

F. DAILY PROCEEDINGS

**Mountain Sky Area 2018 Joint Annual Conference
Eccles Conference Center
Ogden, UT**

**Bishop Karen P. Oliveto – Presiding
Mark Calhoun – Conference Secretary, Yellowstone Annual Conference
Elizabeth McVicker – Conference Secretary, Rocky Mountain Annual Conference**

**OPENING WORSHIP
Thursday, June 7, 2018 – 1:00 P.M.**

The Conference convened in the Eccles Conference Center, Ogden, Utah for Opening Worship and Bishop Karen P. Oliveto's Episcopal address. The story of the "Dry Bones" from Ezekiel 37:1-14 was presented in song by the worship band: Daryl J. Walker, Sheryl McCallum, James Barth, and Emily Hackworth. Conference members were brought to their feet with clapping, singing, and much celebration. A Grand Processional ensued with "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" with the joint cabinet and guests. Youth addresses were given by Matthew Utley (Rocky Mountain) and Peyton Baker (Yellowstone). The youth led the body in the song, "Survivor". Conference Lay Leaders Margaret Hotze, Kunle Taiwo, and Don McCammon welcomed and addressed the conference.

PLENARY SESSION

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Karen P. Oliveto called to order the Annual Conference Session of Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain Conferences. The Conference convened in the Ogden Eccles Conference Center in Ogden, Utah revolving around the theme "Living into Beloved Community".

THEME PRESENTATION: Bishop Karen P. Oliveto introduced the theme "Living Into Beloved Community" based on Matthew 25. She then introduced keynote speaker, Erin Hawkins, who is General Secretary of the General Commission on Religion and Race.

CLAREMONT SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY: Youngsook Kang introduced Dr. Jeffrey Kuan, president of Claremont School of Theology. Kuan briefly addressed the Conference.

MISSION SHAPED FUTURE INTRODUCTION AND PROCESS: Jeremy Scott, Brad Laurvick, Jessica Rooks, Stacey King, Jasper Peters, Chris Frasier, Deborah Schmidt, and John Daniels presented the report. The proposed mission statement was introduced: *The mission of the Mountain Sky Area of the United Methodist Church is to live in God's grace and abundance as we lead a re-energized movement to reclaim the life-changing love of Jesus Christ for ALL people.*

HOSTING DISTRICT WELCOME: Marv Vose and District Lay Leaders: Mesia Fisilau and Sue Yeager. Bishop Karen and Robin Ridenour were presented with beautiful leis. Mesia Fisilau welcomed us with a Tongan prayer and response.

TEST VOTING MACHINES: Brad Laurvick and team instructed the body on the use of the electronic voting devices.

BAR OF THE CONFERENCE: The Bar of the Conference shall be the stage, audio visual area, the associate secretary's table and all blue chairs on the floor of the conference. The red chairs are outside the bar. Please be present and in the room to vote. On motion it was adopted.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION: Mark Calhoun, Yellowstone Conference Secretary, provided guidelines regarding the order of the session.

Voting Eligibility: Purple and green stripes on nametags can vote on the business of Annual Conference. Yellow stripes can vote on everything EXCEPT the Constitutional Amendments.

AGENDA: Dan Odell, Chair, presented the agenda report. On motion it was ordered that the agenda be adopted.

RULES: Russell Butler and Mark Cumming, presented the Rules report. On motion, it was ordered that the "Procedural Rules For The Combined 2018 Plenary Session Of The Rocky Mountain And Yellowstone Annual Conferences" be adopted with the following amendment: Line 24--change the word "may" to "shall".

UNITED METHODIST FEDERAL CREDIT UNION: Ben Sarracino, Business Development Center addressed the body briefly.

JOINT DISTRIBUTING COMMITTEE: Proposed committee was approved by vote.

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| <u>YAC Members:</u> | <u>YAC Alternates:</u> | <u>RMC Members:</u> | <u>RMC Alternates:</u> |
| Doug Morton | John Evans | Kim James | Teresa Rivera |
| Pam Dandrea | Dennis Reese | Kay Marsh | John Weibel |
| Phil Brooks | Joe O'Leary | Sandy Towns | Don Sperber |

INTRODUCTIONS: Youngsook Kang introduced Rick Hunt as the leader of the Safety Team who will provide security for the session. Kent Ingram and Claudia Fife introduced Robin Ridenour, wife of Bishop Oliveto, and Nancy Cox, the Bishop's Executive Assistant. Tyler Amundson and Rob White, Program and Arrangements Chairs, addressed the Conference.

TUG-O-LOVE: Contest benefits pastors in the East Angola Conference and UMCOR.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sarah Beck gave announcements and closing prayer

**DISTRICT DINNERS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Thursday, June 7, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.**

While some of the districts have had a tradition of hosting dinners at Annual Conference, this was the first year that it was intentional for all the districts to gather. At the district dinners circuits and circuit leaders were introduced, outgoing superintendents were recognized as applicable, acknowledgements were extended to those who were getting ordained or in the candidacy process, clergy transitions were recognized, Church Tithe Certificates were presented, special awards were given, district leadership teams were recognized, and other news and events for the district were announced.

