the present day. We awarded the 2018 Steelman Award to Centenary
21 UMC in Metuchen, NJ. We are recognizing First UMC in Dover, NJ as the 2019 Steelman Award winner.
- 22 8. Evangelical UMC & GNJC Historical Society: CAH collaborated with Evangelical UMC in Clarksboro, NJ and the
23 GNJC Historical Society by supporting the Historical Society's 2018 Annual Meeting and historical program
24 on Saturday, October 29, 2018 celebrating The 50th Anniversary of The United Methodist Church. Rev. Fred
25 Day, General Secretary of the General Commission on Archives and History, was the keynote speaker. While
26 there, we presented Evangelical UMC with their Conference Historic Site plaque. Through this collaboration
27 we encouraged the telling of the stories of our faith tradition and recognized the contributions of one of our
28 historic congregations.
- 29 9. NEJCAH: We continue to have a representative, Donald DeGroat, on the Northeast Jurisdiction Commission
30 on Archives and History Executive Board, which gives GNJ CAH a presence, leadership role and influence on
31 the jurisdictional commission. Additionally, our chairperson and Don attended the NEJCAH meeting in
32 Lancaster, PA in May 2018 and actively supported the ministry of the jurisdictional commission.
- 33 10. Recognition of Significant Local Church Anniversaries: We presented recognition certificates to those
34 churches celebrating major anniversaries and received positive feedback that congregations were excited to
35 receive the acknowledgement.
- 36 11. Work of the Archivist: Our commission assisted local churches efforts to document their past ministry with
37 the help of our volunteer archivist, Walt Jones. Walt responded to 42 specific information requests in 2018.
38 Walt and Mark Shenise received a number of requests for information from Eryn Boyce and Beverly Schol.
39 Eryn is the historian with the Hunter Research, Inc. and conducts some research on the Windsor UMC, and
40 Springfield Emanuel UMC. We provided them with a listing of the materials contained in the Windsor UMC
41 church collection, which pertain to the churches' cemetery. In this way, we assisted the Conference Trustees
42 with clarification of issues of boundaries and deeds, etc.
- 43 12. Cost Effectiveness: A metric that is harder to quantify, but no less valuable, is the combined total of
44 resources accessed by individuals annually. The combined metrics of Ancestry.com, Internet Archive, the

1 Work of the Archivist above, along with page views of our GNJ webpage, demonstrate that we were good
2 stewards of conference resources, because we supported and resourced a significant amount of inquiry at
3 no or limited expense to the 2018 GNJC Shared Ministry budget.
4

5 GNJ Conference Historic Sites 2018

- 6 1. 44 Cape May Monument, Cape May, NJ
- 7 2. 174 Mt Zion UM Church, Lawnside, N
- 8 3. 175 First UM Church, Trenton, NJ
- 9 4. 176 Head of the River UM Church, Estell Manor, NJ
- 10 5. 177 First UM Church, Salem, NJ
- 11 6. 178 Ocean Grove Camp Meeting, Ocean Grove, NJ
- 12 7. 207 Broad Street UM Church, Burlington, NJ
- 13 8. 214 Old First UM Church, West Long Beach, NJ
- 14 9. 223 Batsto-Pleasant Mills Meeting House, Pleasant Mills, NJ
- 15 10. 224 Gloucester Point, Gloucester, NJ
- 16 11. 272 First UM Church, Sea Bright, NJ
- 17 12. 273 John Wesley UM Church, Swainton, NJ
- 18 13. 274 Trinity UM Church, Merchantville, NJ
- 19 14. 284 Pemberton UM Church, Pemberton, NJ
- 20 15. 291 Old Stone Church, Woolwich Township, NJ
- 21 16. 320 Mt. Hope UM Church, Salem, NJ
- 22 17. 426 "Old Main", Pennington School, Pennington, NJ
- 23 18. 483 Mount Tabor Camp Meeting, Mount Tabor, NJ
- 24 19. 500 South Seaville Camp Meeting Association, South Seaville, NJ
- 25 20. 509 Flanders UM Church, Flanders, NJ
- 26 21. 510 The Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ
- 27 22. 511 Port Elizabeth UM Church, Port Elizabeth, NJ
- 28 23. 513 McCullough House, Asbury, NJ
- 29 24. 514 Asbury UM Church, Asbury, NJ
- 30 25. 519 Franklin-St. John's UMC, Newark, NJ
- 31 26. 520 Morristown UM Church, Morristown, NJ
- 32 27. 522 The Theological School, Drew University, Madison, NJ
- 33 28. 537 Frankford Plains UMC, Frankford Plains, Sussex County, NJ
- 34 29. 538 Old Stone Church, Upper Nyack, NY
- 35 30. 539 St. John UM Church, Fairfield Twp., NJ (Fordville)
- 36 31. 551: Evangelical UM Church, Clarksboro, NJ
- 37 32. 552: Kingwood UM Church, Stockton, NJ
- 38 33. 553: Emanuel UM Church, Union City, NJ

39 [GNJC sites currently listed on the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH) Conference Historic Site
40 roster. Sites listed in order registered by GCAH. GCAH Historic Site Number precedes the church name.]

41 Submitted by,
42 John D. Callahan, Chairperson

1 **Church and Society, Board of**

2 The GNJAC Board of Church and Society has partnered with the conference immigration task force to approach a
3 variety of actions and public demonstrations on behalf of immigrant rights and fair treatment. In July, this
4 partnership organized an ecumenical rally outside the ICE detention center in Elizabeth, New Jersey, where
5 immigrant families were being retained. Participating in the rally were Bishop Schol, several conference staff
6 members, board members and Dean Javier Viera of Drew Theological School. Following this rally, several C&S
7 board members were trained as advocates by the First Friends non-profit organization; this training is ongoing.
8 Board members also rallied in Trenton, supporting legislation allowing immigrants to get drivers' licenses. The
9 Board has also worked on Fair Wage legislation support and signed onto the lawsuit against school segregation.
10 The Board has been thankful for the support of the conference staff as we've engaged these programs and plans
11 and anticipate ongoing collaboration.

12 Submitted by,
13 Tanya Linn Bennett

14 **Ordained Ministry Report, Board of**

15 As I complete my third year as chair of the Greater New Jersey Board of Ordained Ministry, I rejoice in the way
16 that God is working through the members of the Board in ordering the life of the clergy and serving the annual
17 conference. In addition, as we shepherd, serve and journey with candidates in their season with us, it is a
18 privilege to walk with them, offer them support and guidance and assist them in discerning where God is calling
19 them – all while doing the necessary work of evaluation as a Board.

20 For the 2018-2019 conference year, the Board has continued to develop its process of discernment for both
21 provisional and full member candidates. Through the examination of written materials, recommendations,
22 sermons, interviews, site visits and other tools of assessment, the Board will assess thirty-two candidates in total
23 – nineteen for provisional membership and thirteen who are seeking full membership.

24 We will also be hosting once again a Celebration of Ministry worship service and dinner on April 28 where we
25 will recognize and give thanks for the years of service of our current class of retirees, as well as the promise of
26 future ministry for those to be commissioned and ordained. I would especially like to thank once again the
27 Reverend Erica Muñoz and the wonderful laity of Aldersgate UMC in East Brunswick for agreeing to host this
28 event.

29 For the remainder of 2019, the Board will continue to find ways to incorporate the intercultural competency
30 initiative into our process. We will also follow through on the future pastoral leadership training event that was
31 held jointly with the cabinet, DCOM chairs and other conference leadership on January 16, 2019. The Board also
32 voted to form a subcommittee of the executive committee to explore the process for evaluating candidates in a
33 holistic way. Finally, for 2018-2019, we have instituted a covenant document for board members to sign that
34 addresses the need for accountability and confidentiality in the process.

35 Allow me to conclude my report by once again thanking the entire Board team. It starts with the vice-chair, the
36 Reverend Jessica Brendler Naulty, without whom I could not function effectively as Board chair. I am also
37 thankful for those who so willingly take on various additional responsibilities by serving on the executive
38 committee of the Board. Specifically, this year, I give thanks for the many years of service offered by the
39 Reverend Eunice Vega-Perez and the Reverend Hector Burgos as they transition off the Board as members in
40 their new role as District Superintendents. In a similar category is the Reverend Drew Dyson, who will no longer
41 be the DS representative to the Board but will remain on the Board as a member.

1 There are the members of the full board who so willingly read pages of candidates' paperwork, make site visits
2 that are often far away from their local church setting and attend retreats and other necessary meetings. As I
3 comment every year, however, what I am most impressed with is how the Board cares for and nurtures the
4 candidates who we see. They work very hard to ensure that the process, while evaluative, is also spirit-filled.
5 Last, but not least, I am grateful for the administrative assistance that we so graciously receive from Beverly
6 Karlovich in the Mission and Resource Center. Beverly is always there to support the work of the Board!

7 I give thanks to God to be able to serve with all my colleagues, both lay and clergy!

8 Submitted by,
9 Thomas J. Korkuch, Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry

10 **Cabinet**

11 In the midst of constant cultural shift around and within the church, raised anxieties that can result in responses
12 and actions that are not always helpful, the Psalmist asks us to dig deeper to connect with the One who is our
13 refuge and strength, and then to be still in the midst of the storms of shifting expectations and understandings
14 to rest in God who will lead us through.

15 United Methodists in Greater New Jersey are not immune from the challenges of changing times. We are not
16 immune from the influences of a culture that divides rather than unites, that tears down rather than builds up.
17 As of this writing, we do not know the results of the Special Session of the General Conference, nor what the
18 next steps will be.

19 In spite of the uncertainty, the cabinet of GNJ celebrates that God gives us the hope, the vision and the strength
20 to continue to be the body of Christ in the world, firm in our commitment to continue to equip and empower
21 clergy and laity, staying focused on the mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world.

22 One of the great privileges we have as a cabinet is that, in spite of the challenges, we continue to see
23 congregations and their pastors doing Spirit-filled, creative and life-giving work in their communities and
24 beyond. There are small congregations who do mission work that far exceeds what anyone would expect with
25 limited numbers, middle sized and larger congregations that are engaged in ministries of justice and mercy that
26 are transforming their communities, individual lay persons who are so inspired by the ministry of their local
27 church that they are taking this into the workplace, young people who have heard the call of Christ and are
28 committing themselves to full-time Christian service and clergy taking risks to engage new persons. We
29 celebrate that in so many ways, persons across GNJ are growing in their discipleship, responding to the call to be
30 Christ for the world firmly rooted in their faith. The faithfulness of persons of all ages, from all size churches,
31 from all walks of life affirms the beautiful kaleidoscope that is the body of Christ that is so evident and abundant
32 within GNJ.

33 With the adoption of a new strategic plan at last year's Annual Conference, the work of the cabinet is shifting to
34 focus on meeting the goal of identifying and equipping 100 lay and clergy leaders who make disciples who make
35 disciples. Along with this is the goal to resource 100 congregations who are ready and willing to make the
36 cultural shifts, structural changes and mission focus to grow their churches to the next size in worship
37 attendance. As superintendents, we often hear congregations request pastors who can do what was successful
38 20 or more years ago. We know that this is an ineffective strategy because a new time calls for new leadership
39 and ministry approaches and we, partnering with the Connectional Ministry Team, are committed to providing
40 appropriate resources to pastors and laity such as coaching, PaCE, Breakthrough, Team Vital, the Leadership

1 Development program, the practices of 4DX (Four Disciplines of Execution) and other resources so that GNJ can
2 move forward to meet our goal.

3 Our strategic plan also commits GNJ to grow in intercultural competency. The racial/ethnic, cultural and
4 theological diversity of GNJ is an amazing blessing, but this comes with challenges in appointing strategic
5 pastoral leadership, as well as recruiting and raising up effective, transformational leaders for future years who
6 can effectively serve the diverse population of our region and grow the church. Working with the bishop in
7 making appointments is a significant role of the cabinet, but it is only a part of the work of equipping
8 congregations to more closely resemble the community in which the church is located. We continue in our
9 disciplinary role as missional strategists to work with clergy and congregations to be outward focused and
10 invitational to reach new people for Jesus Christ.

11 As superintendents, we are charged by the church to work with the bishop for supervision and oversight. This
12 often means that we are engaged in circumstances where there are differing expectations and understandings
13 and conflict can arise. The cabinet enters into these situations together with deep prayer and reflection,
14 discerning the necessary steps to move forward to fulfill the mission that God has called us to fulfill.

15 Finally, the cabinet itself is in a time of transition as three new persons, Hector Burgos, Sang Won Doh, and
16 Eunice Vega-Perez will transition in as new superintendents. Each brings a passion for ministry, proven
17 experience and a deep commitment to grow the church to be more vital and relevant in our area. We also will
18 see two of us transition off the cabinet. Drew Dyson, after five years as Raritan Valley superintendent, is starting
19 a new phase of his journey in an extension ministry. Steve Bechtold, having completed eight years on the
20 cabinet, will be returning to serve in the local church. Though transitions come with uncertainty, this is a time
21 for the cabinet team to be thankful that through it all, God is with us, our refuge and strength.

22 Submitted by,
23 Steven G. Bechtold on behalf of the GNJ Cabinet

24 **Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society (CPAS)**

25 The Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society was established by charter granted in 1857. In 2000 the charter
26 was amended to rename the corporation The Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society of the Greater New
27 Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The purpose of the Fund is to provide maximum
28 income, consistent with the preservation of principal, for the support of retired clergy and surviving spouses and
29 dependent children of deceased clergy who have served in the GNJ Annual Conference.

