Prior to the opening of the 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference, the Clergy gathered for a time of covenanting, prayer, and reflection. The notes from the gathering are as follows:

**Tuesday, June 17, 2014**

**Orders Covenant Session**

*7:00 p.m.*  
Orton Center

**Call To Order (7:17 p.m.):** Rev. Molly Vetter called the gathering to order at 7:17 p.m. and invited the gathering to sing, “God of Grace and God of Glory,” accompanied on the piano by Rev. Greg Norton.

**Announcements (7:22 p.m.):** Rev. Molly Vetter reminded the gathering that there was funding for continuing education for Elders in Full Connection; applications were available at calpacordainedministry.com. She went on to say that funding for counseling was available for clergy and their families and applications were also available at calpacordainedministry.com. Rev. Vetter explained Elder Pastors were “seasoned” pastors who were available to active clergy for covenant and caring mentorship. Rev. Ed Hansen was the Chair of the Elder Pastors.

Rev. Vetter explained how the session would unfold. The hope for the evening gathering was focused around the Communion liturgy to find a place of resurrection in times of change and uncertainty. This evening was intended as a worshipful, prayerful, theologically reflective time. Through the evening, there would be three sections of reflection. There was a time of silent reflection, a time to hear from community (table) conversation, and time to reflect on the evening’s theme of resurrection.

**Joys and Concerns (7:25 p.m.):** Rev. Ed Hansen led the gathering through the sharing of joys and concerns. Rev. Hansen expressed there were constant times of change in our Conference, families, and personal lives, and all were in need of prayer. Microphones were passed through the gathering for various clergy to share praises and concerns as they were moved to do so. At 7:39 p.m., Rev. Hansen invited Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño to pray. She lifted up the concerns that were mentioned during the gathering in prayer.


**Sacrament of Holy Communion (7:50 p.m.):** Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño began the Sacrament of Holy Communion. After the opening and a Prayer of Confession, Rev. Elbert Kim read “Peter.” The reading focused on Peter’s reaction to the empty tomb. Following the “Peter” reading, Rev. Yvonne Williams Boyd shared a commentary written by Elizabeth Johnson.

The gathering was invited to reflect silently on the question, “When has your love failed?” They were then asked to write their confession on provided slips of paper and dissolve it in the bowl of water on the table. This was followed by table conversation answering the question, “Where have you seen and known God’s steadfast love?”
At 8:07 p.m., Rev. Greg Norton called the gathering back together by playing the second verse of “Christ Loves the Church.” Bishop Carcaño continued in the Holy Communion liturgy with the Great Thanksgiving.

In the second reading, “Mary Magdalene” was offered by Rev. Kalesita Uluave Tu’ifua. The reading focused on Mary Magdalene’s reaction to the empty tomb. Rev. Boyd continued reading the scriptural commentary of Elizabeth Johnson. The gathering was asked to reflect with their tables on the question, “When have you experienced Jesus’ power to save -- to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and eat with sinners?”

At 8:26 p.m., the gathering was called back together in singing a third verse of “Christ Loves the Church.” The Communion liturgy continued. Bishop Carcaño spoke the words of institution of the Lord’s Supper in Spanish and then blessed the elements in English.

“The Beloved Disciple” was read by Rev. Colleen Windham-Hughes and Rev. Alan Strout. Rev. Boyd read a third passage of the commentary by Elizabeth Johnson. The table question was shared, “When have you shared in the body of Christ - made one with God, with each other, and in the ministry to all the world?”

Rev. Norton called the gathering back to order with the fourth verse of “Christ Loves the Church.” As the Holy Communion liturgy continued, the gathering shared in the “Lord’s Prayer” using each person’s language of choice. Bishop Carcaño invited the gathering to receive Holy Communion.

**Closing Hymn (8:58 p.m.):** Rev. Norton led the gather in “Christ is Alive!”

**Benediction (9:00 p.m.):** The benediction was pronounced by Bishop Carcaño.

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**Wednesday, June 18, 2014**

**Plenary Session # 1 and Opening Worship**

**8:30 a.m.**

**Morning Worship (8:25 a.m.):** Worship opened with singing “There’s a Sweet Spirit” and “We Worship You” led by Jorge Lockwood. This was followed by a short video presentation of pictures from the past year. Rev. Greg Norton led the Conference in singing “Oh for a Thousand Tongues” and “Are We Yet Alive.” Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño led us in prayer.

**Call To Order (8:46 a.m.):** Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño called the 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference Plenary Session # 1 to order at 8:46 a.m. She expressed gratitude for the worship team who had been working hard all year long and invited Conference members to show our appreciation with applause. Bishop Carcaño drew attention to the Officers, Cabinet, Executive Directors, and Secretaries for this Annual Session of the Conference seated behind her and invited Conference members to show our appreciation with applause. She introduced those seated with her at the Presider’s table including Conference Co-Lay Leaders, Connee and Phil Freeman, Irving Austus, Young Adult from the West District (Hamilton UMC), and Bishop Thomas Bickerton form the West Pennsylvania Annual Conference.

**Opening Business (8:50 a.m.):** Conference Secretaries Leanne Nakanishi & Rev. Dan Lewis began this session with five procedural motions. Conference members were reminded that voting members must display their name badge to vote at all times.

(1) Leanne Nakanishi and Rev. Dan Lewis moved to set the bar of the 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference (seating for those voting) as:

* The Main Level Seating Area of the Chapel
* The Balcony Level Seating Area from the stairwell entrance forward
* The Stage
* The Media Room

Motion was voted on and supported.
Leanne Nakanishi and Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Agenda in the Resource Handout will be the official Agenda of this 30th Annual Session of California-Pacific Conference, and the Agenda Chairperson and/or Conference Secretaries be authorized to make necessary adjustments in consultation with the Bishop.

Motion was voted on and supported.

Leanne Nakanishi and Rev. Dan Lewis moved the proceedings published in the U.M. Daily be the Official Minutes of this 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference after they are corrected and approved.

Motion was voted on and supported.

Leanne Nakanishi and Rev. Dan Lewis moved the Registration Forms be used as the Official Roll Call of this 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference.

Motion was voted on and supported.

Leanne Nakanishi and Rev. Dan Lewis moved all resolutions NOT adopted by the end of this 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference be referred to the appropriate entities.

Motion was voted on and supported.

Orders of the Day (8:52 a.m.): Rev. Melinda Dodge was asked to present Orders of the Day. The Orders of the Day were projected on the screen. Rev. Dodge moved the Orders of the Day. The motion was supported at 8:53 a.m.


At 8:54 a.m., Neil Coates, Cokesbury Resource Consultant brought greetings from Cokesbury and expressed their desire to provide resources for our ministry needs. He explained that resource consultants were available for assistance and could be contacted through the website. Mr. Coates was the L.A. area consultant. He shared the location of the Cokesbury books store during Annual Conference.

Hymn (8:55 a.m.): The worship team led Conference members in singing “Come Walk With Us, The Journey is Long.”

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Invocation (8:58 a.m.)

Episcopal Address: Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño (8:59 a.m.)
(Bishop Carcaño’s entire Episcopal Address would be posted on Conference website and at the end of Section D.)

Hymn (9:17 a.m.): The worship team led Conference members in singing “Come Walk With Us, The Journey is Long.”

Laity Address: Conference Co-Lay Leaders, Phil and Connee Freeman (9:20 a.m.)
First, Phil and Connee Freeman introduced Mele Maka who presented the Lay Woman and Lay Man of the Year. Jan Windhausen of Emmanuel UMC of San Bernardino was the Lay Woman of the Year. Jan was a quiet person behind-the-scenes. In her Local Church, she was chair of the witness committee, which included nurture, worship, and evangelism. She was a member of Trustees, Crafty Ladies, Bible Study, and Sunday School adult class. Jan was an example of what it meant to be the hands and feet of Jesus among those in need.

Rick Wilson of Northridge UMC was the Lay Man of the Year. Rick served with humility and compassion through his church and community. Rick had served as a Lay Leader for 5 years. He was in the band and coordinated technology ministries, so their worship services were broadcast on YouTube. He had led teams for
Arson Rebuild Project to help rebuild churches that were destroyed by arson. When two churches merged to form a ministry center, Rick spent much time rehabbing the facility. He raised money for this project. This mission center was a place where the community came to be nurtured and cared for. Rick was committed to making a difference in his community and world.

At 9:42 a.m., The Freemans expressed gratitude to Jan and Rick and this opportunity to celebrate them at this Annual Conference. Connee quoted the definition of “Partnership” in Webster’s Dictionary as “a relationship involving close cooperation between people who have specific and joint rights and responsibilities” and indicated they were blessed to be in this type relationship with Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño. Her interest made them feel that they had an important role in this Annual Conference. They thanked Rev. Steve Hundley and James Kang for their assistance. They introduced all the members of the Conference Laity Council who helped build the important role of the Lay Leadership in our Conference.

The Freemans expressed understanding of the importance of serving beyond the walls of the Local Church. This past year, they read You Need to Get Out More by Rev. Mark Feldmier. The book called us to live an intentionally hospitable life to extend God’s love to others. There were several examples of this type of outreach in our Conference.

Last March, they had the opportunity to attend the General Church Conference Lay Leaders’ meeting in Kansas City. They met a Lay Leader from Zimbabwe. He mentioned how the Imagine No Malaria campaign had helped his community. They were reaching more people than ever before. They were also excelling in saving lives. Child death rates had been cut in half since 2000. They were turning the tide against malaria. Four countries had been certified as malaria-free. When malaria remained a health risk for more than half the world’s population, and when a child was dying every minute, this fight was far from over. The Freemans were asked to convey to Cal-Pac a word of thanks. Our UMC cared for not just our own congregation, but our neighborhood, city, country, and the world.

In closing, they expressed gratitude for God’s love that guided and sustained them always. Max Lucado said it this way, “God’s love never ceases. Never. Our faith does not earn it any more than our stupidity jeopardizes it. God doesn’t love us less if we fail or more if we succeed. God’s love never ceases.” They expressed gratitude to God and to our Cal-Pac Conference for the wonderful and exciting opportunities they had been provided.

Hymn (9:34 a.m.): Conference members were led in singing “Come Walk With Us, The Journey Is Long.”

Call to Commitment (9:35 a.m.): Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño reminded Conference members that God’s will was that God’s Purpose be done on earth as it is in heaven. We know that the journey was long and hard, but always glorious, because we encounter God, Christ Jesus, and the presence of the Holy Spirit. And the people of God responded with, “Amen.”

Prayers and Readings from Congregation (9:37 a.m.)

Introduction of Bishop Thomas Bickerton (9:39 a.m.): Three children (Lily, Rosie, and Cora) came to the stage to “assist” Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño in the introduction of Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton. Bishop Carcaño told Conference members that Bishop Bickerton was a marvelous leader. He was Resident Bishop of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference since 2004. Bishop Bickerton had sat with Bill and Melinda Gates discussing malaria causes. He had been our primary negotiator with the United Nations to work on malaria. The United Methodist Church had the best delivery system on the continent of Africa. Though Bishop Bickerton had been on the road for six weeks, he was eager to join us.

The children gave Bishop Bickerton, a hand-made, Tongan style lei, which expressed, “We love you. We honor you. We respect you and celebrate who you are. God bless you.”

Proclamation: Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton (9:48 a.m.): Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton opened with, “Would you take this opportunity to thank your Bishop for the service she gives? She is a dear and special friend and my heart swells when I see her. The depth of her spirituality comes out in inspiring and practical ways.”

Bishop Bickerton shared a story about speaking at the 2008 General Conference kick off for the Imagine No Malaria Campaign and leaving his notes on the pulpit in preparation for his speech. Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño and others spoke before him and someone accidently took his notes.

Bishop Bickerton told a story about a Mission Church in Alaska who were losing their pastor and asked the denomination to help. After an 18 month process with lots of forms to fill out, and still no pastor, this tiny mission church sent a note to the home office saying to “forget about sending a pastor because they’ve decided that serving is more fun.” The national church was more interested in forms than making God’s vision a reality. And we have to confess to this at times, also.

How many of our churches have had someone with an awesome idea only to be stalled by the Administrative Council or Board of Trustees? It is a sad commentary, but may be more true than we realized. Many people in our culture are looking for glimpses of the Spirit and we have failed to stoke the fire of the Holy Spirit and just assumed that it was here.

10 years ago, everywhere Bishop Bickerton went people asked, “Bishop, what is your theme?” One day he said, “Lighten up, loosen up, and have a little fun!”

At a confirmation event this year, he asked the students, “Is going to church optional?” Almost everyone said yes and the basis of their statements was the convictions of their parents. But, if our love for God is alive and growing, then options turn into desires. We want to be a part of what God has in store for all of us.

In his last local church appointment, Hilda was a pillar of that church. At her funeral, the church was filled with people giving testimony to this pillar of the church. Hilda inspired them because there never was a moment that Hilda was not living in the Spirit and looking to be used in new and exciting ways.

We gather here at Annual Conference to affirm that God is not through with us yet. God has something in store for us. Church is not an option. God’s dream can become a reality.

A very negative narrative has developed about the Church. We needed to change the narrative to include words like joy, innocence, renewal, and spirituality. Just because the General Conference cannot achieve its agenda, let us not think that God cannot achieve God’s agenda. Maybe our agenda needs to be altered in ways, so that God’s agenda can become real. Just because some churches struggle with vitality, it did not mean that God is not vital. It was not a time for apathy, boredom, skepticism, and cynicism. It was a time for God’s dream to become a reality.

He shared a story of a person that shouted, “It will never start” at Boulton’s first trial of the steamboat. After the boat started, the person shouted, “It will never stop.” Some people just need to be negative.

Bishop Bickerton keeps an Eeyore in his office, because it reminds him of the way United Methodist people talk. Naysayers become obstacles, but God will do God’s work in spite of the obstacles. The hand of God is upon you. The future is where God intends us to go, not where we think we need to go. It’s time for God’s dream to become a reality. The church is here today, because 11 disciples changed their attitude through the Holy Spirit. Centuries later, it’s our turn to be empowered, to sense urgency in our midst, to stand on our tiptoes with expectation.

There are four postures that are necessary if we are going to make that happen.

(1) The first is on our knees. This is where it begins. We are humans. We do not know God’s will. We fail. For all our passions and beliefs, the first posture is surrender.
(2) The second is pouring out our hearts. With humility, Bishop Bickerton told us that in 37 years of preaching and pastoring, he won more people into the Kingdom by loving them than by judging them. Our main purpose is not to be an organization, but an organism. Not getters but givers. Learn how to forgive yourself and others. Pour out yourself to a broken world, which needed hope, joy, and love. God will be faithful to fill us.

(3) The third posture is extending our hands. As of today, we raised over $61 million, of their $75 million campaign for Imagine No Malaria. We cut the child mortality rate in half since we started this movement.

He shared story of tribal chiefs that came to a United Methodist Bishop who had overseen distribution of bed nets to their villages. They came to ask the Bishop to start churches in their villages. Because he cared for their health and bodies, the tribal chiefs allowed him the opportunity to care for their souls.

Last December, Bishop Bickerton attended the Global Fund Replenishment Conference in Washington DC. The Global Fund is the worldwide depository of funds that deals with healthcare issues. There were 250 representatives who attended. Ambassadors from other countries pledged money to the Global Fund. Mexico and Spain were unable to make a pledge. Our United Methodist Church was the only faith-based organization in the room as all others were nations being represented. When Bishop Bickerton was called upon, everyone stopped looking at their phones and computers and paid 100% attention to him, because they all realized the significance of our presence there. Bishop proudly announced, on behalf of the people of the UMC, we pledge 29 million dollars to the Global Fund on behalf of the UMC. Sometimes, we in the church have a low self esteem. On the global scene, people look to us.

Bishop Bickerton asked the confirmands if their Local Churches could raise $61 million. None of them thought it was possible. The Bishop reminded them that their churches did do it. Their gifts were changing lives, saving lives, and empowering people.

(4) The fourth posture we needed was learning how to spread our wings and let God take us to heights we could not imagine. We see people trying to fly on their own power. The Holy Spirit cannot be seen. The miracles of scripture did not make sense, but we believe.

Centuries before the Roman Empire fell, there was a curious time in the world’s history called The Middle (or Dark) Ages characterized by cold weather, bad food, and no plumbing. There was one bright spot in the darkness of that age. The people gathered at the local cathedral for a sense of hope and compassion. People could not read, so the cathedral became a living Bible in which stained glass, icons, mirrors, and sculptures told the stories of Scripture. Cathedrals were the massive open bibles and the souls of the villages. To demonstrate the story of Pentecost, volunteers would go up to the roof and drop live doves and bushels of red rose petals through openings in the roof to symbolize the fire of the Holy Spirit. They called those holes, Holy Spirit holes. Imagine the mystery and power that such a service would bring to a time where there was little hope and joy.

Holy Spirit moments bring hope to our own dark places. God’s dreams cannot be squelched. We need Holy Spirit holes that will help us make God’s dream a reality. Bishop Bickerton, while imitating Eeyore’s voice said, “Umm.. I don’t know, how much are those holes going to cost?” “Did you ever think of the mess those birds are going to make in the church?”

Bishop Bickerton closed his message by saying, “Cal-Pac Annual Conference, I have one thing to say to you: Lighten Up. Loosen Up. Have a Little Fun!” We responded with a standing applause with thanksgiving and praise for the good work Bishop Bickerton has been doing on behalf of our United Methodist Church.

**Imagine No Malaria Collection of Offering (10:33 a.m.):** Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño thanked Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton and introduced the time of offering by asking the church representatives to stand with their church’s offering to this campaign.

As the offering was taken, the Conference members sang, “Njalo! Always!” led by Jorge Lockwood and choir. Bishop Carcaño offered a prayer of dedication.
**Benediction (10:40 a.m.):** Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton sent us out with the following Benediction: “In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, get out of here and sense the presence of God in your midst. Get out of here and bear witness of the Love of Christ.”

**Wednesday, June 18, 2014**  
**Clergy Executive Session**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**Call To Order:** At 11:03 a.m., Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño called the Clergy Executive Session to order and explained that in the Executive Session of the Annual Conference, only clergy were allowed to be present. That included Elders and Deacons in Full Connection, Provisional Members, and Local Pastors. Bishop Carcaño requested that the presence of three laity: Gail Kendall and Martha Villalta from the Bishop’s office and Cathy Wilson, administrator for the Board of Ordained Ministry be approved. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

**Opening Remarks:** Opening remarks were given by Rev. Hillary Chrisley, the Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry. The dedication of the Board was recognized by Rev. Chrisley. She reported that this had been a great year of collaboration for the Board. The District Committees on Ordained Ministry had been given a uniform approach. Their commitment to the candidates under their care served us well. The initial stages of a Spanish language course of study for local pastors had brought new collaborations. Technology had been used more wisely. Carrying out work of the Board of Ordained Ministry required an ongoing endeavor. Rev. Chrisley mentioned several items the Board was making the process for candidates more smooth and also to hold them accountable.