**MEMORIAL AND COMMUNION SERVICE
Thursday, June 7, 2018 – 7:15 p.m.**

The Conference reconvened in the Ogden Eccles Conference Center for a Communion and Memorial Service. The liturgy of the service was planned and coordinated by the worship subcommittee of the Program and Arrangements

Committee. The gospel was based on Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Reverend Walter (Skip) Strickland, Superintendent of the Peaks and Plains District, delivered the sermon. The staff, clergy, and spouses memorialized were: Rev. Guy Botkin, Rev. William D. (Bill) Bruce, Rev. H. Everding Jr, Rev. Loy Estes, Rev. David West Engle, Rev. Margaret Rush Hankins, Rev. Russell Hawkings, Rev. Douglas Lathrop, Rev. John Lewis, Rev. Elias Martinez, Rev. Alice Riemer-McKee, Rev. Sandy Stephens, Rev. Keith Spahr, Rev. Wilbur Whanger, Rev. William Iams, Betty Ely, Karon Arline Franz, Lois Gilbert, Patricia Klingman, Sarah Allagene Mason, Wesley Thring, Lucille Wheatley, and Jane Winterheld.

An offering was taken for Hunger Free Colorado. The Conference Band provided music for the service.

**LAITY ELECTION
ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE
Friday, June 08, 2018 – 1:30 p.m.**

The Laity of the Rocky Mountain Conference gathered in the Grand Ballroom for the election of co-Lay Leader. The Conference was welcomed by co-Lay leaders Margaret Hotze and Kunle Taiwo. Kunle instructed the Laity on the duties of Lay Leader. Margaret shared the rules for election. Ashley Hawkins instructed the Laity on the voting machines. The 5 nominees addressed the Laity: Jim Bessee, Curtis Gay, Doug Palmer, Brenda Shafer, and Gayla Jo Slauson. The first vote was cast following prayer. The Board of Laity introduced itself. The results of the first vote were read; there was no election. The second vote was cast. Yvonne Clary, RMC Lay Servant Director, did a short presentation on Lay Servant Ministries. The results of the second vote were read; there was no election. Susan Yeager did a short presentation on Certified Lay Ministers. The third vote was cast following prayer. Margaret Hotze led the Laity in expressing appreciation for the work of Kunle Taiwo. Kunle expressed his thanks and appreciation to all. The results of the third vote were read; there was one election. With 169 votes, Gayla Jo Slauson, from Crossroads UMC in Grand Junction, was elected. This voting session was closed with prayer from Ellie Young, UMW President. Kunle Taiwo took a moment of personal privilege to recognize the 60th wedding anniversary of Chuck and Kitty Keim.

**JOINT LAY SESSION
RMC AND YAC
Friday, June 08, 2018 – 2:45 p.m.**

The Joint Lay session with the Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Conferences was called to order by Margaret Hotze. Don McCammon played "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes. The Youth (wearing their Tug-O-Love t-shirts) led the Laity in a litany based on "We Are One". Margaret introduced Reverend Donna M.L. Pritchard, guest preacher from Portland First UMC, who addressed the Laity on the "Commission on The Way Forward". Ephesians 4:1-6 was also highlighted. She shared points from the Arbinger Institute "Heart of Peace." She presented the three plans to be presented at the 2019 Special General Conference. Following prayer by Ruth Wills, an offering was taken to support Laity Scholarships in Rocky Mountain and Every Member Giving in Yellowstone. The offering will be divided between the two Conferences. The Youth sang an anthem – "A Child of God". Don McCammon, lay leader from Yellowstone presented Donna Pritchard with a shirt in appreciation. He then introduced Amy Gearhart, Senior Executive for Transition and Conference Culture, who briefly addressed the Laity. The session was recessed with song.

**CLERGY SESSION
Friday, June 8, 2018 – 1:00 P.M.**

OPENING WORSHIP: The session began with a worship time singing The Servant Song.

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Karen P. Oliveto, called the meeting to order with a reading from Fr Carlo Carletto, prayer, and welcome to clergy from both Annual Conferences.

INTRODUCTION OF JOINT CLERGY SESSION: Jessica Rooks & Su DeBree, Chairs of the respective

Boards of Ordained Ministry for Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone. Our work together was explained, and the electronic voting devices were tested. Members of one Conference were not allowed to speak or vote on questions germane to the other Conference. Vote to approve was taken to approve the joint session. YAC clergy approved. RMC clergy approved. Guests in the room were presented and approved including Richard Marsh, Conference Chancellor and Nancy Cox, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, and lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry who were present in the room.

SETTING THE BAR: Bishop Karen set the bar as the room, the honor system was observed. Elders/Deacons in full connection in their own Conference were eligible to vote.

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS:

- Rev. Jessica Rooks, Chair of Conference Relations Committee, reported that the following ordained ministers and provisional members from other Annual Conferences are approved for appointment while retaining their conference or denominational membership. Coming into Rocky Mountain Annual Conference: Nathan Adams, David Burt, Cathy Estes, Mark Feldmeir, Amy Gearhart, Michael Gore, Richard McPherson, William Novak, Tevita David Ofahengauae, Susan Otey, Mary Schmidt, Jeremy Scott, Barbara Sholis. Coming into Yellowstone Annual Conference: Patricia Agnew, Sarah Beck, Deborah Christine, Paul Holland, Russell Lehman, John Nadas, Mark Rader, Jeff Wakeley. – B.A.C. 24.a.
- Jessica Rooks reported those ordained or provisional members from other Methodist denominations that are approved for appointment while retaining their conference or denominations membership: Yunseon Choi, and Hwal Paul Joo. – B.A.C 24.b.
- Jessica Rooks moved that we vote on those clergy in good standing in other Christian denominations that have been approved to serve appointments or ecumenical ministries within the bounds of the Annual Conference while retaining their denominational affiliation. The following persons were approved for Rocky Mountain Conference: James Fother Jr.; Pricilla Hill; Tracy Hughes; Steve Poos-Benson; Robin Riley; William S. Robertson; Hugo Venegas, and Patty Walker. Those approved for Yellowstone Conference were: Priscilla Bell, James Bell, John Duckworth, Kent Gordon, Timothy Hutslar, Amanda Liggett, and Marcia Muir. B.A.C. 25
- Jessica Rooks moved that those who are affiliate members without vote be approved by at least a 2/3 vote. The following were approved for Rocky Mountain Conference: Dale Beck, B.J. George, Kerry Greenhill, Knut Heim, Daniel D. Marutle, Sandra Spahr, Michael Streevy, and Thomas Hazelwood. Approved for Yellowstone Conference was: Melinda Penry. – B.A.C. 26.b.