30 A primary way the Fund meets that purpose today is by contributing towards the cost of providing retiree
31 healthcare. In 2018 the amount contributed was \$610,000 and since 2004 the Fund has contributed
32 approximately \$7 million for this purpose. The Fund also provides grants to pastors and their families with
33 special needs who have requested aid, including help with extraordinary medical expenses, transportation
34 needs and loans to assist retired pastors obtain housing in Methodist (and other) Homes, among other ways.
35 Several such grants totaling just over \$16,000 in all were made in 2018.

36 The Fund has only been able to do this through the generous support of clergy, laity and churches, by means of
37 annual contributions and periodic donations as well as bequests. Since inception the Fund has received more
38 than \$6.3 million in donations and in 2018 over \$40,000 was donated. A generous bequest totaling almost
39 \$90,000 was also received. The Fund Balance as of the end of 2018 was \$10,541,735 .

1 To continue support for retired clergy and their families in the future, increased donations will be needed.
2 Reverend Douglas Miller is the Centenary Fund’s Outreach Director and is working to increase our Donation
3 Base. We have also partnered with the Stewardship Foundation and the Communications Committee to raise
4 our profile and increase our support.

5 We hope you will help us build up the Centenary Fund with your tax-free donations so that The Centenary Fund
6 and Preachers Aid Society will be able to continue the substantial contributions needed in the future to fund
7 retiree healthcare and to provide aid to retired clergy and their dependents.

8 Thank you so much for your support to date.

9 Submitted by,
10 David E Wiley III, Interim Chair

11 **Christian Outreach Project**

12 The Christian Outreach Project is a New Jersey non-profit corporation, recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3)
13 corporation, a GNJ Advance Special, as well as A Future with Hope – Hope Center. COP provides free home
14 repairs and renovations for people in northwestern New Jersey to people in need and has been in operation
15 since 1983.

16 High school aged youth and adult volunteers donate their caring and skills while learning and growing in the
17 process. In addition to home repairs, participants engage in morning devotionals, singing, worship and
18 recreational activities. Our volunteer Board of Directors meets throughout the year to evaluate, plan and
19 prepare for our program. COP is funded solely by donations, grants and participant fees.

20 Poverty in northwestern New Jersey is often hidden. Our clients live in communities that do not recognize their
21 needs. Our clients range from the elderly on fixed incomes, to those with disabled family members and include
22 single parents working hard to make ends meet. In addition to the much-needed repairs, we regularly see our
23 clients refreshed with a new sense of hope. Many interact with youth, sharing their stories of their families and
24 their faith.

25 COP puts faith into action. Living in Christian community is the basis of our program and we model the teachings
26 of Christ by helping others. We strive for an inclusive community through intergenerational interaction, a broad
27 mix of economic means and people of various ethnicities. We encourage and support our youth volunteers in
28 becoming leaders in their churches and expanding their skill sets.

29 COP had a successful program in 2018. We had 38 participants from 8 area churches that were able to repair
30 and renovate homes for 11 families in need in Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties during the last week of June.
31 We are looking forward to and planning for, our 2019 program that runs from June 30 – July 6.

32 To learn more about the Christian Outreach Project, please visit our website: www.christianoutreachproject.org.

33 Submitted by,
34 David Kihm, Executive Director

35 **Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Concerns, Commission on**

36 United Methodists of Greater New Jersey have been functioning to recognize and sensitize the United
37 Methodists to the Christian unity that its members received from their Savior Jesus Christ and continues to
38 support the ecumenical unity and inter-faith relations. We as the members of this conference prayerfully

1 support all the ecumenical bodies such as World Council of Churches, World Methodist Conference and attend
2 the ecumenical meetings in the State of New Jersey as well as in United States of America.

3 We helped the New Jersey Council of Churches through our funds and sharing our concerns on ecumenical
4 activities of the church as a whole.

5 We have also recognized the presence of people of other faiths in our midst in gratitude and have enabled
6 United Methodists to see our ecumenical vision through the participation in the ecumenical conferences and
7 meetings. We believe that our ecumenical vision will receive new vitality and energy and grow into meeting the
8 challenges today.

9 We provided funds for persons to attend the National Workshop on Christian Unity held in early 2018 in
10 Washington D.C. During this event, Eucharistic sharing of different denominations was celebrated.

11 We are happy with the joint effort of Young Adult Council and Commission of Christian Unity and Inter-religious
12 Concern could secure a scholarship to Ms. Rachel Callender to attend the Ecumenical Institute at Bossey in Fall
13 2019.

14 We are planning to co-sponsor a lunch-on during conference with the Board of Church and Society and trying to
15 invite a guest speaker.

16 New Jersey is larger than our church and we believe that the people of other faiths and denominations have a
17 common search for wholeness and perfection. We are called to be a part of an emerging task of mutual trust
18 through conversations and common struggles for justice and peace. New Jersey provides us the greatest
19 opportunity to enter dialogue with people of other faiths in order to build community together and share with
20 them our rich heritage as well as learn from their rich stories.

21 We continue to support of both the National Council of Churches and the New Jersey Council of Churches.

22 We continue to work with the Interfaith Dialogue with and in sponsoring smaller, regional lunch-on meetings on
23 specific topics.

24 We continue to recognize persons and congregations who are active in ecumenical relations through the
25 Bishop's Award for Christian Unity.

26 Submitted by,
27 Vijaya Kumar, Chair

28 **CUMAC (Center of United Methodist Aid to the Community)**

29 Thank you to our wonderful friends and partners within the GNJ Annual Conference for your unwavering
30 commitment to CUMAC's mission. Through your support, CUMAC served more people than ever last year and
31 provided thousands of our neighbors with the resources they need to live healthy and hunger-free.

32 Here are some of last year's highlights:

- 33 • Our Food Pantry provided nearly 30,000 people, including over 7,500 children, with monthly
34 groceries to stave off hunger, while an additional 19,000 people received produce and fresh food
35 items
- 36 • Our Mobile Pantry ensured that these same foods were available to those living in underserved
37 areas of our community

- Our Depot provided storage space, refrigeration, trucking and resources for over 70 local agencies, schools, soup kitchens, offices and shelters. Over 1.9 million pounds of food were processed for those in need
- Our Community Closet supported more than 230 people with disaster relief after experiencing fire, flood, domestic abuse relocation and other hardships
- Through Place of Promise, 10 people had a place to call home and a support system to assist them as they work to overcome years of homelessness and instability
- 35 men and women had the opportunity to learn critical job skills needed to move toward gainful employment through our Pathways to Work program
- 20 local pantries and agencies were supported in their efforts to feed the hungry by the Community Food Coalition

At CUMAC, we are always challenging ourselves to dream big and find better ways to serve our community. With the needs of our neighbors in mind, CUMAC’s ministry continues to evolve and grow. This past year has been a whirlwind of activity and our staff is thrilled to be reaching our clients in new and powerful ways.

With 1 in 8 seniors facing hunger in New Jersey, CUMAC revved up its efforts to stop senior hunger in 2018. CUMAC is now partnering with several local adult medical day care centers to provide grocery bags and other essentials to food insecure seniors around our community. Thousands of pounds of resources are being shared monthly, which has allowed hundreds of additional residents to access our services without needing to worry about finding transportation to our pantry.

Along with reaching new, underserved populations, CUMAC took steps to improve services for existing clients in 2018. For the first time in its history, CUMAC conducted formal focus group sessions, helping our staff to better understand the needs of our clients and the challenges they face. The most critical discovery from CUMAC’s research was identifying a serious gap in access to healthy food and resources among our clients. To help address these issues, CUMAC recently launched it’s Beyond Hunger Initiative, which includes 3 major objectives:

- Have a healthy food pantry
- Have an effective job readiness program
- Be a vibrant place to work & receive clients

As part of Beyond Hunger, CUMAC’s flagship food pantry is transitioning to a health-focused, choice marketplace. Planning is underway and by later this year, CUMAC’s marketplace will resemble a grocery store, where a full array of goods will be displayed and clients will be able to shop for what they need. We anticipate that transitioning to a choice pantry will better equip clients to meet their unique food and nutrition needs.

Additionally, CUMAC is working with the Community Food Bank of New Jersey and the New Jersey Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics to upgrade the contents of our grocery bags to promote optimal health among our clients. Going forward, monthly food allocations shared in our pantry will prioritize fresh fruits and vegetables, lean meats, quality proteins, whole grains, low-fat dairy, legumes and other healthy foods. For those living on a tight budget or struggling with food related health issues, these bags will provide them with the items they need to stay healthy and hunger-free. On average, 19,000 people are already receiving surplus produce annually from CUMAC’s pantry. Fresh items are procured through a combination of food rescue, purchasing and donations. With a larger, more efficient space, CUMAC will be able to expand healthy food access and assist even more of our neighbors in the months ahead.

Along with making healthy foods more readily available, CUMAC’s new marketplace will address health disparities in our area by providing clients access to nutrition education, live food demonstrations, health

1 screenings, resource information and other supportive services. Feeding over 4,000 people every month
2 provides our pantry with the unique opportunity to improve the long-term health and wellbeing of our
3 community. By teaming up with our community partners to offer these clients wraparound services, we will be
4 able to provide our neighbors with the resources they need to build a healthier future.

5 To further support our community, CUMAC recently relaunched its Pathways to Work program with additional
6 services for those struggling to find gainful employment. Along with job experience and professional
7 development opportunities, Pathways to Work now offers assistance with resume writing, onsite tutoring for
8 GED prep and college readiness, mock interviews, networking options, forklift training and certification and
9 resources to aid participants with their job search. The revamped program has been a tremendous help for
10 community members that are working to jumpstart their careers. We are proud to share that nine of our
11 Pathways participants found full-time positions in 2018 and we are hoping to support even more of our
12 neighbors in the coming year.

13 These program changes are just a few of the ways CUMAC is becoming a more vibrant place to work and receive
14 clients. To reach our goals of going beyond hunger, we will continue to invest in our team, those we serve and
15 our infrastructure.

16 In 2018, our staff made efforts to address major facility and equipment needs. The renovation of our warehouse
17 floors, as well as the installation of energy-efficient LED lights, heating units and an industrial-sized humidifier
18 have all made our building a brighter, cleaner, more comfortable place to work. CUMAC also hired two new staff
19 members to fill critical roles in our warehouse operations last year. Both of our new hires are from the local
20 community and bring with them a deep knowledge and understanding of the challenges faced by CUMAC's
21 clientele. Their perspective and influence have been an asset to our team. These improvements to our
22 warehouse assisted in what was our most productive year yet. In 2018, nearly 2 million pounds of food were
23 processed in our Depot, or the equivalent of over 1.5 million meals. Food and other resources were shared with
24 over 70 different community agencies, schools, shelters and soup kitchens.

25 As our staff works toward our big, crazy dreams and strives to create lasting change in our community, your
26 support remains vital. Throughout 2018, churches of the GNJ Annual Conference showed time and again how
27 committed they are to CUMAC's ministry. 32 Methodist churches sent volunteers, while 98 churches held food
28 drives and other collections, or made financial contributions to support our mission. Bible studies, UMWs,
29 UMMs, youth groups, young adult groups, pastors, lay leaders and congregants alike shared their time, talent
30 and resources to support our shared vision of a future without hunger. They joined hands with local civic groups,
31 corporations, schools and other houses of worship to help make our world a kinder, more loving place for all of
32 God's children. On behalf of our staff and all of our clients, thank you for your incredible dedication and support.

33 For our friends, old and new, there are many ways to ensure that none among us go hungry this year. Food
34 collections and financial donations are instrumental to ensuring that we are able to provide the best possible
35 care for all of our struggling brothers and sisters. Volunteers are necessary throughout the year to sort food,
36 provide tutoring and to prepare household items. With 1 in 10 people facing hunger, 1 in 7 children, your efforts
37 to organize speaking events and educational opportunities are imperative to keeping hunger awareness alive.
38 Most importantly, your support, in any capacity, helps bring hope and relief to our neighbors who need it most.
39 We simply couldn't help so many without your generosity and care, truly we are blessed to have you as a
40 partner in our mission. Thank you for feeding people and changing lives with us.

1 CUMAC can be reached by calling 973-742-5518 or e-mailing info@cumacecho.org. Information about our work
2 is available at www.cumac.org, facebook.com/cumacfeedspeople, twitter.com/cumacfeeds or
3 instagram.com/cumacfeeds.

4 Submitted by,
5 Adrian Diaz

6 **Drew Theological School, Drew University**

7 Drew University Theological School continued its multi-year self-transformation by launching its new curriculum
8 for the Master of Divinity in the fall of 2018. This entirely reconceived degree seeks to form graduates that are
9 rooted in the Christian story and traditions, capable of effective, adaptive, and creative leadership, and
10 spiritually and socially resourceful for cultivating the transformative gospel of Jesus Christ in, with and for the
11 church and world. A new two-year degree, the Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry also launched and offers
12 students the opportunity to prepare for public leadership or a specialized vocation through deep theological and
13 ethical reflection informed by biblical, historical, theological and practical sources.

14 New pathways in the Master of Arts, the Master of Sacred Theology and the Doctor of Ministry were also
15 created as part of the curriculum transformation process which seeks to more intentionally focus the school's
16 service to the Church, as well as to the academy and civil society.

17 Drew welcomed 145 entering students this academic year, its largest entering class in over a decade, with an
18 overall enrollment of 350 for the current academic year.

19 In the coming year a new 5-year strategic plan will be developed, new degree delivery options that increase
20 accessibility and affordability for prospective students, as well as new partnerships with annual conferences,
21 other church bodies and values-based organizations that share and strengthen Drew's mission to advance
22 peace, justice, love of God, neighbor, and the earth.