**Report of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry:** Rev. Elbert Kim, Registrar, greeted Bishop Carcaño, Bishop Bickerton, members, and guests of the Clergy Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference. He expressed gratitude for Cathy Wilson in formulating this report. Rev. Kim reminded the body that many of the Disciplinary Questions did not require action from the body, so we would only go through those requiring a vote or special introduction. He also explained the Disciplinary Questions were sometimes reported out of sequence by grouping relevant questions together for the purposes of clarity and continuity of reporting. Rev. Kim also asked that if anyone had editorial corrections that did not have an impact on action items, which were marked with a letter “(v),” such as misspelled names, that those not be made orally during the session. Instead, those changes should be sent by e-mail to Cathy Wilson at Admin@bom.calpacumc.org or by leaving a message at the University Message Center.

Rev. Kim said that the first order of business was certainly one of the highlights of the Annual Conference, which was the election of Provisional Members to be Commissioned and Members to be Ordained in Full Connection.

**BAC 28 and 31, 32, 33, and 34:** Rev. Kim invited the 2014 candidates for Provisional Membership and Membership in Full Connection into the session and welcomed them. For Provisional Membership and Commissioning on Deacon track, the Board presented Martha Walz Morales and Elisa Marie Wright. For Provisional Membership and Commissioning on Elder track, the Board presented Darin Michelle Arntson.

Rev. Kim introduced the Candidates for Ordination as Elder in Full Connection: Rev. Christopher Drake Spearman, Rev. Jessica Ashley Stryisko, Rev. Eva Chi Than Thai-Erwin, and Rev. Jerry Andre Wilson. Rev. Kim introduced Rev. Mark F. Sturgess with orders previously recognized, and now was being received as an Elder in Full Connection.
PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND COMMISSIONING
Rev. Kim invited Rev. Sunyoung Lee, the Registrar for Provisional Membership, to introduce each of the candidates to be commissioned before votes were taken. Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Martha Walz Morales for Provisional Membership and Commissioning on Deacon track. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Elisa Marie Wright for Provisional Membership and Commissioning on Deacon track. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Darin Michelle Arntson for Provisional Membership and Commissioning on Elder track. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Lee prayed for the candidates.

FULL CONNECTION:

Rev. Kim invited Rev. Doug Williams, the Registrar for Full Connection to introduce each of the candidates to be ordained before votes were taken.

Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Rev. Christopher Drake Spearman for Ordination as an Elder in Full Connection. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Rev. Jessica Ashley Strysko for Ordination as an Elder in Full Connection. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Rev. Eva Chi Than Thai-Erwin for Ordination as an Elder in Full Connection. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Rev. Jerry Andre Wilson for Ordination as an Elder in Full Connection. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Kim reported the Board moved Rev. Mark F. Sturgess for Ordination as an Elder in Full Connection. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The session supported the motion.**

Rev. Williams prayed for the candidates.

BAC 30, 38, 39, and 41: TRANSFER ELDERS FROM OTHER ANNUAL CONFERENCES: Rev. Kim introduced Rev. Wanda Gae Stefanson to introduce all transferring clergy. Rev. Stefanson presented Rev. James A. Dwyer (Indiana) who had been received by transfer from other Annual Conferences. Rev. Stefanson presented Rev. Derrick Lewis Noble (New York) who was transferring out to other Annual Conferences. Rev. Stefanson prayed for those who had transferred.

BAC 29 (a) (d): Rev. Kim invited the Session to review the list of Deacons and Elders in Provisional Membership who were already in preparation for ordination found on Page 8.

BAC 19: The election of Certified Candidates for ministry: Rev. Jose Vinde, the Registrar for Candidacy shared a report saying the Candidacy for Ministry Committee had done a wonderful job this year. The Candidacy Committee had also done an excellent job providing training for District Committees on Ordained Ministries. One of the exciting things happening was the candidacy summit, which was a great success. The candidates were now better equipped to continue their process. Rev. Vindel presented BAC 19 to Bishop Carcaño. He then prayed for the Certified Candidates.
BAC 21: Rev. Kim announced Rev. Jim Brooking would report on Local Pastor status. He informed the session the list of Local Pastors was on Pages 3-6. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported. Rev. Brooking offered a prayer for the Local Pastors.

BAC 24: Rev. Kim guided the session to Pages 6 and 7 of the handout. BAC 24 provided information about Ministers from other Annual Conferences or Methodist Denominations serving at our Annual Conference while retaining their Conference or Denominational Membership.

BAC 49: Rev. Kim guided the session to Page 14 of the handout. BAC 49 listed the names of clergy from our Annual Conference appointed in other Annual Conferences while retaining their membership with the California-Pacific Annual Conference. Rev. Kim reported these items did not require voting.

Rev. Richard Bentley from Alhambra First raised a question about Kathy Ledgerwood being on the discontinued list BAC, Item C. Rev. Bentley stated he had concerns about Kathy Ledgerwood’s discontinuance while still being on incapacity leave.

DCOM Chair of the East District Rev. Lynn Reece said the DCOM contacted the Bishop’s office to ask if she was on disability leave and she was not. The DCOM voted to discontinue her candidacy. Rev. Bentley said she was granted disability benefits from the General Board, but was not put on disability leave at the same time. He urged the Session to find a compassionate way to work through the situation. Bishop Carcaño said the Executive Session would respect the process of the DCOM as it had come through and they would not try to do the work of the DCOM on the floor of the Executive Session.

BAC 25: Rev. Kim guided the session to look on Page 7, which listed Ministers from other Christian Denominations serving in our Annual Conference while retaining their Denominational Affiliation. Rev. Kim said the Board moved BAC 25. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

BAC 26 (b): Rev. Kim guided the session to look on Page 7, which listed all Affiliate Members retaining their Denominational Membership while serving in this Annual Conference. Rev. Kim said the Board moved BAC 26 (b). Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

BAC 27: Rev. Kim guided the session to look also on Page 7, which listed all Associate Members retaining their Denominational Membership while serving in this Annual Conference. Rev. Kim said the Board moved BAC 27. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

BAC 18 (a): Rev. Kim guided the session to look at the first page regarding the Administrative Review Committee. He stated that a vote was required only when there were changes from the previous year and at the beginning of each quadrennial period. Since there were no changes from last year, a vote would not be necessary. (Clergy Session only ¶636)

BAC 42: Rev. Kim guided the session to look at Page 10, which listed those who were being recommended for Discontinuance from Provisional Membership. Rev. Kim said the Board moved Discontinuance from Provisional Membership: Rev. J. Thomas Hower (Provisional Elder) by expiration of the eight-year time limit. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

Rev. Kim said the Board moved Discontinuance from Provisional Membership: Jin Sook Kwon (Provisional Deacon) by Voluntary Discontinuance. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

BAC 17: Rev. Kim invited people to turn to BAC 17 on Page 1. This question did not require a vote, but only the reporting of the number of clergy under review. And as a Board, we reported this in accordance to the 2012 Book of Discipline, ¶605.7, which stated, “Board of Ordained Ministry may make inquiry of each District Superintendent about each ordained minister in the district and make one report to the Bishop and the Conference in open session.” The Board reported one clergy under review. Rev. Williams came up to pray for those who were discontinued.
Rev. Kim introduced Rev. Sharon Rhodes-Wickett, from Conference Relations who reported on Termination of Conference Relationship and Leaves.

**BAC 46:** Rev. Rhodes-Wickett asked the session to turn to Page 12, related to Terminations of Conference Membership by Withdrawal. There were four names listed in this section. Rev. Rhodes-Wickett said the Board moved BAC 46 for approval. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

**BAC 47:** Rev. Rhodes-Wickett asked the session to turn to Page 13 listing the names of suspended clergy, which did not require a vote.

**BAC 43:** Rev. Rhodes-Wickett asked the session to turn to Page 11. Under BAC 43 (a) 2, those who had previously been granted Honorable Location were listed. As much of the information was unknown, we asked the clergy body to help in filling in the missing information. If you had information regarding these folks, please e-mail Cathy Wilson at Admin@bom.calpacumc.org.

Rev. Rhodes-Wickett said the Board moved BAC 43 for approval. Bishop Carcaño called Rev. Eric Smith from the Administrative Review Committee for report on BAC 43(c).

Rev. Nestor Gerente spoke from the floor regarding the BAC 43(c). Rev. Gerente disagreed that it was harmless. Rev. Gerente requested a motion asking for a Declaratory Decision. Bishop Carcaño ruled Rev. Gerente’s motion out of order.

Bishop Carcaño called for a vote on BAC 43(c). The recommendation was supported.

**BAC 44:** Rev. Rhodes-Wickett presented BAC 44 listing those who had been granted status of Honorable Location—retired. She said the Board moved BAC 44. Bishop Carcaño asked if there were questions. Rev. Gerente said that in light of the ruling on BAC 43, he would like to make a motion for this Clergy Executive Session to request the full conference plenary session to review if the process was “harmless.” Bishop Carcaño ruled that Rev. Gerente’s motion was out of order.

Rev. Richard Bentley then moved the Clergy Executive Session request the conference plenary session to decide if there was a failure of the hearing to not give voice of the person in the BAC 43(c) motion. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was not supported.

Bishop Carcaño said BAC 44 was before the session. The motion was supported.

**BAC 50 and 52:** Rev. Rhodes-Wickett asked the Session to look at Pages 14 and 15 which were related to Leaves. Each BAC Question needed to be asked separately.

Rev. Rhodes-Wickett said the Board moved BAC 50 for approval. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

Rev. Rhodes-Wickett said the Board moved BAC 52 for approval. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

Rev. Rhodes-Wickett offered prayers for those Leaves, Withdrawals, and Termination of Membership.

**BAC 48:** Rev. Rhodes-Wickett reported deceased members were listed on Page 13. The names of those who served in ministry and finished their labors and were now in the church triumphant were: Rev. Antonio Caruso (Associate Member, Retired), Rev. Charles Wiggins, Jr. (Associate Member, Retired), Rev. Marguerite Terrell (Provisional Elder, Retired), Rev. M. Lynne Austin (Elder), Rev. Robert Brownlee (Retired), Rev. Clyde Ervin (Retired), Rev. Langi Fine (Retired), Rev. Roy Ford (Retired), Rev. Robert Hamerton-Kelly (Retired), Rev. Kenneth G. Heaton (Retired), Rev. Alexander Hunter (Retired), Rev. Harry Murakami (Retired), Rev. Alfred

**BAC 53 through 56:** Rev. Rhodes-Wickett pointed to Pages 15 – 20 where the names of those who have entered or were entering the retired relationship with the Annual Conference after many years of faithful and active ministry. The following were the clergy who were retiring this year. **Deacon:** Rev. Carolyn Breihan, Rev. Jerry Carter, Rev. David Stoner. **Elders:** Rev. Jerry Campbell, Rev. Colleen Chun, Rev. Kimball B. Coburn, Rev. Thanh Phuoc Dang, Rev. Todd Ehrenborg, Rev. Nancy Hartzog, Rev. Phu Xuan Ho, Rev. Mary Hollifield, Rev. Mark Huntington, Rev. Randy Johnson, Rev. Frances G. Materra, Rev. Gail Messner, Rev. Peter Moore-Kochlacs, Rev. James Oliver, Rev. David Persons, Rev. Sharon Rhodes-Wickett, Rev. Frank Trotter, Rev. Andrew Welch, Rev. Fran Wiebenga, and Rev. Cathy Wright. **Local Pastor:** Rev. Ralph Barlow, Rev. J. Thomas Hower, Rev. Lesa Renae Smith, and Rev. Paul Suk-Yong Yang. Tom Hower was a Provisional Elder who would like to retire. The *Book of Discipline* did not allow Provisional Members to retire anymore, so he was retiring as a Local Pastor.

Rev. Rhodes-Wickett said the Clergy Session was required to vote on the retirements under ¶358.2. She moved the approval of those persons retiring under ¶358.2 of the 2012 *Book of Discipline*. A correction from the floor noted that Carol Millspaugh’s name may have been missed. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

A member from Torrance First had a question on BAC 46. Bishop Carcaño ruled the Session had already taken action on BAC 46.

Rev. Rhodes-Wickett offered a prayer for those retiring.

**BAC 64–72:** Rev. Kim explained BAC’s 64-72 were for your information.

**BAC 73:** Rev. Kim directed the Session to Page 22 where it listed those Pastors/Deacons appointed to less than full-time positions, and this required a 2/3 vote. Rev. Kim said the Board moved approval for BAC 73, for Clergy appointed for less than full-time service. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported.

Rev. Kim concluded the Board’s report of the Business of the Annual Conference.

Bishop Carcaño said, “Let us give the Board a big hand! Thank you to the Board of Ordained Ministry for the hard work put into preparing for this report.”


**Adjournment:** At 12:18 p.m., Bishop Carcaño dismissed the Session.
Welcome (11:07 a.m.): The Laity Session opened with a greeting to all by Wendy Lee, member of the Laity Council with a special welcome to first-time guests, who received a lei.

Opening Prayer (11:08 a.m.): Ralph Hogan opened with prayer.

Special Award (11:09 a.m.): Conference Lay Leaders Phil and Connee Freeman introduced and honored North District Co-Lay Leader, Skip Keating and his wife, Kathy. Skip served faithfully and diligently, even after suffering a stroke. He was awarded a certificate for 9 years of outstanding service.

Conference Lay Leaders (11:11 a.m.): Phil and Connee Freeman opened with Romans 12:11 (The Message), which said, “Do not burn out. Keep yourselves fueled for serving the Lord.” Connee also quoted Marian Wright Edelman who said, “We must not ignore the small daily differences we make, because over time, they add up to big differences.”

Lay Ministry Academy Graduates and Certified Lay Ministers (11:12 a.m.): Carolyn Ingram, South District Lay Leader recognized Lay Ministry Academy Graduates: Paul Audley, Karen Britten, Kelly Buffa, William Butryn, Mae Campbell-Jones, Pam Churness, Donna Daniels, Becky Ewing, Sam Gharty, Steven Hable, Bill Hardy, Sandi Hardy, JP Harris, Paula Hui, Chivoan Kao, Sharyl Lewis, Liane McDonough, Sheryl Meadows, Mike Mitchell, Blanca Morales, Suzanne Morgan, Julio Murillo, Kathy Norris, Ray Paul, Prince Pierson, Mikala Rahn, Michael Schuck, Mark Stephenson, Karen Thompson, and Myrna Williams.

She also recognized Certified Lay Ministers: Johnnie Braxton (South), Pam Churness (South), Paula Hui (North), Suzanne Morgan (South), Prince Pierson (East), and Pam Strange (North).

Annual Conference Logistics (11:19 a.m.): Leanne Nakanishi, Conference Co-Secretary gave an overview of our Annual Session of Conference. Laity were the people who made church happen. She spoke about the difference between a Plenary Session and a Legislative Section and how we were Voting Lay Members to Annual Conference and not Voting Delegates. She referred to Pages 8-9 in the Resource Handout and explained microphone etiquette and use of the paddles. Lastly, she reminded everyone to attend the assigned Legislative Section, where more detailed information would be provided about the legislation under consideration.

Hispanic/Latino Ministries (11:24 a.m.): Rev. Joel Hortiales, Associate Director of Hispanic/Latino Ministries shared how the Latino population had been shifting with growth in the 2nd and 3rd generations. Fiesta Church (better way to say messy church) was a recommended book by Juan Francisco Martinez, which showed the needs to be family ministry for all generations. We need to start 10 new churches in our Conference. Thousand Oaks UMC was the first. Laity was doing the work and were the ones inviting the Latinos to ministry. He thanked the laity for sharing their faith.

New Ministries (11:32 a.m.): Rev. Nicole Reilley, Director of New Ministries shared what New Ministries did. (1) They helped churches become more vital, as worship attendance was down 21%. Messy church was a multi-generational group that met once a month. The goal was to train 50 churches and they had already trained 20 and launched 15. The Messy Church model came from the United Kingdom, where 100,000 new people met Jesus Christ. Bishop Carcaño, the Cabinet, and Rev. Nicole Reilley planned for Readiness 360 Plus. This was a 15-month program for a church to grow in vitalization, which included spiritual intensity, missional alignment, dynamic relationships, cultural training, etc. This was being implemented first in the South District. They set 90-day goals with early successes. The New Ministries blog is at www.newcalpac.wordpress.com (2) Leadership Development was being implemented with the Institute for Missional Wisdom. They took 10-12 people through a seminary level experience for a year by taking them through courses. Discipleship Huddle worked with both lay and clergy to learn how to disciple today. There will be Coach Training by Path One (our National church
planting organization) on July 7-9, 2014 at San Diego First UMC. They were looking for volunteers for this special event. (3) New Ministries had been tasked with starting 62 new churches by 2024. There were many ways to start new churches. Twenty-three new churches were started and 14 were still thriving. Please check out Cal-Pac New Ministries on Facebook.

**Young People’s Ministries (11:41 a.m.):** Erin Foellmi, Manager of Young People’s Ministries shared two goals. The first goal was to include Youth and Young Adults in the total life of the church. For example, at Annual Conference this year, young people were involved with worship, presiding with Bishop Carcaño, and shadowing different leaders. Second, was to work together in all aspects in the life of a Local Church by mentoring and modeling. There would be a new young people’s website, sharing stories, and resource pages. Please be sure to get a passport at their booth and get them stamped at various locations. Exciting events during Annual Conference were a booth where hair stylists were cutting hair to donate to a charity and a blood drive. Please join them this evening for a movie in the park featuring *Frozen*, and a theological talk after movie. They were selling snow cones. Lastly, she invited everyone to experience Connect, which was a new youth worship started by La Habra UMC on Friday night and in University Hall.

**UMC Way Song (11:49 a.m.):** Carolyn Ingram led us in singing her song, The UMC Way, which was sung to the tune of YMCA.

### Wednesday, June 18, 2014

**Plenary Session # 2**

2:00 p.m.

**Gathering Music (1:59 p.m.):** The Praise Band led the Conference in singing, “Sing When the Spirit Says Sing” and “Spirit of the Living God.”

**Call To Order:** At 2:00 p.m., Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño called Plenary Session # 2 to order and welcomed the Youth Representative, Norman Lambert of the North District, to the Presider’s table.

**Orders of the Day (2:02 p.m.):** Rev. Melinda Dodge moved the Orders of the Day. The Orders of the Day were available on Page 11 of the Resource Handout. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **The motion was supported.**

**Announcements:** Leanne Nakanishi and Rev. Dan Lewis gave the following announcements: (1) Message Center was in Hunsaker Center Lobby. (2) On Page 6 of the Resource Handout, one can see all the ways to share about what was happening here. (3) There was also #onthejourney. (4) There was live streaming of our sessions. Our Director of Communications, James Kang, wanted people to know their image may be broadcast online. We had permission to capture video and photography from the University of Redlands. Your presence here implied your consent. (5) On our Conference Secretary’s website, there would be minutes from the UM Daily. (6) Please check out all the booths on the quad.


**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**DECISION 1254**

IN RE: Review of a Bishop’s Decision of Law in the California-Pacific Annual Conference Regarding the Legality of a Resolution Urging Bishops, Clergy, Local Churches, and Ministry Settings “to Operate as if the Statement in ¶ 161F Does Not Exist”
DIGEST

The Bishop’s decision of law is affirmed. In passing upon the Bishop’s decision and affirming it, the Judicial Council is addressing only the content of the judgment made by the Bishop about the legality of the action taken by the Annual Conference.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

During its June 2013 session, the California-Pacific Annual Conference adopted Resolution 13-16, which was titled “Biblical Obedience.” The Conference resolved that it would affirm an action of the Western Jurisdictional Conference and that it would adopt a “Statement of Biblical Obedience,” prefaced by the following language:

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the California Pacific Annual Conference supports the action taken by the Western Jurisdiction as outlined in the following statement adopted by the Jurisdictional Conference.