SMALL GROUP CONVERSATIONS: Bishop Karen invited small groups to share their thoughts about where their hearts were broken this past year and what brought them deep joy.

CLERGY COVENANT FUND REPORT AND OFFERING: Don Bird shared that clergypersons were helped during the past year with the funds collected at last year's clergy session. He encouraged generous giving this year.

CANDIDATES:

- Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the following were presented to be commissioned as Provisional Elders for Rocky Mountain Conference: Jamielee Demske, Angela Kotzmoyer, Jaime Nieves, David Petty. For Yellowstone Conference these candidates were presented for commissioning: Calvin Hill, Janet Mulroy, Daniel Viehland, and Cory Young. All were approved. – B.A.C. 28.
- Those who are continued as provisional members towards deacon's and elder's orders in Rocky Mountain Conference: Jason Baxter, Yvette Christy, Leah Coleman, Kaitlin Elmore, Sherry Ferriman, and Byoungwk Jeon, Sandra Jimenez, Emily Kintzel, Pete Phillips, Lou Ward, and Tonya Whaley. These candidates were continued for Yellowstone Conference: KyeongSu Jung, and Dawn Skerritt. – B.A.C. 29.a.
- Upon recommendation of the Board of Ordained Ministry, the following were presented for approval for ordination as Elder in full connection: Lee Anderson-Harris, John Patrick Bell, Lauren Chance Boyd, Carol Forbes, Valerie Jackson, Larry Michael Jarrell, Sharon Langfeldt, Bun Koo Lee, Sarah Merchant, Cynthia Paquette, Phil Rogers, Janine Rose, and Josh Walker. All were approved. – B.A.C. 32.

All of the 2018 ordinands were celebrated by the Joint Clergy Session:

Lee Anderson-Harris
 John Patrick "Pat" Bell
 Lauren Chance Boyd
 Carol Forbes
 Valerie Jackson
 Michael Jarrell
 Sharon Langfeldt
 Bun Koo Lee
 Sarah Merchant
 Cynthia Paquette
 Phil Rogers
 Janine Rose
 Josh Walker
 William Novak

Recess was taken.

CONFERENCE RELATIONS REPORT (LOCAL PASTORS):

- The following were listed as those who have completed studies for the license as a local pastor, and are approved, but are not now appointed for Rocky Mountain Conference: Amy Baker, Susie Burley, Mike Lipinski, John McLean, David Money, Vickie Richards Street, and Brad Walston. – B.A.C. 20.
- The following were approved as being approved and appointed at full-time local pastors: Cody Anderson, Kenneth Berve, Michelle Bowles, Rob Bruendl, Jim Chrisawn, Cherie Cobb, Lester Huseby, Terry Krayenhagen, Martin Lee, Matt Lurz, Melinda Kay Roberts, Timothy Selby, Jerilyn Soens, Andrew Stinnett, Sharon Strauss, Debria Upton, Karen Wallace, James R. Ward, Jeffrey Wayland, and Benning Wentworth IV. And for Yellowstone Conference: Steve Brown, Karen Disney, Ruth McKenzie, and Vicki Waddington. – B.A.C. 21.a.
- The following were approved as being approved and appointed as part-time local pastors for Rocky Mountain Conference: Teresa Adams, Spencer Black, Charlotte Carr, Mark Cloer, Steven Dunkel, David Erickson, Kristi Firme, Sione Fungalei, Jodie Harless, Janeen Hill, Donald Holt, Jean Paul Howard, Travis Husted, Manuel Jimenez, Jeff Kanost, Kathleen Leathers, Peter Lee, Atamani Longolongogofolau, Mele Mausia Mafi, Poasi Manu, Gracie Lynn Marske, Vicki Martinez, Lesley Matschke, Norman Mark, David McGee, Linda Meyer, Craig Paschal, Michael Paschall, Nancy Peacock, Guillermo Reyes, David Sauer, Deanne Sharp, Harold Eugene Sharp, Rick Steward, Donnie Sturgill, Atonio Toluta'u, Kristina Walker, and Gary Wilken. And for Yellowstone Conference: Kelly Addy, Dotti Behling, Bill Briggs, Val Colenso, Evelyn Kunkel, Sara Neff, Jack Mattingly, Losaline Tupoumalohi, with additions: Bill Warren, Matthew White, and Karin Lovgren. – B.A.C. 21.b.

INTRODUCTION OF LOCAL PASTORS: New Local Pastors since last Annual Conference were welcomed. They included for Rocky Mountain Conference: Teresa Adams, Spencer Taylor Black, Steven Dunkel, David Erickson, Travis Husted, Gracie Lynn Marske, Vicki Martinez, Mina Maria Nau, Michael D. Paschall, Melinda Kay Roberts, Debria Lewis Upton, and Karen Wallace. For Yellowstone Conference: Matthew White and Karin Lovgren.