23 Submitted by,
24 Rev. Dr. Javier Viera, Dean, Theological School

25 **Episcopacy Committee**

26 The Episcopacy Committee met quarterly with Bishop Schol during the past year for the purpose of support,
27 encouragement, communication of Conference priorities and to provide feedback when solicited. We have
28 participated in an evaluation of the Bishop, discussed matters related to the Jurisdictional Committee on
29 Episcopacy and assured that the Episcopal residence is in excellent condition. At each meeting the Bishop
30 provided a report of his work and goals for the Conference and kept us updated on proposals related to The
31 Way Forward. The Committee has had lively as well as serious discussions of the reports and items brought
32 before the Committee. The Bishop responded candidly to our questions and listened receptively to our
33 expressed opinions. We appreciate his openness and positive example throughout the year.

34 Submitted by,
35 Eleanor Hartley, Chair of the Episcopacy Committee

36 **Finance and Administration, Council on**

37 During 2018, in connection with God, our denomination, our conference and our local churches, we were again
38 able to further our work in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. In partnership with the leadership of
39 Conference, our Bishop and Cabinet, the Council on Finance and Administration has remained focused on

1 insuring financial discipline and effective administration of our conference. Our local churches and
2 congregations have likewise led the support for these efforts by achieving the Shared Ministry collection rate of
3 88%, which was consistent with the prior year. We were blessed that 389 of our local churches paid 100% of
4 their shared ministry allocation, while 421 paid 100% of their billables. We are grateful to the churches of the
5 Conference for their stewardship and support, together we are accomplishing the work of Christ throughout our
6 conference.

7 During 2018 we were able to maintain our funding commitments, for our staff and our programs, as well as for
8 our clergy benefit programs. In doing so, we remain committed and focused to continue to achieve our planned
9 long term goals. We have also worked closely with other committees in support of our Strategic Plan, Hope
10 Center developments, as well as further outreach efforts to the communities we serve. In doing so, expenses
11 were well controlled throughout the Conference, allowing our Conference to finish the year achieving all of our
12 financial goals and paying 100% of our General Church apportionments, for the 12th consecutive year.

13 The year also was marked by continued prudent investment returns, managed in partnership with Wespath Inc.,
14 as well as an enviable audit report of 2017, with no significant deficiencies or audit findings. All of the Council's
15 sub committees were efficient and timely in their respective areas, finalizing revisions to our employee manual,
16 developing local programs and insuring prudent management of all of our given resources.

17 As we begin 2019, we remain empowered by where Christ is leading us, as we consider the challenges post the
18 Special General Conference. During our Special GNJ Conference we were able to propose a revised budget, with
19 reduced spending and apportionments for our local churches. We are working to address key areas of focus,
20 including financial guidelines for clergy, shared resources, as well as relationships with our churches and our
21 staff. Additionally, we recognize the need to remain focused on attaining our current Shared Ministry formula
22 goals and are committed to achieving the goal for the 2019 budget.

23 As in past years, the efforts of our Treasurer, John Cardillo and his staff have been exemplary, with continued
24 excellence as they have preformed their roles. All of our staff remains dedicated to continuing to achieve
25 outstanding results and their work does not go unnoticed. We are blessed by them and are grateful and thankful
26 for the blessings of them in our conference and lives!

27 In closing, on behalf of the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, we offer our thanks to Bishop
28 John Schol and the Cabinet for their leadership and support, as together we continue to spread the good news
29 of Our Savior Jesus Christ.

30 Submitted by,
31 Robert Dietz, President

32 **First Friends of New Jersey and New York**

33 The mission of First Friends of New Jersey and New York ("First Friends") is to uphold the inherent dignity and
34 humanity of detained immigrants and asylum seekers by providing compassion and hope through volunteer
35 visitation, resettlement assistance and advocacy. In New Jersey, there are approximately 2,200 immigrants and
36 asylum seekers detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") in three county jails (Bergen,
37 Essex, Hudson Counties) and one private facility (Union County). First Friends is the only organization in the
38 New York metropolitan area that systematically provides services to immigrants incarcerated by ICE.

39

1 First Friends provides an array of services for immigrants and asylum seekers who are detained and for those
2 who are released but have no support. Within our Visitation Program, the core of our work, we manage a free
3 hotline for detained immigrants and asylum seekers who are held in immigration custody in New Jersey to
4 provide support and services and connect them with volunteer visitors and pen pals. Through our semiannual
5 Stamp Out Despair Campaign, we provide each of the 2,200 detained immigrants in northern New Jersey with a
6 folder containing a note of welcome and encouragement, First Friends contact information, stationery, greeting
7 cards, plain paper, postage stamps, envelopes and a pen to keep in touch with family and friends. In our
8 Community Supported Post Release Program, we promote the self-sufficiency of immigrants and asylum seekers
9 who are released from detention through services such as transitional housing, transportation, food, clothing,
10 medical care, education, employment services and interpretation/translation services.

11
12 As the number of detainees held in New Jersey has grown over the years, including a large number of asylum
13 seekers, so has the demand for our services. In 2018 First Friends supported 295 volunteers who undertook
14 1,137 hours of visitation at the four detention centers in New Jersey. We could not do this work without the
15 generous support of local Methodist churches throughout our conference and the United Methodist Women.

16 First Friends, along with Bishop Schol and other Faith Leaders from across New Jersey participated in the prayer
17 rally at the Elizabeth detention center in July 2018 hosted by GNJ's Board of Church and Society and
18 Hispanic/Latino Committee in support of immigrant children who have been separated from their parents.

19 In January 2019, First Friends welcomed Victor Salama as our new Executive Director. Victor has prioritized
20 strengthening our strategic planning and under his guidance, the First Friends team has created SMART Goals for
21 2019 that are focused on program, finances, community partnerships and outreach.

22 To learn more about the mission of First Friends and how you can be a part of this important mission, please
23 visit firstfriendsnjny.org or contact us at info@firstfriendsnjny.org.

24 Submitted by,
25 Victor Salama, Executive Director, First Friends NJ/NY

26 Gateway South Poverty Task Force

27 The Gateway South Poverty Task Force is a collaborative effort of clergy and lay of the churches of the Gateway
28 South district. Currently we have representation from Magnolia UMC, Memorial UMC (Pine Hill), St. Andrews
29 UMC, 1st UMC (Collingswood), Williamstown UMC, Mt Zion UMC (Lawnside).

30 In 2017 we decided to focus our efforts on a root cause of poverty and chose literacy. We had a massive book
31 drive where we collected over 2500 books which were sorted and tagged to go out to places where libraries do
32 not exist. The idea of a pop-up library was simple. Take books into areas where people do not have easy access
33 to libraries and allow them to have the books. We set up in soup kitchens, shelters, on the streets, food pantries
34 and The Neighborhood Center. Currently we have over 2 dozen pop-up library sites and we most recently
35 opened a library in Pine Hill that is stationary. It will serve the community by offering books, computer access
36 and eventually classes on things like resume writing, job searching and tutoring.

37 Through a collaborative effort with Computer Smiles we have been given 2 computers to assist the community.
38 In the summer of 2018 we launched a pilot program at The Neighborhood Center focusing on literacy. During
39 summer camp we came one day a week for 90 minutes to expose students to reading and related activities. We
40 hope to launch in the afterschool program in Spring 2019 and continue with the summer program and launch

1 one at the Pine Hill site as well in Summer 2019. We continue to find ways to address the challenge of illiteracy
2 that many faces in creative ways.

3 Submitted by,
4 Cherese Evans

5 **Global Ministries, Board of**

6 The Conference Board of Global Ministries works with Missionaries, our Advance Specials, Agencies, Conference
7 staff and it also aligns with the strategic goals of GNJC.

8 Advance Specials: Each Advance Special is assigned to a CBGM member who acts as the liaison with the Board to
9 assure that their ministries continue. Visits with the agency have been planned for Spring 2020. Advance
10 Specials are required to submit a reapplication each year and provide supporting documentation. The list of
11 Advance Specials may be found in the Board's resolution.

12 Global missions, Conference Secretary (CSGM): In the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference the position of
13 CSGM is held by the Chair of the Board of Global Ministries as well. The CSGM works with the General Board of
14 Global Ministries in accommodating missionaries who will be itinerating in our Conference. In 2018 Princess
15 Jusu, Elizabeth Tapia and Ricardo Ramos itinerated in GNJ.

16 Isabel Quezada attended the UMC Day of Health in Georgia. This was a three-day event which showcased the
17 innovative projects and programs that many United Methodist churches, organizations, and partners are
18 engaged in. This event also equipped conference health coordinators with tools and resources to aid churches in
19 the establishment and enhancement of health ministries.

20 We also had the pleasure of Becky Parsons NEJ Mission Advocate, Northeastern Jurisdiction visiting us. Becky
21 met with the Conference Board of Global Ministries and shared good insights to assist us with the work of this
22 committee.

23 The Conference Board of Global Ministries has met several times during this period to discuss activities for 2020.
24 The committee continues to work towards being more involved in connecting youths and young adults with
25 mission opportunities in our Conference. The committee will also continue to motivate more churches to
26 support Advance Specials.

27 Submitted by,

28 Isabel R. Quezada, Chair of the Board of Global Ministries

29 **Higher Education and Ministries, Board of**

30 The Board of Higher Education and Ministries (BHEM) has mandates and responsibilities listed under ¶1634 in
31 The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church and is the leadership development agency of The United
32 Methodist Church. Its mission is preparing global leaders for a global church and the world. Every elder, deacon
33 and licensed local pastor benefits from our training and candidacy programs. Many young adults find help in
34 clarifying their vocation and God's call on their lives through our leadership and discernment programs.
35 (gbhem.org)

36 UM Collegiate Ministries are the missional presence of The United Methodist Church on college and university
37 campuses around the world. Through a network of chaplaincies, Wesley Foundations, ecumenical ministries and
38 church-based ministries, The United Methodist Church reaches more than 1,300 campuses around the world!

1 We are called to share with our campuses the transformational nature of Christ in a way that raises up a new
2 generation of thoughtful, articulate Christians who care about making the world a better place. While this calling
3 looks and feels very different across our campuses, it is central to our identity and it compels us to provide
4 intentional, student-led ministries that reach this emerging generation of leaders. (gbhem.org)

5 The Board of Higher Education and Ministries of GNJ has been experiencing positive structural changes within
6 our Annual Conference and along with coaching provided by Ministry Architects, Inc. we can say that this year
7 has been an innovative, creative and transformational one as we become one of the components of Next Gen
8 Ministries under the new strategic plan and under the leadership of the Executive Director of Next Gen
9 Ministries, Eric Drew. This year we are journeying alongside Young Adults Ministries, Camping Ministries and
10 Ignite discerning ways in which we can reach the younger generation to continue to make disciples that make
11 disciples across GNJ and beyond.

12 We are so grateful for the support provided by the GNJ Conference leadership and staff and GNJ congregations
13 for the many opportunities we have to develop leaders through financial and human resources, trainings and
14 leadership development. In return, BHEM provides GNJ with skilled, talented and gifted leaders that serve our
15 young people acknowledging them as leaders today while preparing them for tomorrow's generation and
16 missional opportunities.

17 Every year BHEM encourages the participation of clergy and laity in the search for a recipient of the Francis
18 Asbury Award (non-monetary award). This award recognizes those who encourage and support higher
19 education and campus ministries within the United Methodist Church. It is for all clergy or lay, employed or
20 volunteer, who are active in supporting, strengthening and promoting higher education ministries.

21 In 2018 our agency received 71 scholarship applications from high school and college students pursuing
22 undergrad studies, of which forty were submitted with all the required documentation and signatures on or
23 before the deadline. We met as a board to review the application, the process and the list of requirements for
24 the scholarships and improve the wording to clarify the application instructions. In the review process we were
25 presented with the opportunity by the GNJ Communications Department to provide students with an online
26 scholarship application that would be submitted electronically. We are pleased to inform that as of the date of
27 this report we have not had any inquiries regarding the process. Out of the forty applications, 28 scholarships
28 were awarded; all over \$500 each.

29 As always, students inspire us with their letters in which they share their academic, spiritual, and community
30 outreach goals. Pastors, mentors and church leaders share in their recommendation letters the many ways that
31 the applicants are active in the life of the church and the community, making disciples and serving one another
32 in the exemplary love of Jesus.

33 The Board of Higher Ed and Ministry of GNJ provides campus ministers and chaplains with grants that assist in
34 promoting their campus ministries, outreach opportunities for and to students, mission, service and staffing.
35 This year we will be providing coaching opportunities for chaplains and campus ministers, workshops and
36 retreats to bridge relationships and enhance creativity amongst each other. We currently have identified three
37 campuses with the potential to become our newest campus ministries in the next two years!

38 An Agency Grant Fund Application is completed every year and submitted for approval. The approved 2018
39 grant funded the following campuses:

- 40 • Rockland County Community College, John Kwon

1 • Centenary University, Timothy Nicinski
2 • Wesley Foundation/Princeton University, Erik “Skitch” Matson
3 • Kingston University/Feed Truck, Jessica Winderweedle,
4 • Rutgers University, Joseph Jueng (This is GNJ’s newest campus ministry! Have you seen the video
5 the Communications Department has put together? Check it out at GNJ website.)
6 Once a year members of our board meet with our campus ministers and chaplains to listen to their stories,
7 bright spots, challenges and the impact they are experiencing in their campuses. From conversations we learned
8 that they are engaging with the college and university communities in worship, Bible studies volunteering in the
9 community food banks and community projects. They are launching ministries and mission initiatives, providing
10 meals to the community and to students on campus, sharing meals in fellowship, connecting with the
11 community in relationships and bridging opportunities, partnering with other organizations, holding ecumenical
12 events and providing and creating safe spaces for students where powerful questions are asked and every
13 student is heard. Our campuses are led by leaders that dream, envision, promote connection and deepen
14 relationships.