Included in the “Statement of Biblical Obedience” was the following:

We commend to our Bishops, clergy, local churches, and ministry settings, the challenge to operate as if the statement in Para. 161F does not exist, creating a church where all people are truly welcome. The secretary of the Western Jurisdictional Conference will submit this statement of Gospel Obedience to the Jurisdictional College of Bishops, each Annual Conference, and chairpersons of Boards of Ordained Ministry for discussion and implementation.

A clergy member presented a request for a decision of law by the Bishop on the matter of this statement. The questioner asked,

Is it legal for an Annual Conference to take an action urging the church “to act as if ¶ 161F of The Book of Discipline does not exist” as in Resolution 13-16?

Bishop Minerva Carcaño issued her decision of law in a timely manner. She ruled that the Social Principles, of which ¶ 161F is part, are not Church law and that the action by the Annual Conference to exhort the church to behave in a certain manner, namely as if ¶ 161 F does not exist, is not a violation of church law. Specifically, the Bishop wrote:

I find that Resolution 13-16 does not violate the legal authority of the Book of Discipline in that it does not require any person, office or body within the church to violate the Book of Discipline. What Resolution 13-16 does do is commend to bishops, clergy, local churches, and ministry settings, the challenge to operate as if Paragraph 161F of the Book of Discipline does not exist. The act of commending and challenging persons and entities of the church to act in a particular way in response to a section of the Book of Discipline that is not intended to be church law does not in and of itself constitute an illegal action.

Briefs were filed by other interested parties.

JURISDICTION

The Judicial Council has jurisdiction under ¶¶ 51 and 56.3 of the Constitution and ¶ 2609.6 of the 2012 Book of Discipline as modified by Decision 1244.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE

A peculiar feature of this case is the fact that the Annual Conference took an action that affirmed an action of the Western Jurisdictional Conference. But the question of law raised by the clergy member of the California Pacific Annual Conference addresses only the affirmation by the Annual Conference. Therefore, it is relevant to consider whether it is a violation of church law to embrace a statement issued previously by another body—in this
case, the jurisdictional conference—when the legality of the first action has not been tested. Yet the Judicial Council neither has nor claims jurisdiction to review the action of the Western Jurisdictional Conference on this matter, because nothing occurred at the jurisdictional conference to bring it to the Judicial Council. Hence, on one level, the Judicial Council has to ponder what it might mean for us to decide on the legality of the Annual Conference action when we cannot decide on the legality of the Jurisdictional Conference action that the Annual Conference affirmed.

The focus of the Bishop’s decision of law is upon the statement in the portion of 2012 Discipline (p. 103), which states that the Social Principles are “not to be considered church law” but rather “are a prayerful and thoughtful effort on the part of the General Conference to speak to the human issues in the contemporary world from a sound biblical and theological foundation…” While it may be regrettable if any United Methodist individual or body were to choose to ignore some portion of the General Conference’s summons to “prayerful and thoughtful” consideration of important public issues, such an action is not in itself a violation of church law. There are many facets of the Social Principles that individual United Methodists and their various organizations choose to ignore, and there is no unanimity among United Methodists about the merits of the denomination’s Social Principles on health care, gun control, and other matters. But to ignore those statements in the Social Principles, while doing so might theologically imperil or weaken the church, is not an illegal action under Church law.

While other decisions by the Judicial Council have addressed matters with some similarities to this instant case, there are none that provide precise precedence for this matter. In Decision 833, the Judicial Council did find that some matters in the Social Principles may have the force of law: “the General Conference has the authority to speak on connectional matters, and, when this authority results in a legislative enactment stated in mandatory language, it is the law of the church, notwithstanding its placement in the Discipline.” However, in passing upon the Bishop’s decision, the Judicial Council finds no mandatory language in ¶ 161F of the Discipline and nothing that objects to mandatory language in the Discipline. In Decision 1220, the Judicial Council declared that an Annual Conference did not have authority to “renounce” a legislative enactment of the General Conference but added the following: “Inviting other bodies to take an action that is legal and aspirational is, however, entirely within the bounds of church law.” In this instant case, the Annual Conference took no action to “renounce” a mandate issued by the General Conference. Instead, the Annual Conference action affirmed, or joined itself to, an action by the Western Jurisdictional Conference. In summary, neither Decision 833 nor Decision 1220 is directly applicable to the issues in this case. The Bishop’s decision of law did not involve a legislative mandate by the General Conference because ¶ 161F contains no legislative mandate.

The Judicial Council has responsibilities for the law and the Constitution of The United Methodist Church. We find no deficiency in the decision of law by the Bishop in this matter. The request for a decision of law asked simply, “Is it legal…?” In essence, the Bishop said, “It is legal.” We concur.

DECISION

The Bishop’s decision of law is affirmed. In passing upon the Bishop’s decision and affirming it, the Judicial Council is addressing only the content of the judgment made by the Bishop about the legality of the action taken by the Annual Conference.

Dennis Blackwell was absent.
Timothy K. Bruster, first clergy alternate, participated in this decision.

DISSENT

We respectfully dissent from the majority decision.

In a long line of Decisions the Judicial Council has upheld and reaffirmed the principle that Annual Conferences may not legally negate, ignore, or violate provisions of the Discipline with which they disagree, even when the disagreements are based on conscientious objections to those provisions.
The current controlling principle is that an Annual Conference resolution may express disagreement with the current language of the Discipline and may express aspirational hopes, but an Annual Conference may not legally negate, ignore or violate provisions of the Discipline, even when disagreements are based upon conscientious objection to those provisions. See Decision 1120.

In Decision 1220, the Judicial Council stated that:

“According to the Constitution of The United Methodist Church (Division Four, Article II, ¶ 56.3) the Judicial Council has authority “To pass upon decisions of law made by bishops in Annual Conferences.” Legislatively, the General Conference has determined that, when the Judicial Council “shall pass upon” such decisions of law, it “shall…affirm, modify, or reverse” them. From time to time, members of Annual Conferences use this procedure to invite the Judicial Council into debates about the social policies of the church or into disputes about the church’s theological positions. However, the Judicial Council is authorized only to pass upon the decisions of law made by bishops as matters of church law. See Decision 59. Indeed, as ¶ 2609.6 of the 2008 Discipline states, after such a decision has been passed upon by the Judicial Council “it shall become the law of the Church to the extent that it is affirmed by the council.” Therefore, the Judicial Council reviews a bishop’s decision of law not only with an eye toward the existing law of the Church but also with an eye toward the proposition that whatever is affirmed about a bishop’s decision will thereby “become the law of the Church.” (emphasis mine). In light of this, the Judicial Council must pass upon a bishop’s decision of law in the narrow terms of Church law.”

The Judicial Council in said Decision 1220 also stated that

“However, in the first stipulation of the resolution, where the Annual Conference acted to “renounce the statement that homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching,” the Annual Conference claimed for itself an authority to “renounce” language that was not in its legal authority to “renounce.” That language, in ¶ 161F of the 2008 Discipline, was adopted by the General Conference under the constitutional authority that grants to the General Conference “full legislative authority over all matters distinctively connectional.” (¶ 16) What the General Conference has adopted legislatively cannot be renounced by another body that has no legal authority to do so. See Decisions 96, 232, 544, 886, 1111.

Applying the principle enunciated in Decision 1220, the California Pacific Annual Conference’s affirmation of Resolution 13-16 and urging others to disobey and ignore ¶161F of the Social Principles is impermissible because the resolution doesn’t merely expresses disagreement with the current language of the Discipline and it doesn’t merely expresses aspirational hopes. The effect is to negate and ignore the church’s clearly stated position on issues of sexuality – homosexuality, LGBT, same sex marriage – as reflected in the Social Principles.

It should be noted that the Social Principles is the foundation of most, if not all, legal requirements of church law in respect of sexuality. Therefore, ignoring the Social Principles undermines all the corresponding requirements of church law, as stipulated in the Discipline. Regrettably, the argument is now being made that while an Annual Conference may not legally negate, ignore or violate provisions of the Discipline, it may legally negate, ignore or violate the Social Principles because they are not “church law”.

As was expressed in Decision 1220, we should be cautious in our review and affirmation of bishops’ decision of law, as affirmation of a bishop’s decision of law becomes the law of the church. In the present case, the affirmation of the bishop’s decision of law by the majority now becomes the law of the church.

In Decision 1220 the Judicial Council held that “A declaration by an Annual Conference to renounce a legislative act of the General Conference is not legal.”

We should similarly declare Resolution 13-16, which is a renunciation of a legislative act of the General Conference (¶161F), illegal.
Envisioning God’s Future For Us (2:10 p.m.): Rev. Jan Wiley and the Mission/Vision Discernment Team offered a report after one year of listening to members of the Annual Conference, reflecting on what they heard and being attentive to the Holy Spirit. They creatively offered the Conference members a sense of all the elements of their process including the amount of data collected, the use of a consultant, consideration of the written form of the statement, feelings the statement generates, and how it tied to our past, present, and future identity. The MVD Team was pleased to propose the following Vision Statement:

“Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ so all may experience God’s life-giving love.”

They saw this as a living document that may evolve as time goes on. The next step was to identify specific goals and strategies for reaching those goals.

The MVD Team shared prayers of support and gratitude and a request made to adopt the Vision Statement presented. Bishop Carcaño prayed for our Conference to live into this vision.

Imagine No Malaria Report (3:00 p.m.): Rev. Kathy Cooper-Ledesma, the Imagine No Malaria Steering Committee Chairperson, gave the report on Imagine No Malaria. At 3:01 p.m., the Pauley Perrette video was played. At 3:07 p.m., Rev. Cooper-Ledesma brought the Conference members greetings on behalf of the Imagine No Malaria Steering Committee, Katie Kevorkian (our Field Coordinator for Imagine No Malaria), and the 300,000 lives our initiative in the California-Pacific Annual Conference will save in the coming years.

Rev. Cooper-Ledesma invited us to turn on our cell phones and text MALARIA CP to 27722 to donate $10 with Bishop Carcaño’s permission. She had a secure Vanco credit card swiper with her for those who wanted to donate a larger amount.

At 3:04 p.m., Rev. Cooper-Ledesma played a video to help us understand the realities of malaria. She showed a video about Dr. Wayne Aller, a member of Northridge UMC who was a survivor of malaria himself and, at age 81, ran the L.A. Marathon last March to raise funds for Imagine No Malaria.

At 3:07 p.m., Rev. Andy Mattick and Pastor Dave Stambaugh rode in on their bicycles to tell us about the upcoming 565 Mile Bike Ride in North District to raise funds for Imagine No Malaria.

At 3:11 p.m., a PowerPoint presentation highlighted five creative fund-raising events sponsored by Conference churches to raise money for Imagine No Malaria including: Shoot for No Malaria at Bishop UMC; the students of a third-grade class in Baldwin Park shared their limited funds; a Skeeto Faire at Westlake Village UMC; a Worship Night for young people held by Latino Ministries; Trike-a-thon by a preschool at Palisades UMC.

Seven year-old Wendy Stanfill from First UMC Redondo Beach was introduced and explained her efforts to raise money by creating the Mosquito Club and making mosquito ornaments for sale. She started this because she did not want people to die and she wanted malaria to be eliminated. Their church will host lemonade stands around the city this summer to raise more money. (Both Bishops gave her a donation as she left the stage.)
General and Jurisdictional Delegates Election Process (3:16 p.m.): Rev. Dan Lewis and Rev. David Burgeson presented the Election Process for Delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences, which convened every four years. General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church. The next General Conference will be held at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon, May 10-20, 2016.

The Jurisdictional Conferences are held the same year as General Conference. The primary function of these regional gatherings is the election and assignment of Bishops to their Episcopal areas. The Western Jurisdictional Conference will meet July 16-19, 2016.

In the past, Annual Conferences elected delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference at the Annual Conference session held the calendar year preceding General Conference. However, the 2012 General Conference adopted a new policy that “Delegates to the General Conference shall be elected at the session of the Annual Conference held not more than two Annual Conference sessions before the calendar year preceding the session of the General Conference.” Our California-Pacific Annual Conference will elect its delegates at this Annual Session.

We needed to elect 4 Clergy and 4 Lay Delegates to General Conference and elect an additional 7 Clergy and 7 Lay Delegates to the Western Jurisdictional Conference along with 2 reserve Jurisdictional Delegates. Those elected FIRST to the General Conference are the first Delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference as well.

Qualifications for Clergy and Lay Delegates were noted in The 2012 Book of Discipline and summarized here: Those eligible for election must be Clergy in Full Connection or Lay Members of the Annual Conference without regard to age, provided such Delegates shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church for at least two years next preceding their election, and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election, and are Members thereof within the Annual Conference electing them at the time of holding the General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

Balloting would begin during Plenary Session #3 Thursday morning.

Rev. David Burgeson, the Head Teller, described the voting process, so we would be in compliance with the United Methodist Book of Discipline and the California-Pacific Annual Conference Rules regarding the election of Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

One must be physically located within the bar of the Conference and wearing one's colored name badge at the time of the balloting in order to receive a ballot.

Eligible Laity will first be asked to stand to receive their ballots. They would vote and then the ushers would collect their ballots.

Eligible Clergy would then receive their ballots and vote in the same manner.
Laity could only vote for Laity and the Clergy could only vote for Clergy.

On the first ballot, only those receiving a majority of the vote would be elected. On succeeding ballots, the person with the highest number of votes should be elected, provided that all persons who received a majority of votes would be elected.

Voting members were asked to bring #2 pencils to fill in the bubble scantron forms for the elections. The teller helpers would have some pencils available. Each nominee would appear on the screen with a number associated with their name for each ballot election. Voting members would be reminded of the importance of marking each ballot clearly.

Anyone who was nominated at their District Conference was listed in the Resource Handout distributed at registration. Our Conference Rules allowed for nominations to be made from the floor. Nominations would not be received verbally. They would be received by filling out a green nomination form available at the edge of the
stage following this Plenary Session. They were due back by 6:30 this evening. Personal bios and photos were not necessary at this time.

Refer to Conference Rule Roman numeral 4-B on page I-10 in the 2013 Journal for this information.

Bishop Carcaño reminded us that, with differently abled people, we needed to be aware of and helpful to those around us, so that no one was excluded from the process, because they were unable to stand or raise their hand.

**Strategic Financial Planning Task Force Task (3:23 p.m.):** Rev. Steve Hundley’s presentation would be posted in full at a later date. Some of slides of the PowerPoint presentation were listed below.

**Missional Values and Goals**

1. Move the California-Pacific Conference from Deficit to Abundance to change the climate financially, so that we would understand ourselves as persons who serve a God who gives in abundance.

2. Restore Fiscal Confidence and Transparency, so that we would understand what and who we were financially.

3. Increase Apportionment and Direct Billing Pay-Out.

4. Increase the service of connection throughout the Annual Conference.

**Financial Reporting and Policies**

1. Reporting and Monitoring Expenses on a regular basis for each part of our Annual Conference, our Ministry Teams, and that each group would monitor our expenses. We were spending money we actually had. Our Conference Treasurer and our Council on Financial Resources (“CFR”) had assisted greatly.

2. Inter-fund Transfer Policy Developed. Chair Dan Griffin reported on the record inter-fund borrowing to show fund usage. Other policies were developed and approved by the CFR.

3. Began remitting General Church funds monthly. Used to help in reconciling a number of accounts.

CFR was monitoring all the changes coming out of this Task Force.

**Pensions Issues - Jan Hanson**

1. Cost of retiree health care. Rules change for church contributions for health insurance: percentage 50% or 25% clergy - changes in what the church was required to pay. Contribution would be proportionate to the level of appointment.

2. Established a recommendation on that the Lynch Funds be placed in endowment for future use for pension and health benefits for retirees.

**Congregational Loans**

Remaining balance borrowed -- $4,068,838
Repaid $250,000 in 2012.
Budgeted to repay $100,000 in 2015.

**Camping (Study reaching back all the way to 1996)**

Camp Virginia Funds ($933,784) to be applied to the camping deficit. The deficit camping itself was responsible for the purpose of the sale, was to purchase property adjacent to Cedar Glen when that property became available. Conference would assist in raising funds for camping in future projects including purchasing property next to camp Cedar Glen. Operational deficit would be considered the responsibility of the Annual Conference.
Cabinet
(1) Increase apportionment giving challenge. No church to provide 0% of their apportionments. Also, thanking churches that paid above their apportionments.
(2) Decrease delinquencies of direct billings.
(3) Property Liability Insurance.
(4) Health Insurance for Clergy and Lay staff.
(5) Pension Billings that go to Local Churches.

The total amount owed to the Annual Conference in delinquencies was $839,981.03.

Communications
(1) Improved communication realized.
(2) Needed to develop a strategic plan in this area to be presented to the Annual Conference session in 2015.

Conclusion
The Session was asked to read the following together:

“As servants of Christ Jesus serving through the California-Pacific Conference of The United Methodist Church, we pledge to continue working faithfully, collaboratively, and in transparent ways to lead the Annual Conference to the abundance we believe God has for it, helping to restore its fiscal accountability and confidence, and increase its fair share giving for the holy purpose of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Bishop Carcaño offered time for questions and then offered the opportunity to grant the time of gratitude in the hard work of this committee.

Break: Bishop Carcaño called for a break at 3:42 p.m.

Reconvene: At 3:57 p.m., Bishop Carcaño re-convened the Session.

Council on Financial Resources Report (3:57 p.m.): Dan Griffin, President of the Council of Financial Resources reported their Mission Statement: Through stewardship making disciple in the name of Jesus Christ through the world. CFR is responsible to develop, maintain, and administer a coordinate fiscal plan for procedures, policies of the Cal-Pac Conference.

(1) Move Cal-Pac from Deficit to Abundance
(2) Restore Fiscal Confidence
(3) Provide Transparency
(4) Increase Apportionments and Direct Billing Payouts

2013: There were changes to our accounting system to display varying programs of the Conference and reconciling the reports and now managing the reports. This was the second year in a row the total spending did not exceed the budget of the Conference. All programs ended in the black or broke even.

CFR was not borrowing internally or externally for Conference expenses for two years in a row. Additionally, unspent designated funds in 2013 for ministries were available for use in 2014 and 2015.

A new auditing firm was hired.
The report would be available within a week on the conference website.

The EZRA system for Tables I, II and III was made available in December 2013.

Apportionment giving increased by $73,540.

217 Churches paid 100% of the connectional giving. We wanted to thank all churches for whatever they gave. Every dollar was appreciated and we knew how significant it was for the Laity, Clergy, and Churches to give.

The Resource Summit took place in March 2014. The meeting was 3 meetings of Essential Ministry Teams (EMT’s) working together to reach a balanced budget based on the money available through the budgeting process.

As of May 31, apportionments received exceeded last year’s. Paragraph 811.4 - The apportionments for all apportioned general church funds, as approved by the General Conference, shall not be subject to reduction either by this Annual Conference or by the charge or Local Church (Paragraph 615.1).