ANNIVERSARIES: The following were celebrated for milestones in ministry for Rocky Mountain Conference: Frank Oliver Gunther (60 years), James Clarence Robinson (60 years); James E. Whathoff (50 years); Gary Ray Goettel (40 years), James William Moore (40 years), Paul Gorden Rider (40 years), Stephen J. Sidorak, Jr. (40 years), Gary L. Wilkin (40 years); Leslie Scott Barnett (25 years), Charles T. Thompson (25 years); Donald Bailey (20 years), Mary Virginia Bettendorf (20 years), Russell Butler (20 years), Charles Ohlin Herrington (20 years), Barbara Ann Johns-Schleicher (20 years), Thomas Johnson (20 years), Leslie L. Ludham (20 years), Linda M. Pelletier (20 years), Bruce A. Sage (20 years), Rebekah Ellen Simon-Peter (20 years), and Joyce Snapp (20 years). For the Yellowstone Conference, these anniversaries were recognized: Kathy Young (40 years); Linda Fritz (25 years), Donna Martins (25 years), Marianne Niesen (25 years); and Jerry Collins (20 years), Mike Dexter (20 years), David Greep (20 years), Mike Hart (20 years), and Kim Woeste (20 years).

SMALL GROUP CONVERSATIONS: Bishop Karen invited small groups to share their thoughts about where they saw evidence of someone's call and how did we nurture and affirm it.

RECOGNITION OF RETIREES:

- The following were reported as an elder in full connection who have been retired this year from Rocky Mountain Conference: Richard Carpenter, Michael Dent, Mark Heiss, Olga Hard, Michael Ingersoll, Randy Jessen, Eun-sang Lee, Yvonne Lee, and Walter "Skip" Strickland. And from Yellowstone Conference, these retirees were recognized: Linda Fritz, Gary Geiman, and Huston Green. – B.A.C. 53.c.
- The following were local pastors who have been recognized as retired this past year from Yellowstone Conference: Ruth McKenzie. – B.A.C. 56.a.

HONORING CLERGY DEATHS: The following were reported as elders who died during the past year in Rocky Mountain Conference: Gary Dale Blackmon, Guy Botkin, William D. Bruce, David West Engle, Henry Everding Jr., Russell Hawkins, Margaret Rush Hankins, William R. Iiams, Douglas Lathrop, Elias Lopez Martinez, Alice Riemer-McKee, Keith Spahr, and Sandra C. Stephens. Remembered by the Yellowstone Conference were: John Lewis, Jarrell L. Tharp, Wilbur Whanger, and Kay Roth (Affiliate member). – B.A.C. 48.c.

PRAYER: Bishop Karen P. Oliveto offered prayer for our departed clergy members.

THANKS TO BOM MEMBERS ENDING THEIR TERM: We thanked the Rocky Mountain Conference Board of Ordained Ministry members who completed their terms of office: Cathie Kelsey, Linda Marshall, and Denise Bender. We also thanked the Yellowstone Conference Board of Ordained Ministry member who completed her term of office: Kathy Young.

CONFERENCE RELATIONS REPORT:

- The following were listed as those who shall constitute the Administrative Review Committee for Rocky Mountain Conference: Val Jackson, Kimal James, Ramon Robledo, with alternates: Ryan Canaday and Loyaa Flansburg. Those who shall constitute the Administrative Review Committee for Yellowstone Conference: Susan Adams-Trembath, William Mulette-Bauer, Terry Turner, with alternates: Connie Cranston, and Don Derryberry. – B.A.C.18.a.
- The following was reported as having been transferred to other annual conferences of the UMC: Charles Cram. – B.A.C. 41.
- The following was approved as those who have been readmitted to the Rocky Mountain Conference: Elizabeth Hall. – B.A.C. 36.
- The following were approved as provisional, ordained, or associate members on personal leave of absence for 5 years or less: Jennifer Arfmann, Laura Cartwright, Scott Daniels, Elizabeth Hall, Jennifer Hare, Amos Kariuki, Ann McClellan, Khan McClellan, Will Morris, Siao Si Prescott, and Rhonda York. --B.A.C. 50.a.1.
- The following was approved as provisional, ordained members, or associate members on leave of absence for 5 years or more in Rocky Mountain Conference: Mary Ann Dimand. – B.A.C. 50.a.2.
- The following were approved as provisional, ordained members, or associate members on family leave less than 5 years in Rocky Mountain Conference: Jessica Boyce, and Jennifer Winterfeld. – B.A.C. 50.a.3.
- The following were approved as provisional, ordained members, or associate members on transitional leave in Rocky Mountain Conference: Stacy Collins, McNair Ezzard, Kristi Hornick, Elizabeth Jackson. – B.A.C. 50.a.5.
- The following have been granted medical leave from Rocky Mountain Conference: Laurie A. Bruce, David Burnett, Handi Jo Dolloff-Holt, Debra Edwards, Felicia George and Brian Riecke. And from Yellowstone Conference: Sarah Power. – B.A.C. 52.
- The following were approved as associate members and elders for appointment to less than full-time service in Rocky Mountain Conference: Fred Amborn, Lauren Chance Boyd, Jim Heikes, Linda S. Hoover, Byoungwk Jeon, Sandra Jimenez, Emily Kintzel, Seon Young Lee, Betty Nguyen, Dan Odell, and Joshua Walker; also Spencer W. Green and Edward R. Rousset. In Yellowstone Conference, the following were approved as

associate members and elders for appointment to less than full-time service: Dottie Behling, Susan DeBree, Linda Fritz, Gary Geiman, Susan Twidwell, and Deborah Schmidt. – B.A.C. 72.a.