15 Your continued prayers and support for our campuses, ministers and chaplains; our board members, and our
16 conference youth and leaders will be greatly appreciated!

17 Submitted by,
18 Iraida Ruiz de Porras, Chair

19 **Hispanic/Latino Ministry, National Plan for**

20 The National Plan for Hispanic-Latino Ministries Committee in GNJ vision is to help the Hispanic-Latino
21 congregations to contextualize the GNJ Strategic Plan, vision and mission. We are not only rooted in our faith
22 and Wesleyan traditions but also in our cultures and heritage knowing that, with these, we enriched GNJ along
23 with others and bring the gift of diversity and multiculturalism. We all together following a call and a dream, to
24 reflect the image of Christ and to help build the Kingdom of God here as part of GNJ.

25 **Leadership Development**

26 SELAH- (Hispanic/Latino Theological and Leadership Development Training Center). The mission of SELAH is to
27 equip disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world; It’s purpose is recruit and develop
28 transformational leaders for the church of the 21st century by providing theological and practical ministry and
29 leadership development education in the Wesleyan tradition. We have been working on SELAH’s new
30 curriculum, recruiting and selecting teachers who will be part of the faculty and organizing the administration
31 team.

32 **Support to Children and Youth Ministry**

33 Every year we support the Hispanic/Latino Children and Youth Retreat called “Niños y Jovenes para Cristo” that
34 usually takes place at Pinelands Center. In 2018, we offered scholarships to 80 campers and 20 scholarships to
35 help Hispanic Latino youth to participate at Barefoot Republic Camp. We also sent 3 young adults to participate
36 in HYLEA (Hispanic Youth Leadership Academy)

37 **Support to Walk to Emmaus**

38 We continue to support the ministry of Walk to Emmaus. This is a highly effective resource that provides
39 spiritual formation for people to become faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Where more than 100 Hispanic-Latino

1 men and women had the opportunity to not only to have a transformational spiritual experience but many of
2 them also have found clarity in Gods calling for their life and ministry.

3 **Support to Mission U**

4 As part of our commitment with leadership development this year we offered scholarships for 7 adults, 4
5 children and 2 youth to participate at the Mission u 2018.

6 **Support to MARCHA**

7 This year we helped support MARCHA (Methodist Associated Representing the Causes of Hispanic Americans).
8 For more than 46 years, MARCHA has enlisted its constituency in the critical work of giving voice to the concerns
9 that significantly impact the Hispanic/Latino members of the United Methodist Church and the Methodist
10 Church of Puerto Rico. MARCHA is an instrument of advocacy and support in favor of Hispanic / Latino
11 Americans to ensure that the contributions and cultural values of Hispanic / Latinos are appreciated in the
12 Church and society. MARCHA advocates on behalf of Hispanics / Latinos inside and outside the Church, provides
13 training for its members, churches and walks in solidarity with the peoples of Latin America and other groups.

14 **We Care**

15 The NPHLM GNJ in collaboration with the Board of Church and Society, other committees of GNJ and agencies
16 organized an interfaith prayer vigil at the Elizabeth Detention Center in Elizabeth NJ were more that 200 people
17 were present to pray, sing and declare our love and concern for those who are being held at the detention
18 center and those affected by the family separation policies at the border.

19 **Events to Strengthen Unity Among Our Clergy and Laity**

20 At Annual Conference we celebrated many accomplishments in the Hispanic community in GNJ including the
21 Esperanza para PR initiative. We had the opportunity and the honor to had Bishop Ortiz from PR to be our
22 speaker and shared with us in more detail some of the work and needs of our brothers and sisters in PR and how
23 we can help.

24 **Tools for Church Vitality**

- 25 • Four Hispanic/Latino congregations got involved in Team Vital in 2018.
- 26 • We continue to work in collaboration with Next Generation to support youth and young adult's
27 ministry in our context.
- 28 • Organize workshops about cultural competence, and support our pastors serving in cross-cultural
29 appointments.

30 Submitted by,
31 Waleska Trinidad, Chair

1 **Laity, Board of**

2 The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and
3 teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to
4 the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of
5 Christ. Ephesians 4.11-13

6 The mission of the Conference Board of Laity is to enable laity to have full and equal partnerships with clergy
7 and within the Conference, work with the Conference to grow lay leadership and provide lay opportunities for
8 growth. The Board helps develop principled spiritual leaders for the Church and works as the Catalyst for Laity
9 Leadership Education, Lay Servant Ministries, Laity Session at Annual Conference, Laity Leadership Academy, Lay
10 Ministry Recognition, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men and the work of the District Lay
11 Leaders. As a board we continually look at ways to grow the laity of GNJAC in the understanding and
12 interpretation of God’s word to be equipped as effective leaders in sharing the gospel with other people.

13 The Laity Board is in partnership with our local churches and all of our activities are directed towards improving
14 the ministry together. Encouraging the lay leadership to grow and make time for education so that we become
15 more equipped to do the work of ministry in a complementary role with our clergy leaders. We are seeing a
16 major move of the Holy Spirit within the Church right now as we identify, equip, encourage and fulfill God’s
17 purposes and call for each of us in the local church. We have witness in our yearly Lay Ministry Recognition
18 Program each April, as numbers of applications and attendance increases. Lay recognition program provides an
19 opportunity for our laity to witness how God is embracing and working in the ministry of the local church.

20 Re-structuring of the Laity Education Umbrella is only in the infant stage of our five-year plan as the Laity Board
21 works with Rev. Juel Nelson to improve and align Laity Education. The goal: To launch a congregational
22 leadership development ministry in September 2019 that is seamless, builds on applied learning, shapes and
23 supports congregational leaders to lead with excellence and achieves growth in the five markers of vitality.

24 Provide educational opportunities for Five Competencies of Congregational Leadership:

- 25 1. Spiritual Servant Leadership
- 26 2. Cultural Competency
- 27 3. Leadership through Change and Conflict
- 28 4. Emotional Intelligence
- 29 5. Narrative Leadership through Storytelling

30 Providing a Biblical foundation for raising up disciples who serve as leaders, managers, lay ministers, prayer
31 warriors and storytellers is the base of the processes of aligning Laity Education with the 2019 Strategic plan. All
32 persons in the conference will have equal opportunity to be equipped, whether for lifelong learning or
33 certification, resources will be available to the laity. The Laity Board continue the mission of advocacy, equipping
34 and effectively deploying and supporting the local church leaders for ministry.

35 Submitted by,
36 Rosa Williams, GNJ Lay Leader

37

1 Laity Leadership Goals

2 Leadership Goals

- 3 1. The Laity Board will monitor and ensure that lay representation at Annual Conference 2016-2020 is
4 equal in membership in accordance with the GNJAC Rules of Order/ Book of Discipline. At Large
5 Members will agree to be faithful to process and committed in attendance to Annual Conference
6 and reporting to local congregation.
- 7 2. The Laity Leadership Academy will continue to work to create a culture of learning in which laity
8 throughout the Annual Conference will have an opportunity to become engaged, equipped and
9 empowered to be effective partners with each other and their clergy partners to lead the church
10 and reach the community as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- 11 3. The Laity Board will continue to celebrate the ministry of faithful laity with a format called Lay
12 Ministry Recognition. This program recognizes a person or group that has been creative and
13 innovative in transforming lives and making disciples of Jesus Christ. This is for resource sharing and
14 encouraging congregations in their ministries. The Laity Board will choose ministries from each
15 district to be highlighted in April each year, at the United Methodists of GNJ Mission and Resource
16 Center.
- 17 4. The Laity Board will work with the Connectional Ministry Team and District Superintendents to
18 ensure Christian leaders are offered vital and vibrant educational programs that develop:
 - 19 a. fruitful and transformational leaders
 - 20 b. communication and interpersonal skills
 - 21 c. passionate faith and biblical understanding
 - 22 d. 100 laity who make disciples who make disciples (Leadership 100)
 - 23 e. missional mindset that connects with the community

24 Submitted by,

25 Rosa Williams, GNJ Lay Leader

26 Native American Ministry, Committee on

27 We continue to work on getting our Native youth and children involved in the church and community. This year,
28 we had seven Native young people attend the IGNITE event and four youth attend the Peg Leg Flamingo event, a
29 UM Native American Leadership Program. We also are happy to announce the third year of operation for the
30 Native American Youth Club at the Bridgeton High School. Since our youth are becoming more aware of the
31 Church, we are now training them to be involved. Five young adults were trained to be teacher aides for the St.
32 John UMC After School program in September.

33 We were informed that the Nanticoke-Lenni Lenape Tribe had lost their state recognition status. The Conference
34 became a Friend of the Court and with this and other support, the Tribe received back their state recognition.
35 This support enabled the Tribe to apply for funds and for their members to use that status for employment
36 opportunities.

37 Some of our Native people were put in boarding schools and it still has affected them and their following
38 generations. We therefore were a part of the Boarding School Healing Coalition event in Carlisle, PA in October.
39 We have also been involved in the work of the NEJ Native American Ministries Committee. Through such
40 connections, we are able to share resources through our webpage on the conference website.

1 We will continue to work on ways to share information about Native American Ministries Sunday; to work with
2 the Nanticoke- Lenni Lenape, Ramapough and Powhatan Tribal communities and look at ways to keep the
3 conference informed about Native American issues and concerns through the Digest and Relay.

4 Submitted by,
5 Cynthia Kent, Chair

6 **Next Generation Ministries**

7 God is doing amazing things in GNJ! Next Gen Ministries continue to cultivate and catalyze the next generation
8 of enthusiastic disciples of Jesus Christ who connect, grow and lead their congregations and communities for the
9 transformation of the world. Since GNJ approved the Next Gen Strategic Plan in 2017, we have witnessed God
10 using our Next Gen Ministries to change many students' lives, impact churches with creative energy and
11 transform communities across GNJ, especially:

12 **Camping Ministry**

- 13 • In 2018, 1,971 students and adults experienced God's Creation at Pinelands Center through camps,
14 retreats and educational programs.
- 15 • 2018 summer camps saw nearly 200 students experience God's love and creation at Pinelands.
- 16 • Pinelands has prepared to host 25 events in the 2019-2020 season.
- 17 • In 2019, Next Gen will award over \$50,000 in scholarships for summer camps.
- 18 • 8 out of 10 innovative offerings for youth and young adults have been offered or planned.
- 19 • The 2019 Summer Camp budget is balanced, including over \$200,000 of facilities upgrades.

20 **IGNITE/Youth Ministry**

- 21 • 1,300 youth attended IGNITE 2018 and participated in local GNJ mission work. The 2020 goal is
22 2,500. In 5 years, over 5,000 students and leaders from 185 churches attended IGNITE.
- 23 • Since IGNITE 2014, over 2,000 have responded to a call to discipleship in Christ.
- 24 • 50 out of 100 youth have served and learned in leadership development and internships.
- 25 • Over 100 out of 150 congregations with youth ministries and a leader connected.

26 **Campus Ministry**

- 27 • 3 out of 3 campus young adult faith communities have begun.
- 28 • 20 out of 25 young adults have served and learned in the Mosaic program.
- 29 • Since launching Next Gen in May 2017, over \$150,000 has been invested in 6 campus ministries.

30 **Communication/Network:**

- 31 • Over 1,800 people connected to Next Gen programs and resources in the database.
- 32 • Over 500 Next Gen leaders receive updates and resources through the monthly newsletter.

33
34 With joy we welcomed Eric Drew as the Executive Director of our Next Gen Ministries. He is a true champion for
35 our Next Gen Ministries and is already making a big difference in our work.

36 As a vital mission partner of GNJAC, we have added to our relationship with GNJ that Next Generation Ministries
37 of GNJ, Inc. will follow the Human Resources Policies of GNJ.

1 We are grateful to our out-going good and faithful board members (Rev. Hector Burgos, Rev. Sang Won Doh,
2 Yvette Long and Rev. Ron Smith). Our deep thanks to our Next Gen Board members, Ryan Clements, Carla
3 Vanzant and all the staff and leaders of GNJ for their dedicated leadership.

4 In Next Generation Ministries, we're so grateful to serve alongside and support local churches in their ministry.
5 We would love for you to join us as we live out our mission through Connect, Grow and Lead:

- 6 • Connect with God and each other through IGNITE, Next Gen Summer Camps, Campus Ministry;
 - 7 • Grow in faith and leadership through Retreats, Learning Cohorts, and Internships; and
 - 8 • Lead as AC Delegates, Mission Catalysts, and Youth/Young Adult Council Members.
- 9

10 We thank you for your enthusiastic support for the Next Gen Ministries. Your support for this vital mission is the
11 best investment you are making for our present and future generations. Thanks be to God!

12 Submitted by,
13 Eric Drew, Executive Director of Next Gen Ministries

14 Pension and Health Benefits, Board of

15 The Greater New Jersey Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits (the Board) is authorized by *The Book*
16 *of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* to contribute to the support, relief, assistance and pensioning of
17 clergy and their families, as well as other church workers and lay employees of the United Methodist Church.

18 Working with the Wespath Benefits and Investments, the Board endeavors to implement and interpret national
19 and conference policy.