The assumption was to continue to strengthen our stewardship. The 2015 Apportionment Budget was asked to stay the same as 2014. 12.8 million of the 30 million Conference Budget came from apportionments. She referred to Matthew 25: 23. There was a gift of transparency.

Proposed Apportionment Budget 2015 (4:11 p.m.): Archana Carey, Conference Treasurer reviewed the proposed Apportionment Budget for 2015. <Editor’s Note: This budget was included in the Addendum to the Preliminary Reports, Pages AD 42-47>

The 2015 Proposed Budget was identical to the 2014 budget. An additional sheet was handed out regarding the Proposed 2015 Quotas and Special Offerings.

The Budget had been prepared carefully with all the EMT’s. She said we needed prayers for this budget.

Bishop Carcaño asked if there were any questions for our Treasurer or CFR Chair?

(1) Lauolefiso Ali’ifua, Layman from Fetu Ao Samoan UMC noticed the New Ministries EMT increased by about $400,000. In the 2014 Approved Budget, there were quite a few blank spaces in some line items. Would the Resource EMT be the ones to identify what these blank line items were? For example, Program: Vitalization grew by $56,000. It appeared that the 2014 numbers were simply earmarked. Mrs. Carey said we now had vision and specifics for all these program areas and had requested this line item budget. The $30,000 for last year and $86,000 for next year was because the program had been enhanced.

Someone requested a point of contact to see how these specific line items would be used for our Annual Conference.

Rev. Nicole Reilley, Director of New Ministries said the 2014 budget was inherited with overarching categories. There was a vision for moving forward and Rev. Reilley would be happy to meet with people to discuss specifics.

Bishop Carcaño asked if it was safe to assume the direction reflected in the 2015 budget was already being pursued now in 2014?

Rev. Steve Hundley said there were other parts of the budget that were decreased by that $400,000 which was now allocated to New Ministries. In the Resource Summit, we felt that this was where we needed to grow.

(2) A Layman from Guam UMC said on the single page handout for special offerings, Note 1 on the bottom said that the Annual Conference 2014 approved of $3 million for the Imagine No Malaria initiative. Was this a typo? Mrs. Carey said that was a typo, thanked him, and that we would fix to change the year from 2014 to 2013.
**Honoring Our Retiring Clergy (4:25 p.m.):** Video presentations were shown highlighting the ministries of Rev. Carolyn Breihan, Rev. Jerry Carter, and Rev. Thanh Phouc Dang.

Bishop Carcaño announced the Laity Dinner was at 6:00 p.m., the Young People were showing a movie at 7:30 p.m., and District gatherings would be at 9:30 p.m.

**Imagine No Malaria Update:** Imagine No Malaria offering totaled $67,000 given as of this morning, which resulted in 6,700 lives saved.

**Closing Prayer (4:45 p.m.):** Bishop Thomas Bickerton shared thanks for the gift and the time shared at this Annual Conference. Bishop Bickerton closed our Plenary Session in prayer at 4:45 p.m.
General Conference Ballot # 1 (9:13 a.m.): Rev. Dan Lewis explained our voting procedure:

Explanation of who was eligible to vote from The 2012 Book of Discipline:

¶ 35. Article IV. The Clergy Delegates to the General Conference and to the Jurisdictional or Central Conference shall be elected from the Clergy Members in Full Connection and shall be elected by the Clergy Members of the Annual Conference or Provisional Annual Conference who are Deacons and Elders in Full Connection (Green), Associate Members (Blue), those Provisional Members who have completed all of their educational requirements (Orange), and Local Pastors who have completed course of study or an M. Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment immediately preceding the election (Blue). (Voting: Green, Orange, Blue) (Non-voting: Lavender)

¶ 36. Article V. The Lay Delegates to the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences shall be elected by the Lay Members of the Annual Conference or Provisional Annual Conference without regard to age, provided such Delegates shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church for at least two years next preceding their election, and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election, and are Members thereof within the Annual Conference electing them at the time of holding the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences. (Voting: Gold/Yellow; Red) (Non-voting: Pink, Gray, White)

The election shall be held in accordance with The Book of Discipline Paragraphs 33-36.

(1) All members who wish to vote shall be seated within the Bar of the Conference at the time of balloting.

(2) Please use a # 2 Pencil. A ballot marked by a pen does not register with the ScanTron machine.

(3) We will use a simple bubble form with a single number associated with one person’s name. As we progress through the balloting, that number association will remain the same. Fill in bubbles completely. Stray marks will invalidate the ballot.

(4) Clergy only vote for Clergy. Clergy will be given a ballot marked with the letter “C”

(5) Laity only vote for Laity. Laity will be given a ballot marked with the letter “L”

(6) You must vote for a total of the total number of persons to be elected. On the first ballot, you must vote for 4 people. If you vote for less than 4 people, your ballot will be invalidated.

(7) Write-in names are permitted on any ballot, so long as you do not exceed the total number of those to be elected. Write-in names must be legible and shall meet the requirements for election established in The Book of Discipline.

(8) After the first ballot, the total number of additional ballots for electing General Conference delegates shall not exceed the number of delegates to be elected. On the first ballot, only those with a majority of the vote will be elected. On succeeding ballots, the person with the highest number of votes shall be elected, provided that all persons who receive a majority of the votes shall be elected.

(9) The time of voting is a time of prayerful discernment and, therefore, remaining quiet is respectful for everyone casting their votes.

Rev. Dan Lewis explained that Rev. Eugene Han voluntarily removed himself from the nominations and that Rev. Craig Brown was nominated by Rev. John Farley as a General Conference Delegate. Rev. Craig Brown’s name would be written in for the first ballot.
Bishop Carcaño recognized a question at microphone 1. A Layman from Hollywood UMC asked about the Conference Rules on campaigning indicating that some people on stage seemed to be campaigning for a particular candidate. Rev. Dan Lewis answered there were not official rules regarding campaigning, although the Conference practice is to discourage campaigning. Any campaigning to be discontinued and campaigning materials removed from the bar of this Annual Conference. Rev. Paul Hill, clergy from Grace UMC, reminded the Conference of the diversity of our Annual Conference and the importance of voting, so that diversity was represented in our General Conference Delegation. Martina McRae, Laywoman of Simi Valley UMC, commented that Delegates who were elected to General Conference should be willing to speak out for the values of Cal-Pac Conference.

Bishop Carcaño led in prayer as Laity prepared to begin the first ballot for General Conference Delegates of the Cal-Pac Annual Conference.

At 9:24 a.m., Bishop Carcaño called for those who were eligible to vote to either stand or if unable to stand, to raise their hand and/or signal the Tellers in order to receive the ballot. Ballots were distributed. At 9:29 a.m., Bishop Carcaño instructed the voting Lay Members to not vote until all ballots were distributed. Bishop Carcaño instructed the Lay Members to vote. Bishop Carcaño asked for everyone to hold up their ballots when completed. Bishop Carcaño declared the ballot closed at 9:32 a.m.

Bishop Carcaño invited Rev. Dan Lewis to remind the Session of who was eligible to vote for the Clergy Delegates.

Rev. Dan Lewis explained Rev. Molly Vetter, Rev. Tonya Harris, and Rev. Cynthia Abrams were only nominated for Jurisdictional Conference and their names would be added for the Jurisdictional Delegates voting at the appropriate time.

At 9:40 a.m., Bishop Carcaño called for the vote. At 9:42 a.m., Bishop Carcaño declared the vote closed.

**Board of Ordained Ministry (9:45 a.m.):** Rev. Hillary Chrisley, Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry gave their report. Rev. Chrisley introduced Rev. Elbert Kim, Registrar for the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Rev. Kim presented the 2014 Class for Provisional Membership and Membership in Full Connection to the Session.

The Candidates were escorted in and introduced: for Provisional Membership on Deacon track were Martha Walz Morales and Elisa Marie Wright; for Provisional Membership on Elder track was Darin Michelle Arntson.

For Ordination as an Elder in Full Connection: Rev. Christopher Drake Spearman, Rev. Jessica Ashley Strysko, Rev. Eva Chis Than Thai-Erwin, and Rev. Jerry Andre Wilson. With orders previously recognized, and now being received as an Elder in Full Connection was Rev. Mark F. Sturgess.

Bishop Carcaño led the candidates in the Wesley Historic Examination for admission into Full Connection ¶336.

(1) Have you faith in Christ?
(2) Are you going on to perfection?
(3) Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?
(4) Are you earnestly striving after perfection in love?
(5) Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and God’s work?
(6) Do you know the General Rules of our Church?
(7) Will you keep the General Rules of our Church?
(8) Have you studied the doctrines of The United Methodist Church?
(9) After full examination, do you believe that our doctrines are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures?
(10) Have you studied our form of Church discipline and polity?
(11) Do you approve our Church government and polity?
(12) Will you support and maintain them?
(13) Will you exercise the ministry of compassion?
(14) Will you diligently instruct the children in every place?
(15) Will you visit from house to house?
(16) Will you recommend fasting or abstinence, both by precept and example?
(17) Are you determined to employ all your time in the work of God?
(18) Are you in debt, so as to embarrass you in your work?
(19) Will you observe the following directions?
   (a) Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away time; neither spend any more time at any one place than is strictly necessary.
   (b) Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience’ sake.

Rev. Kim introduced those being transferred from other Annual Conferences: Rev. James A. Dwyer (Indiana Annual Conference).


Imagine No Malaria Moment (10:02 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño introduced an “Imagine No Malaria” video which was played for the Session featuring Archana Carey telling her story of her experience with malaria.

Legislation Orientation (10:06 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño invited Rev. Bob Rhodes and Won-Seok Yuh to explain the Legislative Process. Rev. Rhodes explained that members of the Conference were randomly divided into seven legislative sections to vote on Recommendations, Resolutions, and Rules. The locations for the Legislative Sections were displayed on the screen. The Legislative Sections this year were from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Won-Seok Yuh explained that work done in the Legislative Sections would be presented at this afternoon’s Plenary Session # 4 in the form of the Consent Calendar. Won-Seok Yuh further explained the Consent Calendar would include any item that received a vote of 80% or more in the Legislative Section, and it would be presented and voted on in a single block during a Plenary Session at a later time. Won-Seok Yuh explained any action items that did not appear on the Consent Calendar would become part of the “Action Items Not on the Consent Calendar.”

Honoring Our Retiring Clergy (10:10 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño introduced videos, which honored our Retiring Clergy: Rev. Phu Ho and Rev. Tom Hower.

Closing Prayer (10:17 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño invited Bishop Zablon Nathamburi to close the Plenary Session in prayer.

Adjournment to attend Legislative Sections (10:19 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño dismissed the Conference to attend the Legislative Sections.

Thursday, June 19, 2014
Plenary Session # 4
2:00 p.m.

Gathering Music (2:02 p.m.): The Praise Band opened the Session singing “I’m Going to Live So.”
Call To Order (2:05 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño called Plenary Session # 4 to order at 2:05 p.m. She welcomed Tyler Watkins from Murrieta UMC. Bishop Carcaño also welcomed Skip Keating, the outgoing Lay Leader of the North District.

Orders of the Day (2:07 p.m.): Rev. Melinda Dodge presented and moved the Orders of the Day. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported at 2:08 p.m.

Courtesies (2:08 p.m.): Rev. Lee Carlile presented the Courtesies of the afternoon to the Session. The first courtesy was Dr. John B. Cobb Jr., Chairperson of the Center for Process Studies at Claremont School of Theology. Dr. John Cobb shared with the Conference about the 10th Anniversary of the International Whitehead Conference.

At 2:13 p.m., Bishop Carcaño welcomed Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, President of Claremont School of Theology, who gave an update on the state of Claremont School of Theology. Dr. Kuan emphasized the school’s dual focus of inter-religious education and training United Methodist Clergy.

Imagine No Malaria Moment (2:21 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño moved into an Imagine No Malaria Moment. The Conference viewed a video highlighting some of the progress the UMC had made in working to eradicate malaria.

General Conference Delegates Report # 1 Laity (2:24 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño reported on the first Laity Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 474 Total Valid Ballots with 14 Invalid Ballots. 238 votes were needed to elect by simple majority. Bishop Carcaño reported one Lay Member (Leanne Nakanishi) was elected on this first Laity Ballot with 240 votes.

General Conference Delegates Report # 1 Clergy (2:26 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño reported on the first Clergy Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 294 Total Valid Ballots with 11 Invalid Ballots. 148 votes were needed to elect by simple majority. Bishop Carcaño reported on the first Clergy Ballot and there were no elections.

General Conference Ballot # 2 (2:27 p.m.): Rev. Dan Lewis instructed the Conference that in order to vote one must be seated in the bar and use a #2 pencil. He explained the Laity would vote for 3 persons and Clergy would vote for 4 persons.

At 2:29 p.m., Bishop Carcaño invited Rev. Bau Dang to lead the Conference in prayer and called for the vote of the Laity. At 2:36 p.m., Bishop Carcaño declared the ballot closed. At 2:39 p.m., Bishop Carcaño invited Rev. Dang to lead the Conference in prayer and called for the vote of the Clergy.

At 2:42 p.m., Bishop Carcaño reported there was an error in reporting the Clergy results. Rev. Dan Lewis explained the vote was in order, however the report was in error. The ballots were re-collected by the tellers.

Consent Calendar Presentation (2:44 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño welcomed Rev. Bob Rhodes and Won-Seok Yu to report on the Consent Calendar. Rev. Rhodes presented the Consent Calendar to the Conference.

Cabinet Report (2:46 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño invited the Dean of the Cabinet, Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth to present the Cabinet Report. Rev. Bridgeforth reported the work of the Cabinet over the past year to maintain accountability and to provide spiritual and temporal leadership to our Conference. Rev. Bridgeforth reported to the Conference the Cabinet would work to complete the final steps necessary to merge the District Unions as the final step needed to complete the tasks assigned and entrusted to the District Re-Alignment Task Force. The Cabinet had worked to reduce and eliminate “local hires” of Clergy of any denomination serving in our churches. If a person was licensed and/or ordained within or beyond the UMC, and they were serving in any pastoral capacity within your congregation, then they must be under the Bishop’s appointment for purposes of accountability and supervision. The Cabinet had worked with Local Churches on lease agreements. He reported the Strategic Financial Planning Task Force Report along with the Cabinet had worked to increase connectional giving and to reduce the debt incurred by the Annual Conference for non-payment of insurance, pension, and
other items owed to the Annual Conference by Local Churches. Rev. Bridgeforth noted that in the Cabinet Report found in the Preliminary Reports, that there were some changes in various congregations that needed the action of the Conference. One must be aware that each of these items were brought before the Conference after much prayer, consultation, and discernment.

Rev. Bridgeforth reported that every item presented to the Conference in this report came with unanimous support of the Bishop and Cabinet. The District Planning and Strategy Teams of each of the Districts involved had taken action and have offered numerous options and responses in each situation brought before this body. Each one had undergone an Assessment Process and it had been determined that the ministry in place and in its current state was not our best United Methodist witness at this time and we must act responsibly, deliberately, graciously, and prayerfully – understanding that these were not buildings or a conglomerate of stories, but they were places where families had come together, children had been baptized and confirmed, individuals had heard calls to ministry, teams had been sent to serve others, community groups had been birthed, people had wed and buried their life loves, and lives had been transformed. That was the case for each place and we had come to this place after much deliberation, prayer, and collaboration.

Rev. Bridgeforth continued in saying the first two items were ones that were about congregations finding new ways of being in ministry in their context and living forward with a new name. One was a name change and the other was a merger.

Rev. Bridgeforth presented a name change: The people of the Silverado United Methodist Church in the West District were Samoan who lived out their Samoan culture and expressed their praise to God and service to their community in their mother language. So that they may increase their reach into the Samoan community, they had requested that their name be changed to Silverado Samoan United Methodist Church.

The second item presented to the Conference was a merger. Rev. Kathey Wilborn shared the story of these two congregations coming together with a clear sense of mission to a next generation of Vietnamese Christians who knew the Anaheim area as their home and English as their language, along with an aging Anglo congregation. It was clear this was a way for all to be served now and in the future.

It was reported that the merger of Anaheim Vietnamese UMC with West Anaheim UMC to live and serve together as West Anaheim UMC.

Rev. Bridgeforth moved the merger of Anaheim Vietnamese UMC with West Anaheim UMC to be named West Anaheim UMC. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported at 2:55 p.m.

Rev. Bridgeforth continued the report. The following business was not business that we readily celebrate, but it was all necessary work that came to the Conference for action after assessment, review, and approval by the Bishop, all Superintendents, and the District Planning and Strategy Committees of the respective Districts.

Rev. Bridgeforth reminded the Conference that none of these had come to this point here under the cloak of darkness, but they came in hopes that we would remember that after death came resurrection, in the story we told and loved to tell over and over again.

**Resolution 14-7: Discontinuance for Paramount United Methodist Church located on Page AD 54.**

WHEREAS a ministry began in the community of Paramount for the purpose of sharing the gospel and engaging the nearby communities with worship and Christian Education opportunities; and

WHEREAS the history of Paramount United Methodist Church includes the history of Hynes Methodist Church (1901) and Paramount Methodist Church (1947), it has seen many individuals and families commit themselves to follow Christ and to acts of justice, mercy, and compassion in the world; and

WHEREAS the Paramount United Methodist Church has been a faithful witness among us in the conference, and
WHEREAS the Paramount United Methodist Church planted a Spanish speaking ministry, and

WHEREAS the Annual Conference recognized the Paramount Hispanic Ministry as a new start for eight years, and

WHEREAS the Paramount Hispanic Ministry new start is no longer a vital ministry in its current context and configuration; and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent, the District Planning and Strategy Committee, and the Church Building and Location Committee recommend discontinuance of Paramount United Methodist Church pursuant to 2012 Book of Discipline ¶2549; and

WHEREAS the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop, and all of the District Superintendents; and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent will obtain the opinion of legal counsel as to the existence of any reversion, possibilities of reverter, right of reacquisition or similar restrictions pursuant to 2012 Book of Discipline ¶ 2549.1; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Paramount United Methodist Church be discontinued on June 30, 2014, with the members transferred to local churches of their choice, and all financial, personal and real property assets transferred to the West District Union of the California-Pacific Annual Conference for future Latino/Hispanic ministry in the West District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that if the property be sold, and after all indebtedness has been settled, the net proceeds are to be distributed according to Resolution 40 (15% New Ministries Endowment Fund; 10% New Ministries Fund; 25% District Union; 50% determined in consultation with the congregation, District Planning and Strategy, and the Appointive Cabinet).

Rev. Bridgeforth moved the Discontinuance of Paramount UMC, effective July 1, 2014. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. \textit{Resolution 14-7 was supported at 2:57 p.m.}

\textit{Resolution 14-8: Discontinuance for Pico Rivera United Methodist Church located on Page AD 55.}

Rev. Bridgeforth presented Resolution 14-8 Discontinuance of Pico Rivera UMC, which was a new church start out of the Whittier church and others in the area. The final worship service was held June 30, 2013.