- The following were approved as deacons for appointment to less than full-time service in Rocky Mountain Conference: Lee Anderson-Harris, Megan Armstrong, Jolain Graf, Debra Juarez, Mary MacDonald, Philip Rogers, Charles J. Stephens, Sallie Suby-Long, and Sarah Steidtmann. – B.A.C. 72.b.
- The following were approved as elders, (full connection and provisional), associate members, and local pastors appointed to other valid extension ministries under the provisions of Para. 344.1d in Rocky Mountain Conference: Michelle Bowles, Lynne Butler, Susan Crow, James Grunden, Gichul James Kim, Rebecca McFee, Valerie Oden, Jin Tae Park, Trevor Potter, Brian Rossbert, Blaine Scott, Rebekah Simon-Peter, Amy Rebecca Stapleton, and James Ward. For Yellowstone Conference: Dan Ashton, Gail Murphy-Geiss, Janet Hanson, David Logan, and Kim Woeste. – B.A.C. 76.c.

PASSING ON CHARACTER: Bishop Karen asked each District Superintendent to stand with those who serve in their district, and asked the questions: “Are all the clergy members of the district blameless in their life and official administration?” and “Is your district superintendent blameless in his/her life and official administration?” Each assured that all pass on character by the grace of God.

REQUEST FOR PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:

- Annie Arnoldy rose to speak to COSROW concerns regarding the character of *all* clergy when we are aware of the experiences of clergy who do not feel safe. “No more silence” stories were shared.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Don Messer rose to encourage the use of resources put together from UMARC to have a conversation about The Way Forward or Schism before the General Church in February 2019. He also encouraged attendance at the workshop, entitled, Toward An Inclusive Church II on Friday, November 16, 2018 at St Andrew UMC, Highlands Ranch, CO.
- Stephanie Kidwell invited us to the Clergy Orders Retreat on October 16-18 with Amy Gearhart and Beth Richardson leading the retreat to be held at a location TBD.
- Spanish language immersion experience is available in October 2018.
- A trip to the Holy Land is coming up with Bishop Karen in January 2019 through Educational Opportunities.

PRAYING FOR AND WITH ONE ANOTHER:

- Dick Vickery seeks prayers for healing as medications are troublesome.
- Michael Dent seeks prayers for MCI and gives thanks for prayers of support and encouragement.
- Steve Easterday-McPadden gave thanks for the many prayers offered for his daughter.
- Jim Calhoun asked prayers for Clarence Snelling.
- Betty Nguyen asked prayers for Handi Jo Dolloff-Holt’s health and well-being.
- Marty Lee asked prayers for his sister and a brother for health issues.
- Sally McConnell’s grandson, Joseph, in Bozeman, MT for hospitalization.
- Jeff Huber’s congregation 200 members, out of their homes, affected by an 8,000-acre fire, and for those who do not feel welcome at Annual Conference.
- Marcia Mayor asked prayers for retired clergy in Yellowstone with health concerns.
- Terry Hubbard offered gratitude for the prayers of this Conference and she has found new life in Desert Southwest Conference.
- John Nadasi stated, “Not one more!” regarding the treatment of clergywomen by their male counterparts.
- Prayers for the immigrant community in the U.S. and the multiple stories from which we can all learn and grow; and for the LatinX clergy who offer ministry in different languages.
- Prayers for Carrie West for healing (foot) and for comfort as she lost both her mom and step-father.
- Mike Paschall asked prayers for a unborn grandson who will need immediate open heart surgery upon his birth with follow up surgeries.

CLOSING BLESSING: Bishop Karen closed the session with words and a blessing.

MINISTRY IMMERSION
Friday, June 8, 2018 – 8:00 A.M.

The Conference went to the following ministry sites:

Crossroads Urban Center: *Education and advocacy in our local communities*

Family Promise: *Transforming the Lives of Homeless Families*

American Red Cross and Ogden Fire Department: *Sound the Alarm – Installing Smoke Detectors*

Westwood Village: *Serving Seniors and Elderly in Ogden*

UMCOR West Depot: *Sorting Donated Supplies and Packing Relief Kits*

Intermountain Children's Home: *How Local Congregations can Faithfully Respond to Children's Mental Health Community Shelters and Housing Organizations*

JOINT PLENARY SESSION
Saturday, June 9, 2018 – 8:30 A.M.

OPENING PRAYER: Bishop Karen P. Oliveto.

INTRODUCTIONS: Bishop Roy Sano greeted the body. Jay Rundell, President of Methodist Theological School in Ohio, addressed the body. David Burt recognized Rhodes Logan, Executive Director of UMC Development Center, who was instrumental in raising \$103,000 toward the YAC deficit.

MONITORING PROCESS: Claire McNulty-Drewes explained the monitoring process for Commission on the Status and Role of Women, chaired by Annie Arnoldy, and the Commission on Religion and Race, chaired by Elizabeth McVicker.

MISSION SHAPED FUTURE: Chris Frasier and Jeremy Scott introduced the proposal for the formation of the Mountain Sky Conference.

MOTION: RMC 01 and YAC 01 "Declaration Of Intent To Consider A Plan Of Union To Create The Mountain Sky Annual Conference" was presented for adoption. After deliberation of an amendment which failed, the original motion was adopted by both annual conferences.