20 Pension

21 *Pre-1982 Pension Plan*

22 The 2019 Past Service Annuity Rate for pre-1982 annuitant payment is \$685 per year of pre-1982 service. The
23 2020 Past Service Annuity Rate for pre-1982 annuitant payment will be \$699. The pre-1982 pension program
24 continues to be fully funded and in a strong position.

25 *CRSP/MPP and CPP*

26 The General Conference's pension plan, Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) is a hybrid of defined benefit
27 and defined contribution approaches which took effect in 2007. For 2019 churches pay CRSP at 12.5% of clergy
28 plan compensation and for the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) at 3% of clergy's plan compensation, and
29 UMLife Options at 2% of plan compensation for ½ time clergy.

30 The 2012 General Conference enacted changes to the Clergy Retirement Security Program. Effective 1/1/2014
31 for all contributions going forward, the CRSP Defined Benefit component was reduced from 1.25% of DAC to
32 1.0% of DAC. Under the CRSP Defined Contribution component, contributions were reduced from 3% to 2% of
33 clergy plan compensation and, in addition, match up to 1% of compensation if clergy contributes 1% to
34 UMPIP. Contributions previously made will not be affected by this change and benefits paid upon retirement will
35 be based on the previous formula for all benefits accrued prior to 1/1/2014. Any benefits accrued from that date
36 forward is based on the new formula.

37 Additionally, the General Conference changed the participation requirements from all clergy under appointment
38 to only clergy under full time appointment. Clergy appointed to less-than-full-time (3/4 and 1/2-time) are

1 eligible based on the decision of the Annual Conference after approval of the Conference Board of Pension and
 2 Health Benefits. The Board has voted to include those clergy appointed to less-than-full-time (3/4 and 1/2 time)
 3 appointments in CRSP. For clergy appointed to 1/4-time appointments, a vote of the Board has made UMPIP
 4 available as a pension option for those clergy. Please contact Alexa Taylor, Insurance and Benefits Services
 5 Manager, for more information on this option. These changes require Annual Conference approval.

6 The rates of remittance for the Clergy Retirement Security Program/Ministerial Pension Plan (CRSP/MPP) and
 7 Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) increased from last year's rates to 91.91% and 99.82% respectively.
 8 Eighteen percent of churches were unable to pay these bills on time. Below is a summary of 2018 remittances:

9

Type	Remittances Rate	2018 Shortfall	# of Churches Paying < 100%	% of Churches Paying < 100%
CRSP	91.91%	\$208,465	101	18.36
CPP	99.82%	\$16,965		

10

11 To maintain clergypersons' participation in CRSP/UMPIP and CPP/UMLife Options, the Greater New Jersey
 12 Conference fully pays delinquent church accounts using funds from the Reserve Account at Wespeth Benefits
 13 and Investments. We are concerned that some churches are not fully meeting their obligations with the
 14 resulting decrease in the Reserve Account.

15 By 2018 year-end the cumulative delinquent amount for years prior to 2018 was \$2,317,000 for CRSP/MPP and
 16 \$444,000 for CPP - a total of \$2,761,000, an increase of \$313,000.

17 We thank those churches that maintained faithful stewardship, paying 100% of their obligation. We also
 18 appreciate the continuing efforts of our district superintendents, Alexa Taylor, Insurance and Benefits Services
 19 Manager, to collect the past due balances. More than \$174,000 of the 2002-2017 shortfalls was collected in
 20 2018.

21 *Pre-Retirement Seminars*

22 As in years past, the Board sponsored a retirement education session held at the Mission and Resource Center
 23 of Greater NJ on February 28, 2019. The pre-retirement seminar focuses on those anticipating retirement within
 24 five years. Sixty persons were scheduled to attend. Presentations by Robert Christophel of Wespeth Benefits
 25 and Investments and a Social Security representative provided valuable guidance to assist retirement
 26 planning. Special thanks go to Jennifer Cho for organizing this event. Thanks also to Alexa Taylor, Insurance and
 27 Benefits Services Manager, for assisting and providing support.

28 **Health Insurance**

29 For 2019, the Board continued Active health insurance under HealthFlex, the health insurance plan sponsored
 30 by the Wespeth Benefits and Investments. The medical provider network is Blue Cross/Blue Shield PPO; the
 31 pharmacy benefits are provided through OptumRx. Beginning in 2015, Wespeth no longer offers retiree health
 32 insurance. The Board implemented United HealthCare's National Medicare Advantage PPO Plan which combines
 33 the participants' Medicare A & B, supplemental coverage and Part D prescription plan.

34 The Board has again provided a contribution to participants' Health Reimbursement Accounts for 2019 of \$1,250
 35 for single and \$2,500 for all other plan types which can be used for qualifying medical expenses (such as co-pays

1 and deductibles). These funds do not expire and are accessed through a MasterCard branded debit card, or via a
2 reimbursement form.

3 *Premiums and Remittances*

4 The following chart shows church premium rates in effect for 2019. These rates reflect a Cabinet- requested
5 blended rate for all categories, which the Board has been moving toward for several years, so that health
6 insurance premiums are not a factor in determining clergy appointments.

7

Health Insurance Premiums for 2019	
Employee	\$15,000
Employee & Child(ren)	\$15,000
Employee & Spouse	\$15,000
Employee & Family	\$15,000

8 The Board thanks all churches that fully paid their health insurance premiums in 2018. Overall, churches paid
9 98% of the total \$3,953,256 health insurance billings, an increase from the 2017 remittance rate of 96%. The
10 2018 shortfall was approximately \$41,000. By 2018-year end, the amount owed from years prior to 2018 had
11 been reduced by \$237,038 and the cumulative unpaid health insurance bills had increased to \$3,321,754 owed
12 for years prior to 2018.

13 Churches failing to fully pay their premiums burden all churches and result in higher health insurance premiums
14 for all. Thanks go to the Conference/BOPHB Treasurer John Cardillo, Benefits Assistant Veronika Varga and the
15 Cabinet for their continued efforts to collect health insurance arrearages.

16 The Board and the Conference staff have continued their efforts to ease the continued transitions in
17 healthcare. The Health Insurance Guidelines included in these 2019 Conference Reports and Recommendations
18 have been updated.

19 **Annuitant Health Care Liability**

20 As of the end of 2017, the Financial Accounting Standards Board FAS 158 liability for annuitant healthcare costs
21 in the amount of \$65 million was posted to the Conference balance sheet. This liability is the estimated present
22 value of the future costs of annuitant healthcare. The Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund described
23 below has been set up to address this large liability over time.

24 *Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund*

25 In 2002-2003 the Board, recognizing the growing magnitude of annuitant healthcare costs, together with the
26 Centenary Fund, representatives of CFA, the Cabinet and the Association of Retired Ministers and Spouses
27 (ARMS), developed a plan for a long-term Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund that begins to offset the
28 liability and ensure that retirees continue to enjoy conference-paid health insurance. The Fund was initiated by
29 the 2003 GNJ Annual Conference and earmarked exclusively for healthcare costs for annuitants to cover higher
30 premium costs expected in future years. The plan for the Fund involves a multi-year period during which excess
31 pre-1982 retirement funds would be used to pay CRSP defined-benefit requirements and comparable funds
32 from churches would be used to create a permanent retiree health fund. This is a critical initiative since it is clear
33 that the Conference cannot continue to fund retiree health insurance on a cash basis out of the Conference
34 Budget.

1 As of December 31, 2018, the Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund held a balance of \$5,531,132 after
2 transferring \$1,160,726 to the Annuitant Health Insurance Account to avoid a negative balance in that account
3 at year-end. In 2018 approximately \$1,076,000 came into the Contingency Fund (representing the 2% clergy and
4 staff salary contributions toward the cost of health insurance) plus the Centenary Fund's annual contribution (in
5 excess of \$300,000, separate from their \$100,000 contribution directly to the Annuitant Health Insurance
6 Account).

7 **The Board Itself**

8 The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits endeavors to serve the Conference and the needs of those
9 in ministry. There continues to be much to accomplish, especially in the challenging field of health
10 insurance. Christ strengthens us to meet these challenges and we pray for the Holy Spirit to guide and inspire
11 our actions.

12 Current leadership is Rev. Dr. William B. Wilson, Sr., Chair; Rev. Dr. Jennifer Cho, Vice Chair; Rev. William
13 Williams III, Secretary

14 Submitted by,
15 William B. Wilson, Sr., Chair

16 **Religion and Race, Commission on (CORR)**

17 The GNJ Commission on Religion and Race (GNJ CORR) advances the mandate of the General Commission on
18 Religion and Race (GCORR). *GCORR is the core agency within the United Methodist Church tasked with*
19 *empowering the Church to pursue racial equity and cultural competency to build a stronger, more vibrant UMC.”*
20 GNJ CORR is charged with this same task in the Greater New Jersey Conference (GNJ) by promoting full and
21 equal participation of the racial and ethnic constituency in the total life and mission of the church, GNJ CORR
22 seeks to empower clergy and laity to develop transformational leaders and vital congregations.

23 Appreciation is extended to the members and volunteers of GNJ CORR for their diligent work. Bonnie Harley,
24 Laura Lin and Rev. Brian Joyce often work behind the scenes, editing, organizing and making space. Thank you.

25 **GNJ CORR 2018 activities included:**

26 • Co-hosted the 2018 Annual Focus Group Dinner *50 Years after the Abolishment of the Central Jurisdiction:*
27 *Looking at Race in the United Methodist Church.* Dr. Morris Davis, professor of Methodist History at Drew
28 University, racial justice advocate, critical researcher in the politics of the UMC in the Jim Crow era and author of
29 *The Methodist Unification: Christianity and the Politics of Race in the Jim Crow Era*, was the key note speaker.
30 The event was very well attended and received positive feedback. Special thanks to Rev. Kathleen Stone for her
31 leadership with this event and the diligent work of the Co-hosts: Church and Society, Ethnic Local Church
32 Concern and Black Methodists for Church Renewal.

33 • Supported and co-sponsored legislation, as a member of the Connectional Table, participation in the law suit
34 with Bishop Schol signing as our Bishop and representative of United Methodist congregations in GNJ, which
35 seeks to advocate for a more just education system in NJ that provides equitable educational opportunities to all
36 students. 2018 marked 64 years after the holding in Brown vs. the Board of Education. It is time to address all
37 segregation that results in lack of access, equity and justice for Black and Latino students.

38 • Attended *Facing the Future 2018: In the Midst of the Storm* a conference hosted by the General Commission
39 on Religion and Race for pastors in Cross Racial Cross/Cross Cultural [CR/CR] appointments. To be celebrated

1 and commended is Rev. Teresita Matos-Post who rendered deeply moving reflections, of being appointed to a
2 CR/CC site, from the vantage point of a Puerto Rican woman pastor. Her reflections touched all who serve in
3 CR/CC sites as well as, highlighted the complex intersectionality of race, ethnicity, gender and religious
4 expression. In the follow-up event to the conference, I hosted an Online Open Space *Addressing Stress and*
5 *Mental Health for Clergy in CR/CC Appointments.*

6 • Completed curriculum *Christianity, Race and US Law* which reviews the intersection, influence and practice of
7 the Christian religion, race and the development of US law as it is related to race, racism and marginalization
8 and/or liberation of racial/ethnic groups. The goal is to understand how past actions have influenced the
9 modern church and to think about methods of effective ministry to heal and make whole a church that has been
10 divided along racial ethnic lines. We will pay particular attention to the influence and activism of Methodism.
11 This curriculum is available online or in print. It was designed to be used with PaCE groups but can be used for
12 small group or individual study.

13 • Completed design of the DNA Discussion Project. GNJ CORR will host a DNA Discussion Group in 2019.

14 GNJ CORR looks forward to continuing to serve GNJ through training, consultation, research and advocacy to
15 empower clergy and laity to be able to be an effective witness for Christ in a diverse world. As we move forward
16 in 2019-2020, we will focus our efforts on supporting CR/CC sites, providing educational resources and making
17 accessible the work that GNJ CORR has completed during the last quadrennial.

18 Submitted by,
19 Vanessa M. Wilson, Chair

20 **Status and Role of Women, Commission On (COSROW)**

21 The Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) serves to bring about the full inclusion of women
22 in the life of The United Methodist Church. Our charge is to challenge the church to “continuing commitment to
23 the full and equal responsibility and participation of women in the total life and mission of the church.” With this
24 commitment, The United Methodist Church affirms itself as “part of the universal church, rooted in the
25 liberating message of Jesus Christ, that recognizes every person, woman or man, as a full and equal part of God’s
26 human family (The 2016 Book of Discipline, ¶ 2102)

27 It is a great joy that I have been able to serve continually with dedicated team members throughout the past
28 year. GNJ COSROW carried out its purpose through the following projects: (1) COSROW Award: The person
29 selected to receive Helenor Alter Davisson Award for 2019 from GNJ Commission on the Status and Role of
30 Women is Rev. Dr. Eunice Vegas-Perez. (2) Leadership Development: 7 women leaders in GNJ attended Do No
31 Harm Conference 2018. (3) Display Table at The Annual Conference to promote the ministry of COSROW and
32 provide resources for its mission goals. (4) Women’s History Month in March: We provide worship resources to
33 celebrate Women’s History Month.

34 Furthermore, we are planning to offer Sexual Ethics Training/Workshop for all of the pastors entering into
35 pastoral ministry in GNJ. We are working on a written proposal to require a mandatory sexual ethics
36 training/workshop for all pastors who are newly entering and actively serving in GNJ.