WHEREAS a ministry began in the community of Pico Rivera for the purpose of sharing the gospel and engaging the nearby communities with worship and Christian Education opportunities; and

WHEREAS the history of Pico Rivera United Methodist Church includes the history of Pico Methodist Church (1960) and Pico-Rivera Methodist Church (1963), it has seen many individuals and families commit themselves to follow Christ and to acts of justice, mercy, and compassion in the world; and

WHEREAS the Pico Rivera United Methodist Church has been a faithful witness among us in the conference, and

WHEREAS the congregation stopped worshipping June 30, 2013, and

WHEREAS the site continues to provide space for a head start program, after school program, and exercise classes, and

WHEREAS this is a community that the West District Planning and Strategy Committee desires to remain in the Pico Rivera community, and
WHEREAS the District Superintendent, the District Planning and Strategy Committee, and the Church Building and Location Committee recommend discontinuance of Pico Rivera United Methodist Church pursuant to The 2012 Book of Discipline ¶2549; and

WHEREAS the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop, and all of the District Superintendents; and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent will obtain the opinion of legal counsel as to the existence of any reversion, possibilities of reverter, right of reacquisition or similar restrictions pursuant to 2012 Book of Discipline ¶ 2549.1; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Pico Rivera United Methodist Church be discontinued on June 30, 2014, with the members transferred to local churches of their choice, and all financial, personal and real property assets transferred to the West District Union of the California-Pacific Annual Conference for future ministry development.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the income generated from the Pico Rivera site be retained by the West District Union for further development of multi-cultural ministries in the West District, in compliance of 2012 Book of Discipline ¶2549.7, which affirms that proceeds from the sale of the properties located in urban areas be reinvested in urban areas.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the property be sold, and after all indebtedness has been settled, the net proceeds are to be distributed as follows: 10% California-Pacific Conference New Ministries Endowment, in accordance with Resolution 40 (15% New Ministries Endowment Fund; 10% New Ministries Fund; 25% District Union; 50% determined in consultation with the congregation, District Planning and Strategy, and the Appointive Cabinet).

Rev. Bridgeforth moved Resolution 14-8 at 2:59 p.m.

Bishop Carcaño recognized microphone 4. A Layman from La Plaza UMC spoke against the motion of Resolution 14-8. Rev. Lupita Alonso-Redondo was recognized and said that if the church was to be closed that 50% of the assets should go to Hispanic Ministries. She moved the Cabinet table the motion in order to explore ministry with Hispanic people in that area of Pico Rivera. Bishop Carcaño spoke to process and stated the official closure did not mean that there would not be a consideration of ministry with Hispanic people in that area. The motion was seconded. There was some discussion, arguments for and against. Rev. Bridgeforth finished the discussion by clarifying what ministry was going on at that location.

Bishop Carcaño called for vote on the motion. The motion was not supported at 3:03 p.m.

Rev. Alonso-Redondo was acknowledged and asked a question if the motion could be appealed. Rev. Alonso-Redondo wanted to know if the property was sold, what would be done with the money? She offered a place to put the funds per Hispanic Ministries. Bishop Carcaño asked Rev. Kathey Wilborn, West District Superintendent, to speak on this motion. Rev. Wilborn explained there was no intent to sell the property.

At 3:10 p.m., Bishop Carcaño called for the vote on the Resolution. Resolution 14-8 was supported at 3:11 p.m.

Bishop Carcaño recognized Rev. Tom Griffin who requested Resolution 40 to be posted. The Conference Secretaries said Resolution 40 was posted on their website.

Resolution 14-9: Discontinuance for South Pasadena United Methodist Church located on Page AD 56.

Rev. Bridgeforth moved the adoption of Resolution 14-9, Discontinuance of South Pasadena UMC.
WHEREAS, a ministry began in the South Pasadena community for the purpose of sharing the gospel and engaging the nearby communities with worship and Christian Education opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in the history of South Pasadena United Methodist Church, it has seen many individuals and families commit themselves to follow Christ and to acts of justice, mercy and compassion in the world; and

WHEREAS, although there is a Celebrate Recovery ministry, a longtime pet ministry and weekly worship taking place in English and in Chinese, neither ministry demonstrates the capacity to be a congregation that will fully engage and embrace the South Pasadena community on its own or collaboratively; and

WHEREAS, Chinese Ministry has shown great promise as a language ministry that was organized by Reverend Timothy Ting, and in his retirement he has returned to pastor the ministry and the promise is closely associated with his leadership and the determination of the members who have struggled to keep this ministry in operation with very little pastoral leadership; and

WHEREAS, the congregation’s rhetoric about programs to care for the less fortunate and provide space for community service organizations and groups who share South Pasadena’s values which make this a special place to serve and to worship are important and heartfelt, the understanding reached by the previous and current District Superintendent was clear that the congregation’s reliance on one key family’s business income and leadership makes this an untenable situation upon which to revitalize a ministry; and

WHEREAS, a deliberate and prayerful Assessment has been conducted by a Task Force organized by the District Superintendent, in consultation with the District Planning and Strategy Committee, and has determined the ministry of South Pasadena is no longer a vital ministry in its current context and configuration; and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent, and the District Planning and Strategy Committee, recommends discontinuance of South Pasadena UMC pursuant to The 2012 Book of Discipline ¶2549; and

WHEREAS the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop, and all of the District Superintendents; and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent will obtain the opinion of legal counsel as to the existence of any reversion, possibilities of reverter, right of reacquisition or similar restrictions pursuant to The 2012 Book of Discipline ¶ 2549.1; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that South Pasadena United Methodist Church be discontinued on June 30, 2014, with the final worship service date to be determined by the District Superintendent, in collaboration with the congregation, and the members transferred to local churches of their choice, and all financial, personal and real property assets transferred to the North District Union of the California Pacific Annual Conference for future ministry development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the property be sold, and after all indebtedness has been settled, the net proceeds are to be distributed according to Resolution 40 (15% New Ministries Endowment Fund; 10% New Ministries Fund; 25% District Union; 50% determined in consultation with the congregation, District Planning and Strategy, and the Appointive Cabinet).

There were seven speeches against the motion. There were three speeches for the motion. At 3:33 p.m., Bishop Carcaño recognized the motion for a Call for the Question, which was supported.

Bishop Carcaño called for the vote on the Resolution. Resolution 14-9 was supported at 3:35 p.m.
Resolution 14-10: Discontinuance for Trinity United Methodist Church in Whittier, located on Page AD 57.

At 3:37 p.m., Rev. Bridgeforth moved the adoption of Resolution 14-10, Discontinuance of Trinity UMC.

WHEREAS the Trinity United Methodist Church (UMC) traces its roots back to 1893 when the Santa Fe Springs congregation was organized for the purposes of sharing the gospel and engaging the nearby communities with worship and Christian Education opportunities; and

WHEREAS in the history of Trinity UMC, it has seen many individuals and families commit themselves to follow Christ and to acts of justice, mercy and compassion in the world; and

WHEREAS a deliberate and prayerful Assessment has been conducted by a Task Force organized by the District Superintendent, in consultation with the District Planning and Strategy Committee, and has determined the ministry of Trinity UMC is no longer a vital ministry in its current context and configuration; and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent, and the District Planning and Strategy Committee, recommends discontinuance of Trinity UMC pursuant to The 2012 Book of Discipline ¶2549; and

WHEREAS the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop, and all of the District Superintendents; and

WHEREAS the District Superintendent will obtain the opinion of legal counsel as to the existence of any reversion, possibilities of reverter, right of reacquisition or similar restrictions pursuant to The 2012 Book of Discipline ¶ 2549.1; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Trinity United Methodist Church be discontinued on June 30, 2014, with the members transferred to local churches of their choice, and all financial, personal and real property assets transferred to the East District Union of the California-Pacific Annual Conference for future Latino/Hispanic ministry in the East District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the property be sold, and after all indebtedness has been settled, the net proceeds are to be distributed according to Resolution 40 (15% New Ministries Endowment Fund; 10% New Ministries Fund; 25% District Union; 50% determined in consultation with the congregation, District Planning and Strategy, and the Appointive Cabinet).

There was a motion to table the resolution for one year. The motion was seconded. Two speeches were made in favor of the motion. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was not supported at 3:45 p.m.

Bishop Carcaño called for the vote on the Resolution. Resolution 14-10 was supported at 3:46 p.m.

Rev. John Farley led the Conference in prayer.

Rev. Bridgeforth concluded the report by reporting that when Sepulveda UMC was discontinued, ministries there continued. This included North Valley Caring Services which had been able to expand its ministries to children and families, ESL classes, tutoring, after school care, Head Start Program onsite, Community/Police Protective Org running a Basketball Program, feeding for the food insecure and homeless, and several Valley congregations support efforts on the site. A congregation called North Hills UMC to begin soon.
Rev. Farley reported after the discontinuance of Christ UMC, new ministries sprung up, including a Haitian Methodist Church, Spanish-speaking congregation, and other ministries came together as one congregation called the Exodus UMC.

**General Conference Delegates Report # 1 Clergy (3:55 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño reported on the corrected first Clergy Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. Bishop Carcaño reported on the first ballot of clergy elections, there were no elections.

**General Conference Ballot # 2 Clergy (3:57 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño asked the clergy to stand, receive a ballot, and then sit back down. Rev. Dang was invited to pray at 3:59 p.m. and the ballot was taken. The ballot closed at 4:03 p.m.

**Essential Ministry Teams Composite Report (4:05 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño recognized Rev. David McGlocklin, Chair of the Navigation Essential Ministry Team “NEMT.” He reported the focus of the last year was on discerning a vision for our Conference. In the coming year, the NEMT would focus on developing a comprehensive strategic plan. Rev. McGlocklin invited the Conference to repeat the Vision Statement together.

Rev. Erika Gara and Pastor Lyda Eddington reported that Messy Church was changing children’s ministry around our Annual Conference.

Samantha Kreeger, Lay Youth from La Habra UMC reported that Connect, a Youth and Young Adult worship experience at La Habra UMC, had grown the spiritual lives of young people in their church.

Rev. Deborah Oh reported the Immigration Task Force continued to network with churches providing important services to immigrants. They also continued to train communities to be Immigrant Welcoming Communities.

Bilingual/Bicultural Boot Camp (Pablo lee el escrito y Vilma sostiene la foto) empowered and trained people in Spanish/English Bilingual ministries.

Martha Morales reported the Board of Ordained Ministry held its first Candidacy Summit on August 1, 2013. The Candidacy Summit was for Exploring, Declared, and Certified Candidates who may be called to licensed or ordained ministry.

Jennifer Berry, Director of Camp Wrightwood, reported that Winter Camp inspired young people who were attending Summer Camp this year.

Rev. Kirsten Oh reported on the Institute for Missional Wisdom partnered with Missional Wisdom Foundation that embraced the motif of spiritual pilgrimage to train Christian leaders for the future towards transformation through engaging the community with authentic friendships.

Rev. Angela Galanis-Price reported as one of the recipients of a Cal-Pac Hunger Grant. This year, the Cal-Pac Hunger Task Force distributed grants to 30 churches throughout the Conference.

It was reported that CHREM (Hispanic Resource Center for Ministerial Excellence) provided quality resources for the development of effective and efficient ministries through education, motivation, training, and the empowerment of Methodist Lay People with a genuine passion for Christ, capable of impacting, and transforming our world.

Lia Lohr, and Tommy Elrod, Young Adults from Pasadena First UMC reported this spring, 15 young people gathered at Chula Vista First UMC to explore border ministry. The team split and celebrated communion on both sides of the US/Mexico border, they explored issues of poverty and injustice surrounding our immigration system, participated in a demonstration for immigrant rights, visited Chicano Park, and Friendship Park.
Rev. Jim White reported on Aiea UMC “LIFE COMMUNITIES” which seeks to connect with un-churched, de-churched, and “totally-not-interested-in-church” people, LIFE COMMUNITIES uses friendly family gatherings, similar passion/talents, traditional bible studies and worship, food, and a variety of other ways to bring people together.

Rev. Yoo Shim Michelle Park reported The Orders of Ministry presented its biennial Clergy Convocation. The event’s theme was “Risky Business,” focusing on the challenges the church and its clergy face as they navigate positions on immigration reform, same-gender marriage, homelessness, and poverty.

It was reported this year’s Summer Camp theme was “Get Jesus.” Over 1,000 campers would learn that being a disciple of Jesus leads to new life and a changed world. 300 volunteers from Local Churches would be leading a powerful time this summer with Elementary, Junior High, and High School campers.

Rosie Rios reported on the Philippines Advocacy and Young Peoples Convocation. Next month, hundreds of Young People gathered for the Global Young Peoples Convocation and Legislative Assembly in Tagaytay, Philippines. It was through partnership with The Philippines Task Force, JCEMT, and Young Peoples Ministry that we were sending 15 young people from the Western Jurisdiction for three days of mission and justice work prior to representing us at this very important Global Gathering.

Rev. Sam Kim reported the New Ministries Team worked with churches that seek to grow in their vitality. Starting this fall, one new way this would be done is by working with 10 churches in the South District in a new program called Readiness 360 Plus. Over a 15-month period, these churches would set and reach goals around 4 vitality drivers. These drivers were: Spiritual Intensity, Missional Alignment, Dynamic Relationship, and Cultural Openness.

It was reported that the 4th Annual Spanglish happened just a few weeks ago with 120 young people at Camp Wrightwood. The focus was Rebuilding: Manos a la obra! Using the story of Nehemiah to explore God’s call for us all to build His Kingdom. Spanglish was a weekend designed by, for, and with Hispanic youth and young adults in partnership with Young Peoples Ministry and Hispanic/Latino Ministry.

Sue Harris from University UMC in Irvine, reported as a member of the Cal-Pac Disaster Response Task Force. The United Methodist Men at Shepherd of the Valley UMC in Indio built the cabinetry for the tools and supplied $25,000 worth of tools and equipment for the Disaster Recovery Trailer that was pictured, and then gave it to the Conference for the use of Conference Disaster Recovery Teams.

Rev. Beth Cooper reported the Wesley Foundation at San Diego State University had broken ground on the construction of a building to house students and provide high quality and much needed space for ministry.

Ana-Haydé Urda reported on the Hispanic Plan. She explained the Plan contemplated two major areas: 1) Planting new Hispanic/Latino Churches; 2) Revitalizing established Hispanic/Latino congregations.

Rev. Steve Hundley concluded the report of the Essential Ministries Team. He emphasized we did this work together. He reminded us the Conference was able to do far more together than we could do alone. Rev. Hundley thanked the Navigation Essential Ministries Team and the Conference Staff. We are Cal-Pac, leading together!

Rev. Hundley was granted a point of personal privilege and he thanked the Conference for their prayers and support during the past year during his cancer treatment.

**General Conference Delegates Report # 2 Laity (4:41 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño reported on the second Laity Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 476 Total Valid Ballots with 10 Invalid Ballots. The person with the highest number of votes to be elected. Also, those with 239 votes could also be elected by simple majority. Bishop Carcaño reported one Lay Member (Rosie Rios) was elected on this second Laity Ballot with the highest number of votes (216).
General Conference Ballot # 3 Laity (4:43 p.m.) Rev. Dan Lewis explained the Laity would vote for 2 persons. Bishop Carcaño invited Rev. Choi to lead the Conference in prayer and called for the vote of the Laity. At 4:49 p.m., Bishop Carcaño declared the ballot closed.

Budget 2015 Question and Answer (4:50 p.m.) Bishop Carcaño invited Dan Griffin, Chair of CFR and Archana Carey, Conference Treasurer to answer any questions.

Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before Us (5:26 p.m.) A video called, “Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before Us” by the California Hawaii Association of Retired Ministers & Spouses was shown.

Closing Prayer (5:30 p.m.) Bishop Carcaño invited Tyler Watkins to pray. Bishop Minerva Carcaño declared the Conference to be in recess at 5:32 p.m.

Memorial Service
Thursday, June 19, 2014
7:30 p.m.


The word “water” was spoken in Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Spanish, Tagalog, Tongan, and English. There was a responsive reading surrounding the theme of water.

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño prayed an opening prayer in English and Spanish.


Bishop Carcaño introduced the Honoring-Remembering-Blessings. As the names were read, water was poured into a large basin. Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan read the names of the Bishops who were “Absent from the Body, Present with the Lord”: Bishop Wayne K. Clymer, Bishop Lloyd Knox, Bishop Robert Morgan, Bishop Jack Tuell, Bishop Fred Wertz, and Bishop Roy C. Clark. Echoes of Praise performed.

Mrs. Margaret Crawford Jordan read the names of the spouses of the Bishops who were “Absent from the Body, Present with the Lord”: Mrs. Frances Fitzgerald, Mrs. Lois Yeakel, and Mrs. Eva Vines Eustler. Echoes of Praise performed.


Mrs. Jan Hanson read the names of Clergy Spouses who were “Absent from the Body, Present with the Lord”: Mrs. Charlotte Clinebell, Mrs. Katherine Gabbert, Mr. Daniel Hulett, Sr., Mrs. Dephane Jensen, Mrs. Irene Lathrop, Mrs. Fai’ana Lolohea, Mrs. Virginia Ma, Mr. David MacKinnon, Mrs. Ruth Ann Matthews, Mrs.
Gertrude Moore, Mrs. Virginia O’Kane, Mrs. Marion Spitler, Mrs. Jean Woolsey, Mrs. Caroline Word, and Mrs. Norma Zerbe.

Bishop Carcaño asked the congregation to lift up the names of church members and family members who were “Absent from the Body, Present with the Lord.” Rev. Paul Hill called for the Offering. The Offertory “We are an Offering” was performed by the Music Team. The Congregation sang the Doxology and Bishop Carcaño prayed.

The service moved into a time of Holy Communion with Bishop Carcaño as Celebrant. The Invitation to the table was offered Bishop Carcaño. She led the congregation in a Confession and Assurance of Pardon. Bishop Carcaño led The Great Thanksgiving, ending with the recitation of The Lord's Prayer. The congregation was invited to take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. Communion hymns were sung as the congregation partook of Holy Communion. Bishop Carcaño led the congregation in the prayer after Holy Communion. The Music Team led the congregation in the Closing Hymn “For All The Saints.” Bishop Carcaño offered the Benediction and the participants recessed.
Chung (Associate General Secretary for Missionary Services: General Board of Global Ministries), Rev. Steve Horswill-Johnston (Executive Director of Communications: General Board of Discipleship), Rev. Craig Miller (General Board of Discipleship), Rev. Myron Wingfield (Associate General Secretary: General Board of Higher Education and Ministry), and Rev. Erin Hawkins (General Secretary: General Commission on Religion and Race-not in attendance). Bishop Carcaño offered a prayer for the leaders of the General Boards in the United Methodist Church.

Rev. Francisco Cañas presented Bishop Carcaño with the gift of two paintings as one of the most prophetic speakers/preachers of the 21st century. The paintings were said to be from a “Jewish/Hispanic Painter.” Bishop Carcaño expressed her thanks for the gift and support.

Imagine No Malaria Moment (9:20 a.m.): Several youth from Los Altos UMC shared their church’s work to help in malaria prevention with personal witness and a PowerPoint presentation. They reported to have raised over $5,000 to save lives. Bishop Carcaño remarked the Conference was being led by the Young People in the fight against malaria.