POINT OF ORDER: After clarification regarding the process for perfecting the Plan of Union, the Plan of Union was presented section by section.

SECTION 1: VISION, VALUES, PURPOSE presented by Jasper Peters and Sami Pack-Toner

AMENDMENT: Strike paragraph 2. Replace paragraph 2 with: Our Goal: The Mountain Sky Conference of the UMC will live in God's grace and abundance as we lead a reenergized peaceful and compassionate movement to claim the life-changing love of Jesus Christ for ALL people.

AMENDMENT: Line 19 strike the word "consensus". Replace with "a functional understanding".

AMENDMENT: Line 19 strike "crossing Boundaries". Replace with "building bridges across differences".

MOTION TO SUSPEND RULES: to provide for a discussion and amendments for any one section, until there is motion to end amendments on any one section, or 30 minutes, whichever comes first.

AMENDMENT: Change 30 minutes to 45 minutes.

VOTE: On motion, the rules were suspended as amended.

VOTE: On motion, the discussion was closed on section one.

SECTION 2: COMPOSITION OF THE MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE presented by Kunle Taiwo and Stephanie Kidwell.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Tom English celebrates 30th Wedding Anniversary today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Elizabeth McVicker explains the written ballot procedure for the constitutional amendment.

AMENDMENT: LINE 10-28: Clergy Membership: ~~Clergy membership in an annual conference consists of deacons and elders in full connection, provisional members, associate members, and local pastors under appointment. (2016 Book of Discipline paragraph 32)~~

“The clergy membership of an annual conference (para 396) shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection (para 33), provisional members (para 327), associate members, affiliate members (paras 344.4, 586.4), and local pastors (para 317).” (2016 Book of Discipline para 602.1; See also para 32)

1. Effect of Unification. Bishop Karen P. Oliveto has agreed to the transfer of memberships and relationships set forth below as part of the unification of the Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Annual Conferences.

a. As of the date on which this Plan of Union is approved, pursuant to the 2016 Book of Discipline, all clergy members ~~appointed to local churches within of~~ the Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Annual Conferences boundaries will become members of the Mountain Sky Conference with voting rights and privileges appropriate to clergy classification.

b. ~~As of the date on which this Plan of Union is approved, pursuant to the 2016 Book of Discipline, clergy members who are in extension ministries or the retired relationship wishing to become members of the Mountain Sky Conference, will designate a charge conference relationship within the Mountain Conference, with voting rights and privileges.~~

AMENDMENT: section G under Corporate Unification, Affairs and Relationships add the underlined sentence:

- G. **Transitional Standing Rules.** Unless otherwise provided by the terms of the Plan of Union, the 2017 Rocky Mountain Conference Standing Rules and Operational Procedures and the 2017 Yellowstone Conference Guiding Conference Rules and Guiding Policies shall apply where congruent to the operations of the Mountain Sky Conference through the 2019 annual conference session. The Conference Rules team shall decide all questions of congruency and, where there are conflicting or incongruent rules, shall recommend a course of action to the Mountain Sky Roundtable which shall decide or defer the question. With the concurrence of the Mountain Sky Roundtable, the Conference Rules team may make minor changes to a rule, procedure, or policy if necessary for the regular operation of the new Conference for its initial year.

Informational copies of both sets of rules are attached as **Exhibit G**. Any rule or policy otherwise scheduled to sunset before the 2019 session of the Mountain Sky Conference is hereby extended through July 31, 2019.

RETIREMENT LUNCHEON **Saturday, June 9, 2018 – 12 P.M.**

The 2018 Retirees, their families and friends gathered at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center for the Celebration of Ministry Luncheon. Kimal James opened with Welcoming words. The benediction was provided by Reverend Olga Hard. Those in attendance were: Rick Carpenter, Michael Dent, Olga Hard, Mark Heiss, Michael Ingersoll, Randall Jessen, Eun-sang Lee, Yvonne Lee, Robert Simpson, Walter (Skip) Strickland, Gary Geiman, Ruth McKenzie. Those retired in absentia were: Vickie Maxon, Huston Green, and Emily Easton.

LAITY LUNCHEON
Saturday, June 9, 2018 – 12 P.M.

The Laity Luncheon was held at the Eccles Convention Center. Table Tents and Board of Laity hosts encouraged table conversations and fellowship around the theme of Annual Conference – that is, Creating Beloved Community: homelessness, safety and justice. People were invited to share how their churches and communities are carrying out that theme. 175 plus people were present.

Judy Hill, former RMC Lay Leader, opened the meeting time with prayer.

Gary Haddock, RMC UMCOR Disaster Response Coordinator, gave a slide presentation on three topics; an overview of UMCOR, a final report about UMCOR and the Colorado floods, and the UMCOR Spiritual and Emotional Care programs.

Calvin and Sheri Hill, from the Blackfeet Parish; Dawn Skerritt, Yellowstone Disaster Response Coordinator; and eight persons from the Blackfeet Reservation gave moving stories of their involvement with UMCOR response to the terrible snow storms on the Blackfeet Reservation last winter.

Amy Gearhart again gave greetings to all and explained her role further.

Peg Plimpton, former Yellowstone Lay Leader, sent us out with prayer.

JOINT PLENARY
Saturday, June 9, 2018--2:00 P.M

COMMISSION ON THE WAY FORWARD: Youngsook Kang introduced Donna Pritchard and Kent Ingram, who gave their report on The Commission on the Way Forward. The members of the General Conference Delegations from YAC and RMC were recognized.