37 As you are aware, the two Amendments that sought to claim language that both women and men are created in
38 the image of God, that committed our church to work for the elimination of discrimination against women and
39 girls, and that sought to assure an equal place in the life, worship, and governance of the local church for

1 women, did not receive the two-thirds necessary vote from each annual conference, which was needed for
2 ratification of the decision of General Conference.

3 These two unpassed Amendments motivate us to continue to seek to raise awareness of ways in which women
4 are not fully included in the life of the church and to spark new recognition and ways of being women in the
5 church. We recommit ourselves to inspire new women leaders to find their places in not just our church, but in
6 the large community as well.

7 Lastly, I would like to give thanks to our members for their faithful work: Sarah Borgstrom Lee, Esther Canty-
8 Barnes, Lakesha Groover, Judy Hopkins, Marilyn Hughes, Iraida Ruiz De Porras, Eunice Vega-Perez, Yoomi Yi, and
9 Regina Yeske (Conference liaison).

10 Submitted by,
11 Michelle Ryoo, Chair

12 **Trustees, Board of**

13
14 The Officers of the Board are: Chairperson – Rev. Clifford Still; Vice-Chairperson – Rev. James Ryoo; Secretary –
15 Mary Beth Scherer. The following Trustees serve as liaisons to the properties for which the Board is responsible:
16 Ed Bowen, Judy Hopkins, Jack Green, Rev. David Lehmkuhl, Rev. Rupert Hall, Sang Chul Shin, Tracy Estes and Erik
17 Lenander.

18
19 The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance/care of the following properties: Episcopal residence, nine
20 District parsonages, the previous Palisades District parsonage situated in Harrington Park, NJ, the land in
21 Paterson, NJ, as well as the Conference Office building. Additionally, they oversee the actions needed to be
22 taken in reference to churches and parsonages that have been closed, representative of formal action taken at
23 prior Annual Conferences. Five cemeteries are also under the care of Trustees.

24
25 Some items of note as a result of Trustee action taken during the 2019 Conference Year:

- 26
27
 - Six of the closed churches have been sold in accordance with the Annual Conference action leaving 11.
28 The original number was 25.

29
30 The Trustees are privileged to work with and receive the cooperation of, many individuals and groups
31 throughout the Conference. The counsel which is offered to the Board from Conference Chancellors Lynn
32 Caterson, Esq. and Sanford Brown, Esq. is invaluable. John Cardillo, Conference Treasurer and Director of
33 Administrative Services serves as Treasurer of the Board. Beverly Schol, Property Manager and Lida DeNardo,
34 Property Administrative Assistant serve as staff liaisons to the Board. As a result of their guidance and expertise
35 in reference to overall financial resources of the GNJAC and specifically the funds which the Board oversees, the
36 Trustees are better equipped to prioritize and responsibly address the needs of the various properties. The
37 Conference Trustees are also grateful for the opportunity to work more closely with Bishop Schol and the
38 Cabinet during this Conference year.

39
40 Submitted by,
41 Cliff Still, President
42

1 United Methodist Stewardship Foundation of Greater New Jersey

2
3 **Vision:** To enable individuals, congregations and Conference mission organizations experience the joy of
4 generosity and facilitate the generation of increased financial resources to make new disciples, provide inspiring
5 worship opportunities, grow faith groups and engage disciples in mission to the community.

6 **Mission:** The Foundation enables disciple making, increased congregational vitality and community mission
7 engagement by assisting congregations and mission organizations grow their financial assets by providing
8 stewardship resourcing and investment opportunities.

9 **Officers of the Board of Trustees:** President – Vasanth K. Victor (Laity), Secretary – William Markert (Laity),
10 Treasurer – John Cardillo (Conference Staff)

11 **Board Members:** Jay Gerken (Laity), Roxy Hammett (Laity), David Montanye (Clergy)

12 **Brief History:** Created in 1992 by action of the 135th Session of the Northern Annual Conference, with the first
13 investment made by the Conference. In 2000, became the UMF of Greater NJ after the merger of the Southern
14 and Northern Conferences. Wespath Investment Management became the Investment Manager in August 2015.
15 As of the end of 2017, the amount of investment in the foundation was \$44.3 MM.

16 **Developments in 2018:** The focus of the Foundation is three-fold – to increase conference wide fund raising
17 especially by providing planned giving opportunities; to resource congregations encouraging commitment to a
18 12-month Stewardship Plan; to provide sustainable investment opportunities for congregations and conference
19 mission organizations.

20 Foundation staff were hired to complete the team – Michaela Murray Nolan as Director of Development and
21 Cristel Ramirez as Administrative Assistant.

22 Jana Purkis Brash (Executive Director) offered over 25 presentations at churches throughout the Conference
23 explaining the work of the Stewardship Foundation.

24 As of the end of January 2019 the investment balance invested with the Foundation totaled \$44 MM despite the
25 decline in the stock market.

26 **Plans and Goals for 2019:** In 2018 we set a goal of offering Donor Advised Funds to increase our Planned Giving
27 capabilities. This opportunity will be available to donors in April.

28 We initiated a new service to local churches of offering Legacy (Estate) Planning Seminars.

29 The Stewardship Foundation is also managing the Miracles Everywhere Campaign. We are available to assist
30 congregations in running the campaign.

31 Submitted by,
32 Vasanth K. Victor, Chair

33 United Methodist Women

34 The life of GNJUMW continues to be busy with details and depth of work in the areas of social justice. The four
35 foci for the quadrennial 2016-2020, as established by the National Office of United Methodist Women, include
36 the following: Criminalization of Communities of Color with an emphasis on breaking the School to Prison
37 Pipeline, Economic Inequality, Climate Justice, and Maternal and Child Health. Each Conference of UMW has

1 been asked to focus on one of these areas for the rest of the quadrennial. We have chosen to have programs
2 around the issue of Maternal and Child Health, as impacted by other factors such as the School to Prison
3 Pipeline and Immigration.

4 Following up on these themes, our GNJUMW Spring Meeting was entitled *Maternal and Child Health and*
5 *Wellbeing*, held on April 7, 2018 at St. Andrews UMC, Cherry Hill. The sermon, *Amazing Jesus* was delivered by
6 Rosa Williams. Moselle Jules, a participant in Mission of Peace trip to Cuba that we helped sponsor, gave an
7 overview of the daily life and culture of Cuba. One of the program speakers was Tricia Yeo, Program Manager of
8 Health and Wellness for the Food Bank of Southern Jersey. Her talk focused on *Maternal and Child Health*
9 *Challenges to Better Outcomes*. Esther Canty-Barnes, Esq., Director of the Education and Health Law Clinic and
10 Clinical Professor of Law, Rutgers School of Law, followed and gave a presentation entitled “Maternal and Child
11 Challenges to Better Outcomes.”

12 We worked on several resolutions this year for the GNJUM Conference, including the following: *Resolution to*
13 *Facilitate A Way Forward*, sponsored by Susan Zahorbenski, Diaconal Minister and RV District UMW President;
14 *Resolution to Oppose Human Trafficking and Help End Suicide and Homelessness Among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,*
15 *Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Youth*, submitted by the GNJUMW Leadership Team; and *Resolution to*
16 *Help End Youth Suicide*, submitted by the GNJUMW Leadership Team.

17 We also endorsed the resolution on *Segregation in New Jersey Schools* submitted by the Connectional Table,
18 whose goal was to join in a complaint against the State of New Jersey in order to end segregation in the public
19 school system. (New Jersey ranks 6th for black students and 7th for Latinos as far as being one of the most
20 segregated school system in the nation.)

21 We continued, as a Leadership Team, to work throughout the GNJUM Conference to educate all 9 districts of
22 UMW on *The Way Forward*. Through the work of Kathy Schulz, Yvonne Bouknight, Pat Schutz and Marilyn
23 Powell, we were able to visit our districts and provide an educational background surrounding the issue of
24 homosexual marriage and the ordination of LGBTQ persons as part of the UM Church, along with a discussion of
25 the proposals for consideration by the Council of Bishops.

26 We also partnered with Tom Lank, head of the GNJUMC to the special General Conference to be held in
27 February 2019, to discuss the recommendations of the Council of Bishops and other recommendations from
28 various UM bodies and churches that have been made to bring some type of closure to this issue.

29 In May, over 60 women from the GNJUMW attended the UMW Assembly 2018 held in Columbus, Ohio, May 17-
30 May 20th with some 6000 other UM Women from all over the country and the world! The theme of this
31 Assembly was *The Power of Bold*. I was thrilled to be joined at Assembly by Dorothy Scott, Assistant Director of
32 the Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ.

33 I personally was able to participate in an Ubuntu Day of Service at the Lincoln Park Elementary School where I
34 was charged to help plant a summer vegetable garden with the students who were in their *Freedom School*
35 program, directed by Darlene Scheid of the UMC and Community Development for All People.

36 35 student scholars and 35 United Methodist Women participated in this event. Assembly was more than the
37 Ubuntu Day of Service! We demonstrated at the State Capital building to support A Living Wage 4 All. We went
38 on to have inspiring sessions that dealt with the full array of issues from Maternal and Child Health, the School
39 to Prison Pipeline, Climate Justice and A Living Wage 4 All.

1 One of the sessions that I attended was on the Palestinian Issue in Israel, with an emphasis on a peaceful co-
2 existence rather than the current stand-off and subjugation of the Palestinians. Featured speakers in the plenary
3 worship services included Leymah Gbowee, who was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize for helping end the Second
4 Liberian Civil War in 2003 and Marian Wright Edelman, founder of the Children’s Defense Fund and author of
5 *The Sea is So Wide and my Boat is So Small*.

6 During July, the GNJUMW joined forces with GNJUMC to present the annual Mission u program held July 13-15
7 at Georgian Court University, Lakewood and July 21 at Calvary Korean UMC, East Brunswick. In addition to
8 offering *What About Our Money*, as the featured UMW new course, the GNJUMC sponsored *When Helping*
9 *Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty without Hurting the Poor*.

10 July 28th we participated in the *We Care Prayer Vigi* to advocate for immigrants’ family reunification co-
11 sponsored by the GNJUMW, MARCHA GNJ-National Plan, GNJ Board of Church and Society and the GNJ
12 Immigration Task Force. Over 100 persons, including all races and all ages, gathered at 10:00 a.m. at the ICE
13 Elizabeth Detention Center to protest in a non-violent way the separation of immigrant children and their
14 parents at the border with Mexico. We were lead in song and prayer by Bishop John Schol of GNJUMC, Javier
15 Viera, Dean of the Drew Theological School, Grace Pugh Hubbard, the music leader for GNJUMW and Harriet
16 Jane Olson, CEO of United Methodist Women.

17 The Neighborhood Center, Camden, NJ had a fundraising event at the Travistock Country Club on October 13,
18 2019. Millie Grey and I attended the Evening in Paris dinner party and silent auction event to raise money for the
19 teen program sponsored by the Neighborhood Center. It was inspiring to see many of the staff and participants
20 in the Neighborhood Center’s programs give personal witness to the positive difference that the Neighborhood
21 Center is making in their lives!

22 The fall GNJUMW meeting held October 20, 2018 at the GNJ MRC focused on *Mass Incarceration of People of*
23 *Color* with a panel discussion on *Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline*. Rev. Heidi Schulz Kugler, ordained elder
24 in the GNJUMC and currently serving as the National Chaplaincy Administrator for the Federal Bureau of Prisons,
25 Washington, DC was our guest preacher and panel discussion leader. She has had 22 years of chaplaincy
26 experience on the county, state and federal levels. The other panelists included Sharon Allen, a retired teacher
27 and a field representative in the Camden City Schools for the NJ Education Association; Madelaine Garcia, a
28 vocational rehabilitation counselor; Rev. Rupert Hall, Jr. JD, head of the GNJ Black Caucus of Black Methodists for
29 Church Renewal and pastor of the Turning Point UMC, Trenton, NJ; and Michael Landis, Executive Director of the
30 Neighborhood Center, Camden, NJ.

31 This program was followed by our annual business meeting and installation of new officers, as nominated by the
32 GNJUMW Nominating Committee. We welcomed Choong-Hee Lee as Vice-President, Patricia Grant as Recording
33 Secretary, Marcia Roebuck as the Chair of Nominations and Carolyn Pendleton and Millie Grey as part of the
34 Nominating Committee. Pat Bodden was appointed as a member to the Charter or Racial Justice Task Force.

35 I have had the honor to serve with a wonderful Leadership Team throughout this past year and I thank God for
36 the privilege and the opportunity to be the President of GNJUMW.

37 Submitted by,
38 Kathleen W. Schulz, GNJUMW President

1 United Theological Seminary

3 **459 men and women are being equipped as faithful, fruitful pastors and Christian leaders for the Church:**

4 292 Masters Students 167 Doctoral Students Third largest United Methodist seminary in the United States
5 Founded nearly 150 years ago by Bishop Milton Wright, father of famed aviators Wilbur and Orville Wright,
6 United has continued that spirit of innovation through:

7 **Online degrees:**

8 98% of master's students have taken one or more course online while studying at United.

9 United students live in 39 different states.

10 Week-long intensives fulfill UMC residency requirements.

11 **Live Interactive Virtual Education (LIVE):**

12 New grant brings the latest technology in virtual education.

13 Participate in on-campus courses via webcam and enjoy live lectures and real-time discussion with faculty and
14 peers.

15 **Doctor of Ministry Degree:**

16 Become a doctor for the Church, addressing a real problem or challenge in your church or community.

17 Study under a mentor who is an expert in their field and learn alongside a small group of dedicated peers.

18 3-year program that allows you to complete project as you go, leading to a 78% program graduation rate in 2017
19 (vs. 54% average among other seminaries)

20 **Practical education designed to resource the Church:**

21 The majority of United faculty have pastored churches.

22 91% of entering United students are already serving in ministry, bringing that context to the classroom.