General Conference Delegates Report # 2 Clergy (9:30 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño reported on the second Clergy Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 301 Total Valid Ballots with 5 Invalid Ballots. 151 votes were needed to elect by simple majority. Bishop Carcaño reported two Clergy Members (Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth-165 and Rev. Tom Choi-158) were elected on this second Clergy Ballot with the highest number of votes and also by simple majority.

General Conference Ballot # 3 Clergy (9:34 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño invited the Tellers to come forward and instructed the Clergy to vote for 2 more persons to be Delegates to General Conference. Rev. Janet McKeithen came forward to ask to be withdrawn from consideration for General Conference. Bishop Carcaño thanked her and her name was removed. Rev. Kathey Wilborn offered a prayer. Bishop Carcaño closed the voting at 9:39 a.m.

General Conference Delegates Report # 3 Laity (9:40 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño reported on the third Laity Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 459 Total Valid Ballots with 4 Invalid Ballots. The person with the highest number of votes to be elected. Also, those with 230 votes could also be elected by simple majority. Bishop Carcaño reported one Lay Member (Ken Ellis) was elected on this third Laity Ballot with the highest number of votes (188).

General Conference Ballot # 4 Laity (9:41 a.m.): Bishop Carcaño invited the Tellers to come forward and instructed the Laity to vote for 1 more person to be a Delegate to General Conference. Rev. Kathey Wilborn offered a prayer. The ballots were distributed. At 9:47 a.m., Bishop Carcaño closed the ballot.

Action on 2015 Budget (9:50 a.m.): Dan Griffin, Chair of the Council on Financial Resources presented the 2015 Annual Conference Budget. Bishop Carcaño called for questions. There were none, so Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The Budget for 2015 was supported at 9:50 a.m.

Legislative Actions: Consent Calendar (9:51 a.m.): Rev. Bob Rhodes with Samantha Kreeger (La Habra UMC) came forward to report on Legislative Actions from the Consent Calendar. Rev. Rhodes moved for support of the Consent Calendar.

Rev. Richard Bentley moved for the “removal of Rules Item 14-5 from the Consent Calendar.” The motion was seconded. Per our Conference Rule V.F.4, “When the Consent Calendar is presented for action, individual items on the Consent Calendar for concurrence, or for non-concurrence, may be removed from the Calendar...when that request is supported by at least 50 votes.” Bishop Carcaño called for a vote and asked the Tellers to help count. Bishop Carcaño declared there were over 50 votes. Bishop Carcaño ruled Rules 14-5 to be removed from the Consent Calendar.
Rev. Jim Butler moved to “Remove Resolution 14-3 Biblical Obedience from Consent Calendar.” Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. Hands were raised. The votes were counted from stage by the Parliamentarian and Secretary. There were more than 50 votes, so Resolution 14-3 was removed from the Consent Calendar.

Bishop Carcaño moved for a vote on the balance of the Consent Calendar. The motion was supported at 9:59 a.m.

**Board of Pensions (10:00 a.m.):** Rev. Ken McMillan and Jan Hanson from the Conference Board of Pensions shared that a vote would take place on renaming the Board of Pensions to The Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

The group had worked on balancing pensions and governing health benefits. A slide was presented on how they had been caring for the funding of benefits. The Conference and Board continued to work together to help Annual Conferences outside of the United States. The Central Conference Church Initiative was created to help Annual Conferences outside of the United States to care for pensions of pastors. Every Annual Conference now had an established pension program.

Healthcare focus groups were being put into place to deal with the issues of the cost of health care and working towards continued care. The Conference would continue to provide several choices (United Healthcare or Kaiser Permanente) or a program that provided equal or greater coverage.

The Conference would begin January 1, 2016 to provide subsidy-based reimbursements for retired Clergy. United Healthcare and Kaiser would continue to be provided to retirees as medical supplements. Retiring health care cost continued to be a major issue of the Conference. The Clergy were living longer and health care cost continued to grow. A video was shown regarding the plan to eliminate health care for retirees in the coming year, January 2015.

**Nominating Committee Report # 1 (10:37 a.m.):** Frank Farrell, Chair of the Nominating Committee came forward to offer the Nominating Committee Report. He said the goal was to find the right people and put them in the right places at the right time. The entire report was found at [www.calpacumc.org/secretary](http://www.calpacumc.org/secretary). Because members come and go, this document could be updated throughout the year and would always be up to date. He said there would be 2 Laity and 1 Clergy for the Navigation Essential Ministry Team (NEMT) who would be elected on Saturday, June 21, 2014.

Bishop Carcaño opened up the floor of the Conference for any EMT questions. Questions where asked and then answered. It was reported that four names were removed from the Justice and Compassion Essential Ministry Team: Kandy Nunn, Muriel Gharty, Sally McNay, and Rev. John Fanestill. J. Luis Buktw, Mariana Vega, Lisa Polombi, and Alex Montamees were added. It was pointed out by a member from the floor that in the Leadership EMT Class of 2016, Rev. Debra Murray was not eligible per *The Book of Discipline* ¶346.1. The person moved to nominate Rev. Charlene Zuill to the Leadership EMT Class of 2016. Bishop Carcaño asked the Nominations Committee if they would accept that change. They agreed. A member from the floor also asked if the nominations to the New Ministries EMT were received. Frank Farrell said they would review their e-mails. They agreed to hold a conversation before the vote. He said they would post an updated Nominating Committee report reflecting these changes on the website.

District Nominees for Nav-EMT presented the following slate of people for a vote later in the Conference. Laity were to elect one of the following: John Burdett (N), Patricia King (W), Krista McVey (E), Sepiuta Pele (N), Dione Taylor (S), and Jackie Vazquez (W). The Clergy were to elect two of the following: Rev. Yvonne Boyd (N), Rev. Johan Dodge (W), Rev. J.T. Greenleaf (E), Rev. Paul Y. Kim (W), and Rev. Rick Uhls (N).

**General Conference Delegates Report # 3 Clergy (10:53 a.m.):** Rev. Dan Lewis reported on the third Clergy Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 249 Total Valid Ballots with 6 Invalid Ballots. The person with the highest number of votes to be elected and also those with 125 votes could be elected. Bishop Carcaño reported one Clergy Member (Rev. Patricia Farris) was elected on this third Clergy Ballot with the highest number of votes with 100.
**General Conference Ballot # 4 Clergy (10:56 a.m.):** Bishop Carcaño invited the Tellers to come forward and instructed the Clergy to vote for 1 more person to be a Delegate to General Conference. Rev. John Farley offered a prayer. Bishop Carcaño asked the Tellers to distribute the ballots and then instructed the Clergy to vote. Bishop Carcaño closed the vote at 11:03 a.m.

Bishop Carcaño asked the Worship Team to lead the Session in singing as the Laity vote was not ready to be reported. The Worship Team led in singing “Come Walk With Us, The Journey Is Long” and “To God Be The Glory” and “Joy of The Lord” and “Jesus, We are Here.”

**General Conference Delegates Report # 4 Laity (11:16 a.m.):** Rev. Dan Lewis reported on the fourth Laity Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 471 Total Valid Ballots with 9 Invalid Ballots. The person with the highest number of votes to be elected and also those with 236 votes could be elected. Bishop Carcaño reported one Lay Member (Mele Maka) was elected on this fourth Laity Ballot with the highest number of votes with 164. This completed the election of all four Lay Delegates for General Conference.

**Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Ballot # 5 Laity (11:18 a.m.):** Bishop Carcaño announced the voting for the Lay Delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference Delegates was going to start. Leanne Nakanishi explained the process for electing our Jurisdictional delegates would follow the same exact process as the election of the General Conference Delegates with the exception of voting for 7 Jurisdictional Delegates. Our Conference had a total of 11 Lay Delegates and 11 Clergy Delegates to Jurisdictional Conference. Our 4 General Conference Delegates were automatically our first 4 Jurisdictional Conference Delegates; therefore, 7 Delegates were left to be elected. You must vote for 7 people. No more than 7 and no less than 7 or the ballot would be invalidated. On the first Jurisdictional Ballot, only those with a majority vote would be elected. On succeeding ballots, the person with the highest number of votes were elected, as well as all persons receiving a majority of the votes.

Bishop Carcaño asked Rev. John Farley to offer a prayer. Bishop Carcaño asked the Tellers to distribute the ballots and then instructed the Laity to vote. Bishop Carcaño closed the vote at 11:27 a.m.

**Honoring Our Retiring Clergy (11:28 a.m.):** Bishop Carcaño introduced videos honoring retiring Clergy: Rev. Mark Huntington, Rev. Carol Millspaugh, and Rev. Sharon Rhodes-Wickett.

**Closing Prayer (11:41 a.m.):** Bishop Carcaño invited the youth who were going to the Global Young’s People’s Convocation to come forward. The Cal-Pac Team members were: Erin Foellmi (adult coordinator), Samantha Kreeger (youth representative), Rosie Rios (young adult representative), and Johan Osias (representing observers from Guam). The observers who were not present were: Monique Andries, Mica Ebbat, Aleah Carino, Meryl Osias, Julliane Osias, Aaron Agsalud, Mary Kate Donnell, Danielle Hernandez, Natasha Calderon, and Maria Hernandez. On July 11, 2014, the youth would be traveling to the Philippines to do mission and justice work around the Manila center. 10 people from Guam would be attending as well. As the Music Team played “Sanctuary,” Bishop Carcaño anointed the youth travelers and offered prayer on their behalf and all young people of the UMC. At 11:49 a.m., Bishop Carcaño adjourned Plenary Session # 5.

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**Friday, June 20, 2014**

**Plenary Session # 6**

2:00 p.m.

**Gathering Music (2:04 p.m.):** The Music Team opened with singing “Standing on the Promises.”

**Call To Order (2:09 p.m.):** Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño called Plenary Session # 6 to order at 2:09 p.m. Bishop Carcaño introduced Spencer Topham, Young Adult from Mission Hills UMC, South District, and Ric Wilson, the Layman of the Year from Northridge UMC, who joined her at the Presider’s table.
Orders of the Day (2:10 p.m.): Rev. Melinda Dodge presented and moved the Orders of the Day. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported at 2:11 p.m.

Courtesies (2:12 p.m.): Rev. Lee Carlile introduced representatives from the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM): Rachel deBos (Mission Interpreter, Young Adult Mission Services) and Laura Wise (Mission Intern). They explained a priority of GBGM was involving Young Adults 18 to 30 years old in missions. The program was empowering and transforming. Young Adult Missionaries were present on campus and were open to share about their journeys. They invited the Conference members to visit their tent on the quad.

General Conference Delegates Report # 4 Clergy (2:14 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño reported on the fourth Clergy Ballot for the election of General/Jurisdictional Delegates Report. There were 241 Total Valid Ballots with 6 Invalid Ballots. The person with the highest number of votes to be elected and also those with 121 votes could be elected. Bishop Carcaño reported one Clergy Member (Rev. Sandy Olewine) was elected on this fourth Clergy Ballot with the highest number of votes with 86, which completed the Clergy Delegates for General Conference. Bishop Carcaño explained the process for voting for the Jurisdictional Delegates would begin.

Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Ballot # 5 Clergy (2:16 p.m.): The Rules were re-explained by Rev. Dan Lewis, for the voting for Jurisdictional Conference. We had a total of 11 Clergy and 11 Lay Delegates to the Western Jurisdictional Conference. Of that 11, our 4 General Conference delegates were automatically the first 4 Jurisdictional Delegates; therefore, we had a total of 7 Delegates plus 2 Reserve Delegates to elect. You must vote for 7 people. If you voted for more than or less than 7 people, your ballot would be invalidated. Write-in names were permitted on any ballot, so long as you voted for a total of 7 people.

At 2:19 p.m., Bishop Carcaño asked the Tellers to distribute the Clergy ballots. Ric Wilson, Layman of the Year led congregation in prayer and Bishop Carcaño authorized the distribution of the Clergy ballots.

At 2:26 p.m., a question from the floor of the Conference was raised regarding Rev. Tonya Harris being listed on the ballot twice. The Conference members voted to combine her numbers and use that number as her total number. At 2:27 p.m., Bishop Carcaño closed the voting and requested the ballots be collected.

Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Report # 5 Laity (2:28 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño presented the results of the Laity Ballot # 5. There were 457 valid ballots, 13 invalid, and 229 needed for majority. Three persons were elected. JoAnn Yoon Fukumoto (290), Mele Faiva Blagojevich (280), and Mark Stephenson (261).

Motion: At 2:30 p.m., Jay Sowell made a motion from the floor. The motion stated to “Move suspension of the Rules to allow all remaining Delegates to be elected on the next ballot by plurality and that the four candidates with the most votes be considered elected.” Bishop Carcaño asked for a second, asked for discussion, and called for a vote. The motion was supported at 2:33 p.m.

Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Ballot # 6 Laity (2:34 p.m.): Bishop Carcaño requested the ballots for the Laity Ballot # 6 be distributed. At 2:38 p.m., Bishop Carcaño closed the vote and the ballots were collected. At 2:40 p.m. from the Plenary Session floor, Rosie Rios moved to invalidate the vote, due to misspelling of one of the nominees. Bishop Carcaño asked for a vote. The motion was not supported.

Board of Trustees (2:41 p.m.): The report was presented by Chair, Rev. Karen Tannheimer. She explained the work and purpose of the Board of Trustees. She said Philadelphia and HUB International would continue to be the Conference’s insurance providers. Cyber insurance would be added to our policy at no additional cost. Conference members were reminded to pay Local Church premiums on time. Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth reported that District Superintendents were working with Local Churches to collect unpaid insurance premiums and stressed the importance of paying Workman’s Compensation premiums, as well. Rev. Tannheimer expressed her appreciation that the Conference insurers provided Loss Control workshops. She explained that claims decreased and premiums stayed lower when churches participated in these workshops. She thanked our insurance providers for covering part of the costs, which resulted from the disaster trailer accident and lifted up those who were involved in the accident.
HUB International had a newsletter called “The Guardian” that shared information helpful to insurance needs for the church such as what sort of coverage was needed for mission trips. The Conference representatives at HUB were introduced.

Rev. Tanneheimer explained that Camp Sturtevant and Camp Cisquito would be put up for sale. The Conference members were directed to the Board of Trustees’ website for additional information.

**Equitable Compensation (2:48 p.m.):** The report was given by Co-Chairs, Rev. Cindy Huskey and Jay Sowell. They reported the purpose of Equitable Compensation was to ensure that all pastors were paid no less than the minimum compensation for their years of service and Conference relationship. EC recommended the minimum compensation standards to the Annual Conference. They administered financial grants to churches for short-term emergency situations and for churches that were unable to be self-sufficient in providing support for the pastor. The total amount of grants for 2014 was $337,692.

There were several elements taken into account in setting minimum salaries. The “MCS” stood for “Median Cash Salary.” Elders with 20 years of service received 100% of the MCS and the amount increased 1% for each year over 20 and decreased 1% for each year less than 20. Using this system, minimum salaries would go up 7% for 2015. Resolution 14-5 was developed to help mitigate this effect on local congregations.

**Legislative Actions (2:53 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño invited Rev. Bob Rhodes to come forward to lead the Session through Legislative Actions Not on the Consent Calendar. Rev. Rhodes started by explaining the Rules.

**Rules 14-4: Health Insurance Premiums for part-time Clergy (2:54 p.m.):** Rules 14-4 was located on PR 68. Rev. Rhodes moved to support Rules 14-4. Jan Hanson, Human Resources and Board of Pensions staff, clarified that this change was designed to remove some financial responsibility from the Local Church and help churches with issues concerning the Affordable Care Act. Bishop Carcaño asked for discussion, there was none, so Bishop Carcaño asked for a vote. **Rules 14-4 (Health Insurance Premiums for part-time clergy was supported at 2:55 p.m.).**

**Rules 14-5: Create “Staff Relations Committee (2:56 p.m.):** Rev. Rhodes moved to support Rules 14-5 located on AD 58. Rev. Rhodes reminded the Conference members Rules 14-5 received concurrence at 99% in the Legislative Section, but was removed from Consent Calendar by action from the floor. Bishop Carcaño asked for questions from the floor. Rev. Richard Bentley explained that his previous concerns were satisfied and he recommended support of Rules 14-5. There was no further discussion. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. **Rules 14-5 (Create “Staff Relations Committee”) was supported at 2:59 p.m.**

**Rules 14-11: Relocate Ministry with Hispanic Peoples to Navigation Essential Ministry Team (3:00 p.m.):** Rev. Rhodes moved to support Rules 14-11 located on AD 67. Rev. Rhodes explained the original motion, which was approved at 96% in the Legislative Section had a typo (“designed” should have been “designated”). For clarity, he asked us to vote on the corrected motion. **Rules 14-11 (Relocate Ministry with Hispanic Peoples to Navigation Essential Ministry Team was supported at 3:03 p.m.**

**Rules 14-12: Name Change to Board of Pension & Health Benefits (3:03 p.m.):** Rev. Rhodes moved to support Rules 14-12. Rev. Rhodes explained the original legislation, which was approved in the Legislative Section had a typo (“pensions” should have been “pension”). For transparency, he asked us to vote on the corrected motion. Bishop Carcaño asked for discussion, there was none, so Bishop Carcaño asked for a vote. **Rules 14-12 (Name Change to Board of Pension & Health Benefits) was supported at 3:04 p.m.**

**Resolution 14-3: Biblical Obedience (3:05 p.m.):** Rev. Rhodes began action regarding Legislative Items not on the Consent Calendar with Resolution 14-3. Discussion ensued. After 10 minutes, a question was asked if changing the title of the Resolution would help make it more acceptable. Bishop Carcaño indicated those who proposed the Resolution could take that suggestion into consideration.
At 3:17 p.m., Bishop Carcaño sensed there was a desire to discuss this beyond the usual 4 speeches in favor and 4 in opposition remarks. Bishop asked if the Conference Members wanted to continue the conversation of Resolution 14-3. The majority supported continuing the dialogue. Overall, there were 7 speeches against and 7 speeches in favor.

At 3:29 p.m., a motion by Rev. Erin Maddox McPhee said, “Take time to discuss a friendly amendment name change to “Biblical Obedience” Resolution 14-3 and bring to vote tomorrow.” There were two statements in favor of motion and one opposed. At 3:33 p.m., the question was called and affirmed. Bishop Carcaño asked for a vote. The motion was supported at 3:35 p.m.

**Resolution 14-5: Exception to MCS Calculation of 2014 Minimum Salaries (3:35 p.m.):** Rev. Rhodes moved to support Resolution 14-5. Questions were asked and answered from the floor. At 3:43 p.m., an amendment was offered by Rev. Randy Johnson. “Delete Lines 9 and 10. Replace with: “Be it resolved that the 2015 minimum salary schedule for full members with 25 years of service be set equal to 100% of the 2014 MCS, decreasing by 1% per year for fewer years of service and increasing by 1% for every year of service from 26 to 30 years of service.” A vote was taken to set aside the Conference MCS Rules in order to vote on the Amendment and Resolution. The vote to suspend the Rules was supported. Discussion of the amendment included one opposed and none in support. Bishop Carcaño asked for a vote on the Johnson amendment to Resolution 14-5. The motion to amend was not supported. Bishop Carcaño called for the vote on Resolution 14-5. **Resolution 14-5 (Exception to MCS Calculation of 2014 Minimum Salaries) was supported at 3:59 p.m.**

At 4:01 p.m., Bishop Carcaño asked Jorge Lockward to lead the Session in song. The Conference sang “Leaning on The Promises of God.”

**Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Report # 5 Clergy (4:06 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño presented the results of the Clergy Ballot # 5. There were 185 valid ballots, 15 invalid, and 93 needed for majority. Rev. Molly Vetter was elected as a Jurisdictional Conference Delegate with the highest number of votes (98).

**Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Ballot # 6 Clergy (4:07 p.m.):** Lay Leader Connee Freeman was called forward to pray. Bishop Carcaño requested the ballots for the Clergy Ballot # 6 be distributed at 4:09 p.m. Bishop Carcaño called for the vote at 4:11 p.m. and the vote closed at 4:13 p.m.

**Announcements (4:14 p.m.):** Leanne Nakanishi, Conference Co-Secretary was called forward for announcements. She reported the Ordination Rehearsal was moved to immediately following this Plenary Session. At 9:00 p.m., the discussion for Resolution 13-4 would be held in the Chapel.

**Honoring Our Retiring Clergy (4:15 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño introduced videos Honoring Our Retiring Clergy: Pastor Lesa Renae Smith, Rev. David Stoner, Rev. Fran Wiebenga, and Rev. Jerry Campbell.

**Closing Prayer (4:30 p.m.):** Bishop Carcaño invited Phil Freeman to close our Plenary Session in prayer.
Young People’s Connect Worship  
Friday, June 20, 2014  
7:30 p.m.

Upon entering Connect Worship in University Hall, there were many interactive activities to engage in. The band opened with a *Song of Hope* and *Blessed Be Your Name*. Opening Prayer was by Rev. Bob Rhodes, followed by Passing the Peace by meeting new people. Welcome was by Sami and the Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM). The band played *As It Is in Heaven* and *Mighty to Save*. Pastor Royce Porter asked if we remembered the 3 R’s in school: Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. He spoke to us about the new 3 R’s: Resilience, Reward, and Relationships. God says, “For I know the plans I have for you.” Life was full of drama and full of surprises. There will be good days and bad days. God will turn every one of your challenges into stepping stones. Trust in God’s Plan and you are resilient. Do not give up! Even when they knocked you down, did not get the grade you wanted, you are coming back because God had a plan for you. Were you really doing your best? If your heart told you to press on, that was God.

After resilience was reward. God had a reward for you: To give you a future and hope. You did not want to merely survive, you wanted to thrive. Lastly, God wanted to have a personal relationship with you. God wanted to be with you, because God understands who you were. God wanted to be spiritually connected to you. God wanted you to depend on God.

Did you know the plans God had for you? If you did not have the relationship, it was hard to be resilient and get the reward. After closing in prayer, everyone was invited to the prayer stations set-up around the room. The innovative and dynamic Connect Worship experience ended with Holy Communion and with songs *How Great is Our God* and *10,000 Reasons*, Prayers, and a Benediction by Rev. Rhodes.
Aldersgate UMC in the Hawaii District, and Bishop Eduardo Carrillo of the Northwest Conference of the Methodist Church of Mexico.

Orders of the Day (9:06 a.m.): Rev. Melinda Dodge presented the Orders of the Day. She reported the Systems Assessment report was removed by request. Rev. Melinda Dodge reported that the Sessions’ report and the report from the SSRC had been moved from the afternoon to this Plenary Session. Rev. Melinda Dodge moved the Orders of the Day. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported at 9:07 a.m.

Announcements (9:07 a.m.): Rev. Dan Lewis reminded the Conference to return their meal card, keys, and linens.

Welcome (9:08 a.m.): Bishop Minerva Carcaño welcomed Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan and invited him to join her at the presider’s table.

Courtesies (9:10 a.m.): Rev. Lee Carlile, Courtesies Chair, came forward to present Janet Lahr Lewis, the United Methodist Liaison to Israel and Palestine. Ms. Lewis shared about her ministry with Palestinian Christians and asked for the Conference to remember them in their prayers and their quest for freedom and justice. Rev. Lee Carlile introduced Martina McRae, the outgoing President of Clergymates. Mrs. McRae shared the purpose of Clergymates and that they had been in existence since 1896. She reminded us they did have male members and she introduced the new President who was Don Carlile, husband of Rev. Lee Carlile.

Imagine No Malaria Moment (9:12 a.m.): Rev. Molly Vetter, Pastor of Redondo Beach First UMC shared with some degree of self confession on how she had not done all that she was might to help support the work of Imagine No Malaria, as it was another request in the midst of a busy church life, the demands that were before clergy, with all the things she did, and all the things that needed her support. She felt the joint pressures of our Conference Leadership and others with a $3,000,000 goal before us and had been inspired by 7-year old Wendy, who was a member of her church. Rev. Vetter was also inspired by Bishop Carcaño and the young people, who had seen the possibility of ending malaria as something that was doable and said, “Why not?” This was no small task, but a beautiful one.

In the midst of other demands that too often distracted her from this work, she felt the pressure of the gospel. She remembered the Old Testament commands about caring for widows and orphans and had to believe that also involved ending diseases that preyed on women and children in a disproportionate way, which was debilitating communities and nations. She felt the lure of the gospel call for our people to take up Jesus’ command of feeding the hungry and healing the sick. She treasured that end time vision of no more illness and disease where suffering and sorrow was no more, and saw how we could be a small part of this in our own time. She felt the call to be the body of Christ in serving alongside others around the world. She thought about the witness to our world to be a part of a real effort to alleviate human suffering. We needed to be a part of enabling a fullness of life and a flourishing that would have economic and family life and all kinds of hopeful implications. She thought of the witness it would make to our denomination as we struggle in how to be a global denomination. Too often, we felt tensions separating regions over issues and perspectives. What if we lived into being a global denomination by making use of who we were to transform the world? She imagined her own witness by inviting neighbors and partners who were skeptical about church or had never been a part of church by being involved with ending malaria. This was a way of building bridges of friendships and collaborations with neighbors by joining us in work that was at the heart of who we were.

So maybe this was the time to step up. Rev. Vetter confessed she had not done enough yet, but wrote a check this week and invited you to do the same. She invited you to invite co-workers and neighbors to support the work of Imagine No Malaria. Now was the time to join the work to be a part of this movement and to share the dream with others in your congregation. We were the ones who would take up this work to end malaria. She hoped you would join us in this work.
We had until the end of 2015 to fulfill this pledge of saving 300,000 lives with a pledge of $100 per worshipping member.

**Legislative Matters: Resolution 13-4 (9:17 a.m.):** Bishop Minerva Carcaño called Rev. Bob Rhodes to report on the Legislative matters of the Conference. He presented a Substitute Motion, which reflected the changes made to Resolution 14-3 from a group that met at 9:00 p.m. the previous evening. These changes were being posted on the Conference Secretary’s website at www.calpacumc.org/secretary and also posted on the wall outside of the bathroom building next door, as they worked so late that all the copy centers were closed. Rev. Rhodes also read the Substitute Motion to the Conference, which was projected on the screen. They were presented for consideration by the Conference and a vote would be taken in Plenary Session #8. Bishop Carcaño requested Resolution 13-4 as amended to be displayed to allow the congregation to review the document.

**Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Report #6 Laity (9:24 a.m.):** Bishop Carcaño announced the results of the Jurisdictional Delegates Laity Ballot #6. There were 461 ballots with 4 invalid ballots. The final 4 Jurisdictional Lay Delegates elected were Ralph Hogan, Norma Kehrberg, Dione Taylor, and Mary Hawkins. Rev. Dan Lewis explained the final Laity ballot would be to elect the 2 Jurisdictional Reserve Lay Delegates.

**Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Ballot #7 Laity (9:26 a.m.):** Bishop Carcaño asked that the ballots be distributed. Bishop Carcaño invited Bishop Charles Wesley Jordan to share a prayer. At 9:32 a.m., Bishop Carcaño called for the vote. Rev. Dan Lewis provided clarity on the number of persons to be voted for. All voting Lay Members were to vote for exactly 2 names (no more than 2 and no less than 2 or the ballot would be invalid). At 9:34 a.m., Bishop Carcaño closed the voting for the 2 Jurisdictional Reserve Lay Delegates.

**Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Report #6 Clergy (9:35 a.m.):** Bishop Minerva Carcaño reported on the Jurisdictional Delegates Clergy Ballot #6. There were 198 total votes cast with 15 invalid ballots. Bishop Carcaño reported that Rev. Bau Dang was elected as a Jurisdictional Clergy Delegate with the highest number of votes (89).

At 9:36 p.m., Rev. Nestor Gerente requested to have the list for the Clergy Delegates already elected to insure inclusivity. He requested this be done for the next ballot. The Conference Secretaries said that would be possible.

**Motion:** Rev. John Farley moved that, “The top five vote recipients on the next Clergy Ballot shall be elected.” The motion was seconded. Bishop Carcaño asked for a vote. **The motion was supported at 9:38 a.m.**

Rev. Dan Lewis read the list of elected Clergy Delegates in order to address the concern of inclusivity. The Clergy Delegates elected so far were for General Conference: Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth, Rev. Tom Choi, Rev. Patricia Ferris, and Rev. Sandy Olewine. The elected delegates for the Jurisdictional Conference were: Rev. Molly Vetter and Rev. Bau Dang.

**Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Ballot #7 Clergy (9:41 a.m.):** Bishop Carcaño asked that the ballots be distributed to the voting Clergy members. At 9:43 a.m., Bishop Charles Jordan offered a prayer. Bishop Carcaño closed the voting at 9:47 a.m.

**DisAbility Awareness (9:48 a.m.):** **Conference Secretaries’ Note:** Entire presentation to be posted separately on the Conference Secretaries’ website at www.calpacumc.org/secretary **A brief recap is listed below.** Bishop Minerva Carcaño welcomed Sharon McCart, who introduced a number of guests who were in attendance as well as the Task Force members. She took a moment to ask the Conference to meditate in the moment and let go of any agendas that might be occupying their mind.

Sharon McCart shared a story of the crippled man who was lowered to Jesus through a roof, which led to her sharing and establishing the mission of the DisAbility Committee. She shared a challenge of making sure Cal-Pac
churches were really accepting of people that had special needs and were universally accessible for all people with all types of disabilities.

Dr. Peggy Gott shared how she had experienced being a person who was differently abled, and finding a place for worship. Dr. Peggy Gott quoted, “I have decided to follow Jesus.” The Music Team led in repeating, “I have decided to follow Jesus.”

Rev. Lupita Alonzo shared that, “God is Gooder than Good.” Rev. Lupita Alonzo described the different places she had visited. She trained people to ensure awareness of the things that caused separation. She stressed the importance of being seen as a person first. People did not want to be seen as a burden or a problem to be solved, but people wanted to be seen as people first and to be reminded that, “God is Gooder than Good.”

Rev. Erika Gara from Hope UMC in Torrance shared this church’s website was, www.noisychildrenwelcome.com. Special needs families were drawn to this website. Knowing that there would be an environment of people who were accepting of who they were and also to be included in a worship experience was comforting. There was empowerment that came from letting people be people and empowering them with the opportunity to participate.

Emily Callahan, a Sunday School teacher at Hope United Methodist Church, was the next person to share. She spoke of the opportunity she had to work with a different idea of a family working together to be accepting and growing together in the name of care for those living differently abled in their church and watching them grow into amazing people.

Heather Kinkennon shared as a person who lived with a spectrum of autism. She shared details of living with Aspergers, but never really receiving a clear diagnosis of what was happening. She spoke of a life where she worked hard to become well spoken which came from years of hard work. Although she faced sensory challenges, she had a place at Christ’s table.

Rev. Erin McPhee said that we were living in a country where we still were not willing to talk about mental illness. It was important for the church to have real honest conversations about the illness that existed in our church. Rev. Erin McPhee shared that 1 in 4 people lived with a mental illness. People were afraid of the stigma that was attached to mental illness. All of us had flaws. She said that speaking out made others realize they were not the only ones dealing with their problems. We all had something, we all had needs, it was ok to seek help by being open and honest about the place we were, and finding a place of acceptance for that honesty.

Sharon McCart concluded the presentation by thanking all the speakers for their powerful, honest, and open words. She went on to say that we were challenged to look for people and not numbers. The journey of healing was that together we were on a journey of wholeness. When anyone was missing, a part of the church was missing. The church had a disability when a member of the greater community was missing. What should we do to become the answer to the prayers? We should invite all people to the table. The presentation ended with the Session singing, “For Everyone Born.”

Requests (11:09 a.m.): (1) There was a request from the floor that the entirety of the DisAbility Awareness presentation be posted on the website. (2) Another request from the floor of the Conference was that the Conference Leaders look into providing closed captioning for next year’s Annual Conference. (3) There was a third request from the floor of the Session that we post the lyrics of the closing song. Bishop Minerva Carcaño said that the Conference Secretaries would do so unless there were copyright issues. ** Conference Secretaries’ Note: Copyright issues prohibited the posting of the lyrics ** (4) Personal Privilege was requested by Rev. Yvonne Williams Boyd. She proposed that this Annual Conference should support our PCUSA brother and sister as they too were praying and were in the decision making process. Bishop Minerva Carcaño proposed that a resolution be brought before the Annual Conference.
Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Report # 7 Clergy (11:11 a.m.): Bishop Minerva Carcaño announced the results of the Clergy Ballot # 7. There were 222 ballots in total and 12 invalid ballots. Bishop Carcaño reported that Rev. Frank Wulf, Rev. Judy Chung, Rev. Tonya Harris, Rev. Piula Ala’ilima, and Rev. Charlene Zuill were elected as the final 5 Jurisdictional Conference Clergy Delegates.

Leanne Nakanishi explained there would be one final ballot for election of the Jurisdictional Conference 2 Clergy Reserve Delegates as per our Conference Rules. The 2 Clergy Members receiving the 2 highest numbers of votes were to be elected as the 2 Clergy Reserve Delegates to the 2016 Western Jurisdictional Conference.

Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Ballot # 8 Clergy (11:14 a.m.): The final Clergy Ballots were distributed. Bishop Carcaño called for the vote at 11:16 a.m. and the voting was closed at 11:17 a.m.

United Methodist Men (11:19 a.m.): Conference President Bob Divine showed a video on the Society of St. Andrews who used “wasted” food to feed the needy. He introduced Wayde Mays, the National Director of the Society of St. Andrews. Mr. Divine spoke about the UMM involvement in Prayer Ministry, Upper Room, Scouting, outreach to service men, and first responder care. He also shared about the UMM mission to have chartered UMM groups in every church. A charter cost $85 a year, but $42.50 today to start a charter.

United Methodist Women (11:30 a.m.): Conference President Mele Faiva Blagojevich spoke about how Faith, Hope, Love, and Joy were working together to share the light of Jesus Christ to the world. Various UMW from the congregation started to sing “This Little Light of Mine” and held up banners of their works. Mrs. Blagojevich reported that $291,000 was sent to National UMW for 2013. A $5,000 check was presented to Bishop Minerva Carcaño for Imagine No Malaria.

Senior Staff Relations Committee (11:35 a.m.): Dan Griffin and Executive Director of Connectional Ministries, Rev. Steve Hundley presented the report of the Senior Staff Relations Committee. Mr. Griffin explained the SSRC was brought into existence by action of the Annual Conference. Yesterday, by action of this Annual Conference with Rules 14-5, we no longer had a Senior Staff Relations Committee (SSRC), nor a Policy Development and Administration Committee (PDA). We now approved the creation of the Staff Relations Committee (SRC), which merged functions and retained the integrity of both former committees. This was a balanced committee of 20 members and 3 sub-committee members. 2 members from each EMT were on the Committee. In 2013, Mission and Vision Development decided that our Cal-Pac Conference needed to hire Senior Staff for New Ministries and Justice and Compassion Ministries on an interim basis due to financial reservations. As the income and expenses stabilized in late 2013 and 2014, it was determined these positions could be full-time positions as of July 1, 2014. The interview committee made the final recommendations for these positions and the process worked together as a group and not as individual EMT silos. Bishop Carcaño was thanked for attending all the meetings and for her guidance.

Rev. Hundley explained that this committee took care of establishing the senior staff positions, their job descriptions, and the policies associated with it. Rev. Hundley introduced members of this committee: Rev. David Berkey (Camping and Retreat Ministries), Rev. Nicole Reilley (New Ministries), Rev. Jennifer Gutierrez (Interim: Justice and Compassion), Rev. David Farley (Justice and Compassion), and Rev. Joel Hortiales (Associate Director: Hispanic and Latino). Lastly, Archana Carey, Jan Hanson, and James Kang were introduced as part of the Senior Staff.

Sessions Committee (11:41 a.m.): Sessions Committee Chair, Rev. Lew Fry shared this had been, hopefully, a fruitful year of transition and improvement for our time here together this week. We had had a full year to work under the leadership of Bishop Minerva Carcaño and with Rev. Steve Hundley. We had been excited about the Worship leadership of Jorge Lockward. Things had gone very smoothly working with the University Staff who related to our presence here on campus. The Sound System, for which we were the guinea pigs last year, had been tuned and seemed to be working fairly well. We made a modification in Child Care arrangements this year, using some Camp Staff working with our older children. He gave special thanks to Rev. Camille Mattick for the leadership she had given to improvements these two years. We continued to have many positive comments
regarding Child Care activities this year. Erin Foellmi continued to give exceptionally effective direction to our young people’s participation this week.

There were a myriad of folks who had a part in getting things ready for your arrival this week and making sure things went as smoothly as they did. He thanked Rev. John Demaree and Annual Conference Media Team, a portion of whom you had seen at cameras and running around trouble-shooting. We viewed a live action video of the Media Team, in order to see what happened behind the scenes. For those of you who were wondering, these were all volunteers, year after year, who started arriving on Saturday, who paid for their own rooms and meal tickets for the privilege of coming three days early to get ready for us!

We thanked Jennifer Gaylord for her work in coordinating an amazing number of logistical details related to registration and for working closely with Pastor Glenn Hoskins on the Space Use assignments. We thanked Becca Petersen and the University Hospitality Events staff, who had given us incredible service this week!

We wanted to acknowledge the work of a great number of others who worked with our amazing Conference Secretaries Leanne Nakanishi and Rev. Dan Lewis for a great multitude of things: Agenda Chair, Rev. Melinda Dodge, UM Daily Editor, Rev. Stephen Wilson and the recorders related to the UM Daily production, Head Teller Rev. David Burgeson for the oversight of the balloting with the assistance of Teller Coordinators, Paul and Melody Ashley and the Certified Lay Ministers and Lay Servants, Rev. Bob Rhodes and those who made possible the Legislative Sections, and of course, the entire Worship Team who enriched our worship experiences immeasurably.

Rev. Lew Fry shared that 1,600 attended Conference this year. There were 621 Lay Members, 540 Clergy members, and 506 family and other “non-voting” participants. 151 people attended from Hawaii and over 300 from each of the four California Districts. 56 children, 52 youth, 80 young adults, 952 adults, and 490 seniors attended this Conference.

Rev. Lew Fry reported that Conference would return to a Thursday-Saturday schedule next year. The Bishop was responsible for setting the dates of Annual Session and The Sessions Committee was responsible for setting the location. Bishop Minerva Carcaño and the Sessions Committee were happy to report that the Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference next year would be held here at the University of Redlands from Thursday through Saturday, June 17-20, 2015, finishing the night before Father’s Day. Bishop Carcaño thanked Rev. Lew Fry for shepherding us all.