MOTION TO SUSPEND RULES: to change the agenda in order to move into legislation and finish the work on the “Petition of Union” until 4:00 pm.

VOTE: On motion, the rule suspension was adopted.

VOTE: On motion, the agenda was adopted.

SECTION 3: STRUCTURE OF THE MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE presented by Tyler Amundson and Debbie Schmidt.

AMENDMENT: A. Guiding Principles, 1. Delete the second sentence “This can also be a stumbling block.”

AMENDMENT: E. Community Engagement. Add at least one person from a rural/small church.

AMENDMENT: F. Responsible Stewardship, 1. Add Commission on Archives and History according to BOD paragraph 641.

AMENDMENT: F. Responsible Stewardship, 4. Add word “not” in first line:

1. The Responsible Stewardship team shall not have authority over properties and budgets and cannot spend beyond its approved budget without authorization from the Council on Finance and Administration.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Nancy Mead prayed for the people in Durango who have had to evacuate because of the fire.

SECTION 4: STEWARDSHIP OF PROPERTY AND ASSETS presented by Philip Cardin, Jim Barth and Neena Hagen.

AMENDMENT: Exhibit D, Section 4 – add as an affiliated entity – Peaks and Plains New Ministries Council.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Pastor Rutherford, Slickfoot Society of the Blackfeet.

TELLING THE STORY: David Burt and Youngsook Kang shared ministry highlights of the past year and invited representatives from the Boards of Laity, the Board of Stewards. The Cabinet also provided a report. David Burt announced the video winners of the contest sponsored by the Board of Discipleship: 1st Place: Break Bread, Littleton CO UMC; 2nd Place: Youth Band, Christ UMC, Salt Lake City, UT; 3rd Place: Free Store, Billings, MT; 4th Place: Grace UMC, Denver, CO. Deborah Christine was introduced as Superintendent of the Montana District. Newly elected Lay Leader, Gayla Jo Slauson was introduced by outgoing Lay Leader, Kunle Taiwo. Don McCammon, Lay Leader of YAC, and the Boards of Laity were acknowledged. Jeff Rainwater, Dean of the Cabinet, spoke of the Cabinet and gave thanks to outgoing cabinet members: Skip Strickland, David Burt, and Jeremy Scott. A history of the Boards of Stewards was provided by Debbie Schmidt and Jeff Hirota. Chris Frasier spoke about the Board of Stewards today. Sally McConnell, the Mission Coordinator for Yellowstone, spoke about Riverton UMC's work with the Northern Arapaho tribe, the ministry in Angola, Intermountain in Helena, and Family Promise.

SPECIAL THANKS: Thanks to the Missions Teams and clergy from Community and First UMCs in Ogden, for their help with the Ministry Immersion experience. Sally McConnell and Robin Ball and conference teams for their planning and hard work on the Missions Celebration. Rev. Tevita Ofahengaue and the Salt Lake area Tongan churches for the amazing dinner.

The following groups provided sponsorship support for the session: Church Mutual Insurance Company, Safe Gatherings, Rocky Mountain Foundation, Intermountain Children's Home. Videos of Church Mutual and Intermountain were shown.

SECTION 5: CLERGY SUPPORT presented by Emily Flemming and Pam Dandrea.

AMENDMENT: C. Housing Allowance Minimum Standard, 1. A charge offering a housing allowance for a full-time appointment must provide for an amount equal to the monthly rent or principle plus interest mortgage payment ~~the cost of the purchase, financing and utilities of a three-bedroom, two-bath single-family dwelling house~~ in the community of the appointment.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Brian Diggs, Associate Director, UMCOR West thanked the body for assembling 6,800 health kits during the mission time on Friday morning.

SECTION 6: BUDGET OF THE MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE presented by Morie Adams-Griffin and Kirsten Barlow after introducing RMC and YAC Conference Committees on Finance and Administration.

MOTIONS FOR YAC: It was approved that the 2019 pre-82 past service rate annuity rate be set at \$485.00 which is a 2% increase, the YC 2019 Comp Benefit Funding plan was approved and the restitution related for retired, disabled, or former clergypersons of YAC was approved.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Prayer by Jayden Stella, youth delegate.

VOTE ON PERFECTED PLAN OF UNION APPROVED BY BOTH RMC AND YAC.

ADJOURNMENT: Elizabeth McVicker moved to ADJOURN THE 50th SESSION AND 154th SESSION OF OLDEST ANTECEDENT OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE.

ADJOURNMENT: Mark Calhoun moved to ADJOURN THE YELLOWSTONE ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION.

**THE FIRST SESSION OF
MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OGDEN ECCLES CONFERENCE CENTER
OGDEN, UTAH
PLENARY
JUNE 9, 2018 - 8:46 PM**

50th YEAR ANNIVERSARY VIDEO: As the people gathered, historic video of the 50th anniversary of the merger of the EUB and MEC was played.

CALL TO ORDER: Bishop Karen called the first session of the joint conference of the Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church to order. She then introduced Senior Executive for Transition and Conference Culture, Amy Gearhart.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE: Ruth Ann Russell, laity, encouraged the members of the Mountain Sky Conference to consistently refer to the denomination with the full name "United Methodist Church" to recognize the Evangelical United Brethren roots as well as the Methodist Roots.

AMY GEARHART then preached. What have been your *koinonia* moments?