23 **A focus on Church Renewal:**

24 165 Course of Study students

25 42 students in the Hispanic Christian Academy (3-year Spanish online course of ministry program for Hispanic lay
26 pastors and leaders)

27 Certificates in Church Planting, Disability Ministry, and Supervision

28 **Academic AND Spiritual Growth:**

29 95% of students say the United community supports both their academic and spiritual growth.

30 **Diverse Christian Views:**

31 Over 30 different denominations

32 19 international students from 15 different countries

33 96% of students feel their views are respected in the classroom/seminary community and say they have been
34 taught to respect the views of others.

35 47% of students who reported are African-American, 43% Caucasian and 10% represent other ethnicities

36
37 We thank God for the men and women coming to United because God has called them to serve the least and
38 the lost. We pray as the Lord Jesus instructed his disciples saying, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are
39 few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2).

40 Data represents Fall 2018 headcount enrollment, unless otherwise specified. ATS 2017-2018 Annual Data Tables. Data represents Fall
41 2017 headcount enrollment. ATS 2017-2018 Strategic Information Report for United Theological Seminary. Graduation rates represent
42 the percentage of students who were able to complete their chosen degree within a specified period of time which approximates two
43 times the normal length of the degree.

44 Data represents unduplicated headcount enrollment in the 2017-2018 academic year. United Theological Seminary 2017-2018 Student
45 Satisfaction Survey, in which 30% of students responded.

46
47 Submitted by,

48 Kent Millard, President, United Theological Seminary

1 **Young Adult Council**

2 The Council on Young Adult Ministries champions the young adult ministry in the local churches and districts of
3 the annual conference. We are excited to report that we are strengthening our strategic partnerships with other
4 conference agencies and Next Gen Ministries to help our work to benefit the young adults of Greater New
5 Jersey Conference.

6 In 2018 the YA Council remained connected with the IGNITE Movement and partnering with the GNJ Youth
7 Council, assembled a team of over 30 Young Adults from GNJ to form the IGNITE Squad for the annual event in
8 Wildwood, NJ. This continues to be an opportunity for emerging young adult leaders to take on roles of
9 responsibility as well as form new relationships and spiritual fellowship. Additionally, young adults from across
10 the Conference participated in the IGNITE Leaders Day Training in both 2018 and early 2019.

11 We partnered with the Youth Council to host a Pre-Conference Retreat at the Pinelands Center for the Youth
12 and Young Adult delegation to 2018 Annual Conference. This new retreat provides a setting to learn about the
13 mechanics of legislation and to discuss current issues in the church and our denomination. We plan to host the
14 retreat again in 2019.

15 Coordinating with GNJ Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, we nominated GNJ YA clergy
16 candidate Rachel Callender for a Bossey Scholarship. Our congratulations to Ms. Callender who was awarded a
17 \$10,000 scholarship for participation in the Fall 2019 Graduate Session at the Ecumenical Institute at Bossey.

18 The YA Council, together with the Youth Council and the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, has
19 forged a new strategic alliance with Next Gen Ministries. This will increase opportunities for young adults across
20 the Conference to engage, grow and develop leadership skills in youth, campus and camping ministries.

21 The YA Council now moves forward with the Conference into the new five-year strategic plan and will continue
22 to find ways to identify, engage, and equip young adult leaders.

23 Submitted by,
24 Blair Goold, Chair

25 **Youth Ministries, Council on**

26 We continue to work with GNJ Next Gen ministry to explore several areas of potential ways to serve and grow.
27 We recognize the sustainability of meaningful youth ministry programs are on the decline and realize the need
28 to connect smaller youth groups. In working together, we can create networks and share resources with one
29 another. Collaborative ministry locally and regionally seems to be a need and we as the Council will explore ways
30 which we can help support events.

31 We promote and encourage IGNITE and IGNITE Youth Leaders Day. IGNITE continues to provide high quality
32 programing: deepening faith, growing relationships, mission opportunities and positive mentoring. We also work
33 with the youth delegates of GNJ to Annual Conference.

34 The Council on Youth are grateful through the support of GNJ and in partnership with the Council on Young
35 Adults we were able to send one youth to the Global Convocation held in South Africa, who had voice and vote.
36 The youth represented GNJ and NEJ. We would like to thank GNJ for their ongoing support of the Council on
37 Youth Ministry.

38 Submitted by,
39 Deborah Barnett, Council on Youth Ministry

1 **Treasurers Report**

2

3 see next page

Pension Accounts - Greater New Jersey Annual Conference

	12/31/17	12/31/18	Variance
ASSETS			
A/R-GNJAC	(198,930)	578,645	777,575
GBOP Deposit Account	1,239,064	246,219	(992,845)
Pension Investments-BOA	1,180,948	930,953	(249,995)
AR Accrued Billings-12/31/18	0	231,000	231,000
Total Assets	2,221,082	1,986,817	(234,265)
LIABILITIES			
Pension	0	0	0
Due to Conference	0	0	0
Total Liabilities	0	0	0
General Fund			
Balance Forward	2,725,138	2,880,190	155,052
<i>Receipts</i>			
Investment Income	188,984	145,009	(43,975)
GBOP Invest. Gain/(Loss)	233,925	14,899	(219,026)
GBOP Invest. Refund/Adj	519	0	(519)
GBOP CPP Premium Holiday	0	0	0
AUMCPBO Event	60,797	0	(60,797)
Annual Conference Offering	0	0	0
Chartered Fund Income	394	895	501
Pre-Retirement Seminar Income	620	520	(100)
Total Receipts	485,239	161,323	(323,916)
<i>Disbursements</i>			
Global Pension Trust			
Pensions - Moving Expense Reimb	57,648	31,234	(26,414)
Grants/Relief	1,496	1,496	0
GNJAC -Settlement / Mortgage Subsidy	0	0	0
Pre-Retirement Seminar Expense	0	0	0
Strategic Transformation Grants	0	0	0
Staff Expense	171,841	194,662	22,821
CBO Salary Expense	27,664	31,275	3,611
Pension Adjustment Expense	2,409	(854)	(3,263)
AUMCPBO	60,797	0	(60,797)
MEC Campaign Donation	0	25,000	25,000
Operating Expenses	8,332	15,530	7,198
Total Disbursements	330,187	298,343	(31,844)
General Fund Balance	2,880,190	2,743,170	(137,020)
Receipts - Disbursements	155,052	(137,020)	(292,072)
Current Service Fund			
Balance Forward	0	(659,108)	(659,108)
<i>Receipts</i>			
General Board - CPP Income	0	580,287	580,287
Staff Premiums	0	0	0
Conference CRSP/ MPP Income	2,405,002	2,506,725	101,723
Conference CPP Income	541,295	581,178	39,883
Total Receipts	2,946,297	3,668,190	721,893
<i>Disbursements</i>			
Refunds/Adjustments			
Transfer to Fund 127 Retiree Health	0	0	0
Expense entry	2,390,461	2,517,353	126,892
GBOP Billing	1,214,944	1,248,082	33,138
Total Disbursements	3,605,405	3,765,435	160,030
Current Service Fund Balance	(659,108)	(756,353)	(97,245)
Receipts - Disbursements	(659,108)	(97,245)	561,863
Interest Reserve Fund			
Interest Reserve Fund Balance	0	0	0
Total Fund Balance	2,221,082	1,986,817	(234,265)

Health Insurance Accounts - Greater NJ Annual Conference

	12/31/2017	12/31/2018	Variance
Assets			
Health Insurance Investments-BOA	7,976,346	4,469,496	(3,506,850)
A/R-GNJAC	(121,177)	221,869	343,046
AR-Accrued Billings 12/31/2018	0	900,000	900,000
Total Assets	7,855,169	5,591,365	(2,263,804)
Liabilities			
Post Retirement Benefits	58,018,059	65,699,205	7,681,146
Total Liabilities	58,018,059	65,699,205	7,681,146
Actives Fund			
Balance Forward	6,419	63,550	57,131
<i>(Receipts)</i>			
Billing Non-Annuitants	3,753,795	4,187,977	434,182
Dist. Supt. & Staff Premiums	505,255	643,381	138,126
Staff Family Premiums	0	0	0
2% of Sal. Contrib. W/H fr Staff&DS's	47,753	52,857	5,104
Incapacity from 127	975,851	926,301	(49,550)
Transfer from 127 Subsidy	1,200,000	1,200,000	0
Total Receipts	6,482,654	7,010,516	527,862
<i>(Disbursements)</i>			
Non- Annuitants Premium	6,042,784	6,654,366	611,582
Consulting Fee	0	0	0
Other Expense	0	0	0
Transfer 2% Pastor Salary Contribution	335,036	335,036	0
Transfer 2% Staff Salary Contribution	47,703	52,398	4,695
Total Disbursements	6,425,523	7,041,800	616,277
Receipts less Disbursements	57,131	(31,284)	(88,415)
Balance	63,550	32,266	(31,284)
ANNUITANTS Fund			
Balance Forward	0	0	0
<i>(Receipts)</i>			
Shared Ministries for Annuitants	2,005,306	1,918,923	(86,383)
Billing for Annuitants over 65	59,224	69,146	9,922
Billing for Annuitants under 65	85,317	78,807	(6,510)
Medicare	0	0	0
2% Salary Funds Reserve Transfer	630,937	1,160,726	529,789
Transfer from 127 Subsidy	0	0	0
Total Receipts	2,780,784	3,227,602	446,818
<i>(Disbursements)</i>			
Blue Cross - Premium Expense	2,564,068	2,967,564	403,496
Administration Expense	9,645	16,219	6,574
MEC Campaign Donation	0	25,000	25,000
Staff Expense	162,012	168,253	6,241
CBO - Salary	27,664	31,276	3,612
Adoption Support/ Refunds	0	0	0
Consulting Agency Fee	17,395	19,290	1,895
Total Disbursements	2,780,784	3,227,602	446,818
Receipts less Disbursements	0	0	0
Balance	0	0	0

Health Insurance Accounts - Greater NJ Annual Conference

Reserve Fund for Retiree Health Ins.			
Balance Forward	8,748,335	7,741,354	(1,006,981)
<i>(Receipts)</i>			
Centenary Fund Additional Contribution	500,000	510,000	10,000
Transfer 2% Pastor Salary Contribution	335,036	335,036	0
Transfer 2% Staff Salary Contribution	47,703	52,398	4,695
Investment Income	923,485	179,371	(744,114)
Misc Income	0	0	0
Total Receipts	1,806,224	1,076,805	(729,419)
<i>(Disbursements)</i>			
Transfer to Annuitants	630,937	1,160,726	529,789
Transfer to Non Annuitants	1,200,000	1,200,000	0
Dividend Expense	0	0	0
Strategic Transformation Grants	6,417	0	(6,417)
GNJAC Settlement Mortgage	0	0	0
Transfer to Annuitants Incapacity	975,851	926,301	(49,550)
Transfer to Reserve	0	0	0
Total Disbursements	2,813,205	3,287,027	473,822
Receipts - Disbursements	(1,006,981)	(2,210,222)	(1,203,241)
Balance	7,741,354	5,531,132	(2,210,222)
DENTAL Fund Balance Forward			
	40,146	50,265	10,119
Billing for Dental Insurance	153,832	150,937	(2,895)
Dental Insurance Premiums	143,713	173,235	29,522
Receipts - Disbursements	10,119	(22,298)	(32,417)
Balance	50,265	27,967	(22,298)
Post Retirement Fund Balance Forward			
	(49,555,111)	(58,018,509)	(8,463,398)
Current Year Transactions	(8,462,948)	(7,680,696)	782,252
Balance	(58,018,059)	(65,699,205)	(7,681,146)
Interest Reserve Fund Balance Forward			
	0	0	0
Current Year Transactions	0	0	0
Balance	0	0	0
0			
Total Fund Balance	(50,162,890)	(60,107,840)	(9,944,950)

Property & Liability Insurance - 12/31/2018

Balance Forward **610,337**

Receipts:

Premiums from Churches 3,098,102

Worker's Compensation 595,158

Prior Year Receipts 242,986

3,936,246

Disbursements:

Insurance Premiums 3,478,709

Worker's Compensation 497,795

3,976,504

Change in Operation (40,258)

Ending Balance 12/31/18 **570,079**

Ending Balance as of 12/31/18 is for Reserves for Uncollectible Premiums.

2018 Receipts Comparison
Greater New Jersey Annual Conference

Fd #	Funds	2016			2017			2018		
		Budget	Dec YTD	%Budget	Budget	Dec YTD	%Budget	Budget	Dec YTD	%Budget
Shared Ministry Funds										
100	Clergy Support	5,319,436	4,625,288	86.95%	4,942,160	4,325,244	87.52%	4,643,201	4,014,073	86.45%
200	Administration	2,853,078	2,639,495	92.51%	3,263,083	2,966,343	90.91%	3,256,928	3,183,397	97.74%
300	WorldService/Conf.Ben.	3,765,928	3,411,579	90.59%	3,727,535	3,421,114	91.78%	3,469,096	3,022,567	87.13%
410	Black College	197,700	171,411	86.70%	199,222	176,213	88.45%	176,579	154,695	87.61%
420	Africa University	44,256	39,683	89.67%	44,585	40,087	89.91%	39,517	39,668	100.38%
430	Ministerial Education	495,598	424,616	85.68%	499,439	435,000	87.10%	393,973	344,937	87.55%
	Subtotal	12,675,996	11,312,072	89.24%	12,676,024	11,364,001	89.65%	11,979,294	10,759,337	89.82%
	Prior Yr. Shared Ministry		9,879			7,634			0	
Billing Funds										
	CRSP	2,548,698	2,405,010	94.36%	2,524,475	2,324,454	92.08%	2,577,315	2,368,850	91.91%
	2017/Prior Year CRSP	201,461	42,324		183,195	27,397		230,340	46,567	
	Prior Years CRSP	1,806,657	48,984		1,912,748	53,151		2,017,054	91,307	
	Total CRSP	4,556,816	2,496,318	54.78%	4,620,418	2,405,002	52.05%	4,824,709	2,506,724	51.96%
	Comp. Protection Plan	577,523	575,205	99.60%	536,578	520,123	96.93%	545,369	544,404	99.82%
	2017/Prior Year CPP	49,906	9,379		41,680	7,823		46,455	10,921	
	Prior Years CPP	384,986	12,642		412,767	13,348		433,562	25,853	
	Total CPP	1,012,415	597,225	58.99%	991,026	541,295	54.62%	1,025,386	581,178	56.68%
	Property/Liab. Insurance	3,269,240	3,015,522	92.24%	3,497,334	3,144,319	89.91%	3,468,943	3,098,103	89.31%
	2017/Prior Year P/L	285,459	69,918		249,262	66,000		352,261	70,416	
	Prior Years P/L Insurance	1,836,095	94,050		1,955,452	75,943		2,072,854	89,385	
	Total P/L Ins.	5,390,794	3,179,490	58.98%	5,702,048	3,286,262	57.63%	5,894,059	3,257,904	55.27%
	Health Insurance	3,872,800	3,731,749	96.36%	3,762,507	3,542,469	94.15%	3,953,256	3,911,409	98.94%
	2017/Prior Yr Health Ins	352,028	60,587		266,389	43,926		320,293	74,966	
	P/Ys Health Insurance	2,827,528	62,660		3,046,376	74,209		3,195,653	162,072	
	Total Health Ins.	7,052,356	3,854,997	54.66%	7,075,272	3,660,604	51.74%	7,469,202	4,148,447	55.54%
	Workers Comp Ins	622,560	621,632	99.85%	609,864	590,140	96.77%	624,587	595,138	95.29%
	2017 Workers Comp	32,162	18,677		24,922	10,638		19,724	5,825	
	Prior Years Workers Comp	104,178	3,281		114,121	74,229		127,935	77,377	
	Total Workers Comp Ins	758,900	643,590	84.81%	748,907	675,006	90.13%	772,245	678,340	87.84%
	Total Shared Min. & Billing	31,447,276	22,093,570	70.26%	31,813,694	21,939,805	68.96%	31,964,895	21,931,930	68.61%
	Special Giving	0	1,018,866		0	1,289,809		0	729,454	
	GRAND TOTAL	31,447,276	23,112,436		31,813,694	23,229,614		31,964,895	22,661,384	

THIS SUMMER IN OCEAN GROVE

SUNDAYS IN THE GREAT AUDITORIUM



June 9
10:30 AM
Mr. Philip Yancey
Christian Author
Evergreen, CO



July 7
10:30 AM
Rev. Dr. Steve DeNeff
Senior Pastor
College Wesleyan Church
Marion, IN



July 28
10:30 AM & 7 PM Worship
Rev. Dr. Thomas Tewell
Director
Macedonian Ministry
Atlanta, GA



August 18
10:30 AM & 7 PM Worship
Rev. Dr. R. T. Kendall
President
R. T. Kendall Ministries
Hendersonville, TN



June 16
10:30 AM
Pastor Erick Sorensen
Pastor
Epiphany Church
New York City, NY



July 14
10:30 AM
Pastor Christian Andrews
Lead Pastor
Renaissance Church
Summit, NJ



August 4
10:30 AM & 7 PM Worship
Pastor Roger Casey
Bible Teacher
Milford, PA



August 25
10:30 AM
Rev. Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.
Senior Pastor
First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens
Somerset, NJ



June 23
10:30 AM
Rev. Dr. Amanda Drury
Associate Professor
of Practical Theology
Indiana Wesleyan University
Marion, IN



July 21
10:30 AM
Mrs. Margaret Feinberg
Christian Author and Speaker
Transparent Faith, Inc.
Salt Lake City, UT



August 11
10:30 AM
Rev. Dr. Craig Barnes
President
Princeton Theological Seminary
Princeton, NJ



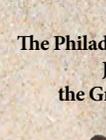
September 1
10:30 AM
Rev. Dr. Sondra Wheeler
Martha Ashby Carr Professor
of Christian Ethics
Wesley Theological Seminary
Washington, DC



June 30
10:30 AM
Rev. Dr. Douglas Strong
Dean of the School of Theology
Professor, History of Christianity
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle, WA



July 21
7:00 PM
The King's Brass in Concert



August 11
7:00 PM
**The Philadelphia Brass, Gordon Turk,
Jason Tramm and
the Great Auditorium Choir**



September 8
10:30 AM
Salvation Army Sunday

BIBLE HOUR

MON – SAT AT 9 AM IN THE BISHOP JANES TABERNACLE



June 17 – 22
Rev. Antonia Winstead
Director, Pastoral Care
and Counseling
First Baptist Church
of Lincoln Gardens
Somerset, NJ



July 8 – 13
Pastor Christian Andrews
Lead Pastor
Renaissance Church
Summit, New Jersey



July 29 – August 3
Mrs. Kimberly Kreuger
FEW International
Mukwonago, WI



August 19 – 24
Dr. James Fleming
Director, Biblical Resources, LLC
LaGrange, GA



June 24 – 29
Mrs. Rhea Briscoe
Christian Author and Speaker
Founder of Snowdrop Ministries
Delafield, WI



July 15 – 20
Mr. Jay Seeger
The Starting Point Project
Waukesha, WI



August 5 – 10
Pastor Roger Casey
Bible Teacher
Milford, Pennsylvania



August 26 – 31
Rev. David Cotton
Regional Director of
Pastoral Care Services
Chair of Bioethics Consult
Hackensack Meridian Health
Jersey Shore University
Medical Center
Neptune, New Jersey



July 1 – 6
Mr. Mark Kolchin
President
Know the Word
Lanoka Harbor, NJ



July 22 – 27
Pastor Vito Aiuto
Lead Pastor
Resurrection Williamsburg
Brooklyn, NY



August 12 – 17
Pastor Erick Sorensen
Pastor
Epiphany Church
New York City

On Christ the Solid Rock

Sunday, July 14 at 7 PM



65th Annual Choir Festival — A Worship Experience Like No Other

Selections from Handel's *Messiah*

Annual Sacred Masterworks

Sunday, August 25 at 7 PM

featuring the Great Auditorium Choir and Quartet
and the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra



MAY 2019

Thur.	2	Breakthrough Series Planning	Diana Picurro
Sat.	11	New Appointment Transition Workshop	Megan McKay
Tues.	14	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Sun. - Tue.	19 - 21	Annual Conference	Beverly Karlovich
Mon.	20	Clergy Coaching Registration	Diana Picurro
Sat. - Wed.	25 - 29	Tanzania Pastor School	Ashley Wilson
Mon.	27	Memorial Day	MRC closed
Thur.	30	Clergy Appraisals Due	Soomin Lee

JUNE 2019

Sat.	1	Lay Servant Graduation	Beverly Karlovich
Sat.	1	2018 Fund Balance Report Due	Regional Team
Mon.	3	Clergy Coaching Registration Closes	Diana Picurro
Fri. - Sat.	7 - 8	Local Pastor Licensing School	Beverly Karlovich
Tues.	11	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Sat.	15	Cultivate Orientation	Cristelle Ramirez
Sat.	22	Team Vitality II	Diana Picurro
Sun.	30	Quarterly Check-In's Due (New appointments only)	Regional Team
Sun.	30	Pastoral Transition Audit Due (New appointments only)	Regional Team

JULY 2019

Mon.	1	Church Conference Forms Available Online	Regional Team
Thurs.	4	Independence Day	MRC closed
Tues.	16	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Sat.	20	Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Workshop	Diana Picurro
Mon. - Fri.	22 - 27	Next Gen Camp Inspire	Cristelle Ramirez
Mon. - Fri.	29 - 31	Next Gen High School Camp	Cristelle Ramirez

AUGUST 2019

Thurs.	1	Fall 2019 PaCE Registration	Diana Picurro
Mon.	5 - 10	Next Gen Middle School Camp	Cristelle Ramirez
Mon.	12 - 16	Niño's y Jovenes para Cristo Camp	Cristelle Ramirez
Tues.	13	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Mon.	26	Clergy Coaching Registration	Diana Picurro
Sat.	31	Fall 2019 Team Vital Application Deadline	Diana Picurro

*Dates are subject to change. Please continue to check the GNJ Digest and specific district resources for further events and information.

SEPTEMBER 2019

Mon.	2	Labor Day	MRC closed
Sun.	15	Fall 2019 PaCE Registration Closes	Diana Picurro
Mon.	16	Clergy Coaching Registration Closes	Diana Picurro
Tues.	17	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Mon.	23	Church Conference Paperwork Due	Regional Team
Sat.	28	Laitry Leadership Academy	Beverly Karlovich
Mon.	30	Quarterly Check-In's Due (New appointments only)	Regional Team
Mon.	30	Pastoral Transition Audit Due (New appointments only)	Regional Team

OCTOBER 2019

Tues.	1	Bishop's Day on the Central Region	Soomin Lee
Fri. - Sun.	4-6	IGNITE	Cristelle Ramirez
Tues.	8	Bishop's Day on the Southern Region	Soomin Lee
Sat.	12	Gateway North Church Conference (Spanish)	Krystina Michalopoulos
Sat.	12	Skylands Church Conference	Krystina Michalopoulos
Tues.	15	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Sat.	19	Gateway South Church Conference	Jennifer Creran
Sat.	19	Palisades Church Conference	Krystina Michalopoulos
Sun.	20	Palisades Church Conference (Korean)	Krystina Michalopoulos
Thur.	24	Bishop's Day on the Northern Region	Soomin Lee
Wed.	30	Quarterly Check-In's Due (New appointments only)	Regional Team
Wed.	30	Pastoral Transition Audit Due (New appointments only)	Regional Team



NOVEMBER 2019

Sat.	2	Cape Atlantic Church Conference	Jennifer Creran
Sat.	2	Gateway North Church Conference	Krystina Michalopoulos
Sat.	2	Central Region Church Conference	Megan McKay
Fri.	8 -	Local Pastor Licensing School	Beverly Karlovich
Sat.	9		
Sat.	9	Skylands Church Conference	Krystina Michalopoulos
Sat.	16	Delaware Bay Church Conference	Jennifer Creran
Tues.	19	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Thurs.	28 -	Thanksgiving	MRC closed
Fri.	29		
Sat.	30	Quarterly Check-In's Due (New appointments only)	Regional Team

DECEMBER 2019

Sun.	1	Spring 2020 PaCE Registration	Diana Picurro
Sat.	7	Laity Academy Grant Application Deadline	Beverly Karlovich
Tues.	17	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Tue.	24 -	Christmas	MRC closed
Wed.	25		
Mon.	30	Clergy Coaching Registration	Diana Picurro
Tue.	31	2020 Local Church Budgets Due	Regional Team

JANUARY 2020

Wed.	1	New Year's Day	MRC closed
Tues.	7	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Mon.	13 -	Bishop's Convocation	Soomin Lee
Wed.	15		
Wed.	15	Clergy Coaching Registration Closes	Diana Picurro
Wed.	15	Workers' Compensation Audit Due	Veronika Varga
Mon.	20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	MRC closed
Fri.	31	Ezra Statistical Reports Due	Krystina Michalopoulos

FEBRUARY 2020

Tues.	4	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Sat.	15	Fall 2019 PaCE Grant Deadline	Dianna Picurro
Mon.	17	President's Day	MRC Closed
Wed.	26	Ash Wednesday	

*Dates are subject to change. Please continue to check the GNJ Digest and specific district resources for further events and information.

MARCH 2020

Sat.	7	Fall 2019 Team Vital	Diana Picurro
Sun.	15	GNJ Leadership Appraisals	Laura Canzonier
Tues.	17	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Mon.	30	Quarterly Check-In's Due	Krystina Michalopoulos

APRIL 2020

Sun.	5	Palm Sunday	
Fri.	10 -	Good Friday through Easter Monday	MRC Closed
Mon.	13		
Tues.	21	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Thur.	30	GNJ Leadership Appraisals Due	Laura Canzonier

MAY 2020

Tues.	5 -	General Conference in Minneapolis	
Fri.	15		
Tues.	19	Clergy Leadership Development	Beverly Karlovich
Mon.	25	Memorial Day	MRC Closed
Sun.	31 -	Annual Conference	Beverly Karlovich
Tues.	2		

THE GNJ STAFF IS HERE TO HELP!
CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL ADMIN WITH QUESTIONS.

Krystina Michalopoulos | Northern Region Districts:

Gateway North, Palisades & Skylands
Email: kmichalopoulos@gnjumc.org
Call: 732.359.1075

Megan McKay | Central Region Districts:

Capital, Northern Shore & Raritan Valley
Email: mmckay@gnjumc.org
Call: 732.359.1085

Jennifer Creran | Southern Region Districts:

Cape Atlantic, Delaware Bay & Gateway South
Email: jceran@gnjumc.org
Call: 732.359.1080

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UNITED METHODISTS
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