"DREAM BIG, LOVE BOLDLY, GIVE BELIEVING" CAMPAIGN: New capital campaign kicked off with an auction called by Fred Amborn. The historic pew raised \$4,500.00.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Mark Calhoun announced that child care will close at 9:30pm.

STAFF INTRODUCTION: David Burt introduced the Mountain Sky Conference Staff with a video. Youngsook Kang introduced Lourdes Calderon, Mountain Sky Area Hispanic Ministry.

PRAYER: Morie Adams offered a prayer for those staff members whose positions were discontinued in the merger.

READING OF THE APPOINTMENTS: Bishop Karen P. Oliveto fixed the appointments for the coming year with each district superintendent assisting. Deborah Christine, Eastern Montana District Superintendent, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. She closed in prayer. Jan Witman, Western Montana District Superintendent, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. She closed in prayer. Margaret Gillikin, Trinity and Northeast Plains, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. She closed in prayer. Paul Kottke, Superintendent of metro Denver, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. He closed in prayer. Jeff Rainwater, dean of cabinet and Superintendent of Wyoming, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. He closed in prayer. Tezenlo Thong, Superintendent of the Pikes Peak and Peaks, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. He closed in prayer. Marv Vose, Superintendent of Utah/Western CO District, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. He closed in prayer. Jan Witman, Superintendent of Western Montana, called each appointment and asked that people gather in circuits. She closed in prayer.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: Bradley Laurvick and Megan Armstrong presented. Written ballots were distributed. Vote was taken. Ballots were collected. The vote results were certified by the Conference Secretaries and Bishop and forwarded to the General Conference Secretary.

RMC-12/MSC-12, SUPERINTENDENTS AND TREASURER COMPENSATION presented by Paul Murphy-Geiss was approved as presented.

CHURCH CLOSURES:

RMC-06/MSC-06 Closure of Midwest United Methodist Church presented by Jeff Rainwater.

RMC-07/MSC-07 Closure of Blue Cliff United Methodist Church presented by Margaret Gillikin.

VOTE: On motion, the closures were approved.

PRAYER: Bishop Karen P. Oliveto offered a prayer giving thanks for the legacies left by the two churches.

MOTION: Calvin Hill, clergy, Blackfeet Parish, moved that "As the community engagement team gathers this fall, they shall be directed to help CONAM be such that two thirds of the committee shall be members associated with conference Native American ministries, namely Native Grace and Blackfeet Parish."

VOTE: On motion it was adopted.

MSC NOMINATIONS REPORT: Burry Bessee and Tyler Amundson presented the nominating report.

VOTE: On motion, it was adopted.

MOTION: Rusty Butler, clergy Christ UMC, Salt Lake City, Utah, moved the following petitions before us: MS 03, MS 04, MS 08, MS 09 and MS 10 be referred to the Mountain Sky Roundtable for final approval or for referral to the 2019 Mountain Sky Conference.

AARON GRAY: Made a recommendation that the roundtable pay attention to the concerns of oppression.

VOTE: On motion, it was adopted.

INTRODUCTIONS: Kim Woeste of the Chapel of Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana. Kristi Kinnison, Director of the Mountain Sky United Methodist Foundation.

INVITATION: The 2019 Mountain Sky Conference Session will take place June 13-16, 2019 in Billings, MT.

CLOSING: Special thanks were extended to Bishop Roy Sano for his presence and support. Don McCammon played bagpipes to send us out.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeremy Scott moved to adjourn this First Session of the Mountain Sky Annual Conference by *sine die* call of the Council of Bishops following ordination.

PASSING THE MANTLE AND ORDINATION
Sunday, June 10, 2018 – 8:30 A.M.

Bishop Karen P. Oliveto gave a rousing sermon "This Calling to Life" on Ezekiel 37:1-14. An offering was collected for the Global Young People's Convocation to support four young people from the Mountain Sky Conference to attend in South Africa July, 2018. The Tongan Choir provided special music.

Alane Currier Griggs read the list of retirees who were recognized for their years of service. Richard Carpenter, Michael Dent, Emily Easton, Linda Fritz, Gary Geiman, Huston Green, Olga Hard, Mark Heiss, Michael Ingersoll, Randall Jessen, Eun-sang Lee, Yvonne Lee, Vickie Maxon, Ruth McKenzie, Robert Simpson, Walter Strickland.

Jessica Rooks, chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, introduced those to be commissioned and ordained at this Annual Conference. These included:

Confirming licenses to Local Pastors: Teresa Adams, Spencer Tayler Black, Steven Dunkel, David Erickson, Travis Husted, Karin J. Lovgren, Gracie Lynn Marske, Vicky Martinez, Debra Lewis Upton, Karen Wallace, James Matthew White, Mina Nau.

Commissioning Provisional members towards elder's orders: Jamielee Demske, Calvin Hill, Angela Kay Kotzmoyer, Janet Mulroy Jamie Lyn Nieves, David Matthew Petty, Daniel Viehland, Cory Young.

Ordained as deacons in full connection: Lee Anderson-Harris, Carol Diane Forbes, Philip M. Rogers

Ordained as elders in full connection: John Patrick Bell, Lauren Chance Boyd, Valerie L. Jackson, Larry Michael Jarrell, Sharon Langfeldt, Bun Koo Lee, Sarah Jane Merchant, William Novak, Cynthia Chiew Hong Paquette, Janine Abby Rose, Joshua Walker.

Laurie Fujinami was commissioned for the Office of Deaconess.

RECEPTION: A reception was held in the 2nd floor lobby of the Ogden Eccles Conference Center.