Jurisdictional Conference Delegates Report # 8 (11:49 a.m.): Bishop Minerva Carcaño reported the Ballot Results for the 2 Clergy Reserve Delegates. There were 207 total, and there were 3 invalid. The elected Jurisdictional Conference Reserve Clergy Delegates were Rev. Richard Bentley and Rev. Nestor Gerente.

General and Jurisdictional Lay and Clergy Delegates Blessing and Prayer (11:55 a.m.)

The Music Team led in singing “Spirit of the Living God,” during a time of blessing by Bishop Carrillo and Bishop Jordan. The community stood together in prayer by Jennifer Allas and Bishop Carcaño. The Music Team led the Session in “Hallelujah.” The session was closed at 12:00 p.m. with a blessing from Bishop Eduardo Carrillo.
**Call To Order (2:03 p.m.):** Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño called Plenary Session # 8 to order at 2:03 p.m. The Music Team asked the body to sing together, “Lord Have Mercy.” Bishop Carcaño invited a time of prayer and welcomed those needing prayer to come to the microphones. There were many persons lifted up. Bishop Carcaño introduced Monia Garner, a youth from St. John’s UMC, who offered a final prayer. The Music Team led the congregation in singing the” Lord’s Prayer.”

**Orders of the Day (2:35 p.m.):** Rev. Melinda Dodge moved the Orders of the Day. Bishop Minerva Carcaño asked for questions and hearing none, called for a vote. The orders were supported at 2:36 p.m.

A question was asked about how one could get a DVD version of the presentation from this morning. The Conference Director of Communications, James Kang said a live stream of the plenary was online and available for viewing later. If someone wanted a hard copy, he or she may e-mail him at: jkang@calpacumc.org.

**Courtesies (2:36 p.m.):** Rev. Lee Carlile introduced Ted Ramirez from the United Methodist Federal Credit Union. He shared about the Credit Union’s new online giving program and encouraged the Conference to use this feature.

Rev. Carlile then introduced Rev. David Berkey, Director of Camping, Outdoor, and Retreat Ministries at 2:40 p.m. Rev. Berkey challenged the congregation to find the youth in their community and invite them to go to camp, because there were hundreds of empty beds at the camp. Registration forms were available online.

**Legislative Matters: Resolution 14-3 (2:45 p.m.):** Rev. Bob Rhodes moved Resolution 14-3, which was presented yesterday with amendments. Rev. John Woodall said that on behalf of those who wrote the original Resolution, they supported the amended Resolution. Bishop Minerva Carcaño asked the members to read over Resolution 14-3, which was projected on the screen, and then opened the floor for discussion. There were 4 speeches for and 4 against. Bishop Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported at 2:59 p.m.

**Nominating Committee Report # 2 (3:00 p.m.):** Rev. Steve Hundley came forward to explain the voting procedures. As mentioned yesterday, we were here to elect 3 new members for the Navigation Essential Ministry Team from among those who were nominated at the District Conferences. Although we had separated lay and clergy for presentation, it was not a separate ballot. All voting lay and clergy members could vote from the entire list. We were just electing 3 from the 11 names presented: 2 Lay Members and 1 Clergy Member.

As you all prayerfully consider our nominees, we hoped that you all take into account our call to maintain balance on our Conference Organizations whenever possible.

In the absence of a Navigation Essential Ministry Team election process included in the Rules, we were recommending the following election process. The 2 Lay Nominees receiving the highest number of votes and the 1 Clergy Nominee receiving the highest number of votes to be elected to serve on the Navigation Essential Ministry Team. Of the 2 top Lay Nominees, the Lay Nominee receiving the highest number of votes to serve in the Class of 2018 and the Lay Nominee receiving the second highest number of Lay votes to serve in the Class of 2015.

Everyone could vote for both Clergy and Lay Members with a total of 3 names. The TELLERS would be distributing scantron ballots to all eligible voters and we asked that everyone vote for 3 nominees by marking the number corresponding to the 3 names you chose. Any ballot that had voted for more or less than 3 nominees would be invalid. Once again, as vacancies occurred during the year, the Nominating Committee would work for perfecting the balance.
Please use a #2 pencil and make sure there were no stray pencil marks. Fill circle in completely. There may be handwritten lettering on your ballot in the ballot number box. They had NO effect and mean nothing for our purposes today.

From the Session floor, there was a question regarding what the letters behind the names on the screen meant. Frank Farrell explained that they referred to the person’s ethnicity and District. Bishop Minerva Carcaño asked the Tellers to distribute the ballots. The vote was held. At 3:11 p.m., Bishop Carcaño closed the vote.

At 3:13 p.m., Frank Farrell and Rev. Steve Hundley spoke regarding how one submits a name to the Nominating Committee. They encouraged people to go to the website to fill out a Nominating Form, which requested the cell phone and e-mail information for the person they were planning to nominate. There was also a Personal Information form that was needed to begin to establish a conference-wide data base of one’s interests, passions, and expertise, so we could better organize ourselves to do the work of the Lord that we were called to do. Some of you may have filled out this form at your District Pre-Conference Meetings and if you did, you did need to do it again. They apologized for any forms which may have been turned in without any response back and they would improve their hospitality in the future.

In regards to the Nominating Committee’s report, which was presented yesterday, they realized this was a working document, which would be updated throughout the year. The updated report would be on the Conference Secretary’s website. We were working towards perfection. Bishop Carcaño called for the vote on the California-Pacific Conference Nominating Committee Report as presented yesterday morning. Nominating Committee Report was supported at 3:14 p.m.

**Break (3:15 p.m.):** Bishop Minerva Carcaño announced that the Conference was going to take a break.

**Reading of Appointments as a People Called to God’s Vision (3:33 p.m.)**

**Opening Prayer**

Led by DS Kathey Wilborn

It is time, O God, not to dismiss contemplation, but to move outward from it. It is time, O God, not to devalue silence, but to let our quiet times point us to right speaking. It is time, O God, not to reject learning, but to let our study flower into action. It is time, O God, for us to follow your lead. Help us follow! Help us follow truly! Amen.

**Reading from Scripture:** Isaiah 61: 1-4

DS Bau Dang

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...to repair the ruined.

**Call to Ministry**

*Bishop Carcaño:* The ministry of the Church is the ministry of all Christians. With our baptism, each one of us becomes a servant of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Within this service, sometimes we are called to leadership, sometimes to supportive roles, but at all times we are called follow our Lord! We are called to study his teaching, to live what he modeled, to love as he loved, to listen for his voice, and to always receive the call of his Spirit. People of the California-Pacific Conference, servants of Christ, will you take up your ministry in his name?

**All:** By the grace of God, we will!

*Bishop Carcaño:* Will you live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and be God’s love to your neighbors in all places?

**All:** We will! We will! By the grace of God, we will!

**Song:** Jesus, We Are Here
Jesus, we are here;  
Jesus, we are here;  
Jesus, we are here; we are here for you.  
Savior, we are here;  
Savior, we are here;  
Savior, we are here; we are here for you.  

Master, we are here;  
Master, we are here;  
Master, we are here; we are here for you.  
Spirit, we are here;  
Spirit, we are here;  
Spirit, we are here; we are here for you.

Call to the Laity

The Lay Members of churches receiving a new pastor stood, and remained standing.

Bishop Carcaño: You and your new pastor now enter a holy covenant together, to be partners in the ministry of the Gospel; working in Christ’s Spirit to reconcile the world to God. This is a high calling and a deep commitment. On behalf of your congregation, as God gives you grace, will you enter this covenant gladly and with a whole heart?

Lay Member: I will, with God’s help!

Call to the Clergy

Clergy members receiving a new appointment to a local church also stood, and remained standing.

Bishop Carcaño: You and the people of your new appointment now enter a holy covenant together, to be partners in the ministry of the Gospel; working in Christ’s Spirit to reconcile the world to God. This is a high calling and a deep commitment. With all your skill, all your wisdom, all your passion, and all your love, as God gives you grace, will you enter this covenant gladly and with your whole heart?

Clergy Member: I will, with God’s help!

Call to the Clergy

Clergy members receiving a new appointment to an extension ministry also stood, and remained standing.

Bishop Carcaño: You have been called by God to extend the Christian ministry of the Church. You go to respond to the missional needs of persons in special circumstances and unique situations. We believe God has given you special gifts and God’s own grace for these ministries and so we send you forth with joy. Go and extend the ministry of the Church into the world. As you go, will you faithfully fulfill the vows you made at your ordination in your new ministry?

Clergy Appointed to Extension Ministries:  
I will, with God’s help!

All pastoral leaders under appointment and all lay members of the 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference now stood.

Bishop Carcaño: To the clergy of this conference I would say: As your Bishop and Cabinet, we recognize our frailties, and have constantly asked for God’s direction in this work. We rely on God’s Spirit to be at work in the appointive process. We acknowledge that we are still at work in the
discernment of some of your appointments. Continue to be in prayer with us as we discern God’s will for all God’s servants. In this knowledge, but trusting God above all, and together placing our lives in God’s hands, I ask you - brothers and sisters in service to Christ’s church - do you now accept your appointed places of service reverently and gladly?

All to be Appointed: We do, reverently and gladly!

Bishop Carcaño: To the laity of this conference I would say: As your bishop and Cabinet we are grateful to God for your faithful ministries of service. We covenant to pray for you daily and to strive to the best of our ability and with God’s help to lead you and serve you well. I now would ask you: will you accept these leaders, named and standing before you, as your own? Will you pledge to them your prayers, your partnership in ministry, your trust, and your care as we seek to serve Christ Jesus together?

Lay Members: We will!

DS John Farley: Let us pray: Living God, from the abundance of your mercy, enrich and empower your servants to work the fields they have been given. Be with them as they face challenges, fears, rejection, and judgment. Open them to your possibilities. Help them dream your dreams. Renew their vision, their hope, and their joy. Give them strength for the journey, peace of heart, and a passion for your people, being always the firm foundation beneath their feet. In the name of Christ Jesus, our great Shepherd we pray. Amen.

Call to God's Future for Us

DS Tom Choi: Brothers and Sisters, how we will respond to God’s future for us, what we will proclaim and accomplish, imagine and create, receive and learn, plant and nurture in this world depends on these covenants: our covenant with God in Jesus Christ, and our covenants with each other in Christ’s name. Today, you have heard these covenants renewed among us. Will you bear witness? Will you affirm them?

All: We bear witness to and affirm these holy covenants, and we will support them with our love, prayers, and acts of service. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Bishop Carcaño: Then may the covenants we make on earth be ratified in heaven! Amen.

Dean of Cabinet, Cedrick Bridgeforth: Let us pray: God of grace and God of glory, on we your servants pour out your power! Fill us with your Holy Spirit. Clothe us with a loving heart, a searching mind, an instinct for mercy, a thirst for justice, and a hunger for your kingdom. Equip us well for the work that lies ahead, that we may be one in ministry to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen!

Song: Jesus, We Are Here.....

Nominating Committee Report # 3 (3:50 p.m.): Rev. Steve Hundley and Frank Farrell presented one last action item requiring a vote from the Annual Conference. Archana Carey was nominated as Statistician for this quadrennium. Bishop asked for questions and hearing none, Bishop called for the vote. Archana Carey was elected as Statistician at 3:52 p.m. Per Martin, who served for the past 9 years, was thanked by the members for all his years of volunteer work at Statistician.

Navigation Essential Ministry Team Election Results (3:53 p.m.): Bishop Minerva Carcaño announced the results of the Navigation Essential Ministry Team Election. Jackie Vazquez received the highest number of lay votes and was elected to the Class of 2018. Dione Taylor received the second highest number of votes and was elected to the Class of 2015. Rev. J.T. Greenleaf received the highest number of votes for a Clergy Member and was elected as a Clergy Member to the Class of 2018.
Closing Business (3:54 p.m.): Conference Secretaries Leanne Nakanishi & Rev. Dan Lewis announced the following: (1) Remove all personal belongings at the end of this Plenary Session #8. (2) Congratulations to the 3 recently elected Navigation Team Members and the first NEMT meeting would be immediately after the end of this Plenary Session in Watchorn 113 to elect officers. (3) Congratulations to our General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegates. You would be receiving an e-mail in a few weeks notifying you of our first gathering.

Motion (3:56 p.m.): Conference Secretaries moved to close the 30th Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference at the end of the Ordination Service. Bishop Minerva Carcaño called for a vote. The motion was supported at 3:56 p.m.

Bishop Minerva Carcaño announced that $82,000 was raised in cash and checks in addition to receiving $65,000 in pledges for Imagine No Malaria.

Motion (3:58 p.m.): There was a motion from the floor to direct the Sessions Task Force to provide translators for persons speaking from the floor. The motion was seconded and Bishop asked if there were questions, hearing none, Bishop called for a vote. The motion was supported at 3:59 p.m.


The Service of Word and Table for the Ordination of Elders with Commissioning, Recognition of Orders, Commissioning of Missionaries, and Presentation of Deaconess
Saturday, June 21, 2014
7:30 p.m.

As the congregation gathered, Lift High the Cross was sung as Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño, Bishop Carcaño’s Special Guests, Conference Lay Leaders, Conference Secretaries, Board of Ordained Ministry, and those being commissioned, ordained, recognized, and presented processed into the chapel. Bishop Carcaño greeted the congregation and led the body in prayer. Recognition of Common Ministry and Reaffirmation of Baptism followed with the congregation joining in saying, “We remember our baptism and affirm our common ministry.” Bishop Carcaño introduced our special guests.

Quynh-Hoa Nguyen (Director of Leadership Development, Vietnam), Rev. Wesley Neal (Lecturer in Missiology and Practical Ministry, Fiji), and Rev. Jerusha Neal (Professor of Theology, Fiji) were commissioned as Missionaries. Grace Sy Quimsiam-Mallar (Lead Teacher Family Service Association, Hemet Child Development Center, Hemet) was recognized as a new Deaconess, who was consecrated on April 27, 2014 at the National United Methodist Women’s Assembly.

Lay Leaders Connee and Phil Freeman, Board of Ordained Ministry Chair Rev. Hillary Chrisley, and Board Registrars Rev. Sunyoung Lee and Rev. Doug Williams presented to the Bishop those who were to be ordained. The persons to be commissioned to the work of a Deacon were Martha Walz Morales and Elisa Marie Wright. The person to be commissioned for the work of an Elder was Darin Michelle Arntson. The persons to be ordained Elders were Christopher Drake Spearman, Jessica Ashley Strysko, Eva Chi Than Thai-Erwin, and Jerry Andre Wilson. The person whose orders were recognized as an
Elder was Mark F. Sturgess (Presbyterian Church USA, received as a provisional member by the 2006 Clergy Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference under ¶347.3 of The Book of Discipline).

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño presented these candidates to the Annual Conference and the body was invited to affirm and promised to uphold their ministry. The Bishop then offered the general examination for all those being ordained and commissioned. Once the examination was complete, the congregation sang the Psalter “Psalm 40: 1-11.”

2 Corinthians 3: 4-9 was read by Rev. Bau Dang and Luke 13: 10-17 was read by Rev. Cedrick Bridgeforth.

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño preached the ordination sermon (The full text would be available on the Conference Secretary’s website shortly after Conference). After Bishop Carcaño’s sermon, the congregation joined in singing, “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service.”

Bishop Carcaño addressed the congregation regarding those being commissioned and offered a prayer for them. Family members and friends stood as each of their loved ones were commissioned.

Bishop Carcaño addressed those to be ordained as Elder for examination. The Order of Elders covenanted to support those to be ordained. Bishop Carcaño and the gathering prayed for the candidates. Family members and friends stood as each of their loved ones were ordained and by a laying on of the hands by Bishop Carcaño.

Bishop Carcaño addressed those whose orders were recognized. The Order of Elders covenanted to support those whose ordered were recognized. Bishop Carcaño and the gathering prayed for him. The service continued with Rev. Fran Wiebenga, a retiring elder passing a stole to Rev. Jerry Andre Wilson, a newly ordained elder. The Offering was collected for the Ministerial Education Fund. Thanksgiving and Communion followed with an Invitation, Confession and Assurance of Pardon, Sharing the Peace, and the Great Thanksgiving. We shared in the Lord’s Prayer, Breaking the Bread, Giving the Bread and Cup, and Prayer after Receiving. Bishop Carcaño and Rev. Jerry Carter shared in the dismissal and blessing and the service ended with the recessional and the congregation singing, “In the Midst of New Dimensions.”

**Special Thank You’s to the Conference Secretaries’ Team:** Melody and Paul Ashley (Teller Coordinators) and the Certified Lay Ministers and Certified Lay Servants who served as Tellers, John Atu (Booth Coordinator), Rev. David Burgeson (Head Teller) and all Assistant Tellers, Rev. Lee Carlile (Courtesies Chair), Rev. Melinda Dodge (Agenda Chair), James Kang (Director of Communications who served as Photographer), Joseph Makunga (Runner), Rev. Bob Rhodes (Legislation Chair), Lydia Sohn (Time Keeper), Rev. Stephen Wilson (UM Daily Editor) and Recorders (Cheryl Allen, Rev. Cindy Arntson, Rev. Amanda Burr, Rev. Drew Davis, Rev. Robert English, Rev. Krista Givens, Rev. Samuel Nam, Rev. Michelle Park, Rev. Robin Rhodes, David Wilson, James Wilson, and Rev. Colleen Windham-Hughes), Won-Seok Yuh (Legislative Facilitator Trainer and Photographer), and all the Legislative Sections Assistants, Facilitators, and Parliamentarians, and the invaluable volunteers who assisted with our Annual Session.
Clergy and lay members of the California-Pacific Annual Conference, friends, brothers and sisters all:  Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior! What a joy it is to be with all of you at this 2014 Session of our beloved conference, and what a privilege it is to serve as your episcopal leader. Your commitment to Christ Jesus inspires me and what I see God doing through you encourages me and fills me with great hope!

During these past twelve months nothing has blessed me more than to be with you in the service of Christ Jesus. This was particularly true as I joined our Mission/Vision Discernment Team and went on the road with them seeking God’s vision for our future. Being with you in district gatherings throughout our area and experiencing the Holy Spirit speaking to us of God’s faithfulness and of the marvelous opportunities God has for us to be the people of God in the world had me smiling in my Prius and in rental cars as I drove all over this conference with you! What a mighty vision arose through this process led by our visioning team and then crafted as a powerful statement by our articulation team. Listen to the voice of the Holy among us challenging us to be United Methodists who live.... Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ so that all may experience God’s life-giving love!  It is an audacious vision, but then again we are the people of a mighty God!

I believe this vision statement is defined by the love of God, grounded in the servant leadership of Christ, and blessed by the very breath of the Holy Spirit. It is a vision that has arisen organically and connectionally among us. I am particularly pleased by the fact that the vision leaves no one behind or outside of its embrace. Why would it? It is a vision from God whose love extends to all. I pray that you will find it in your spirit to support this vision and send us forth from this conference to give it flesh and bone through the work we do together as God’s people. We give many thanks to those who have labored diligently and faithfully in our visioning and vision articulation process.

I also want to express a word of profound gratitude for your work on Imagine No Malaria. The people of the California-Pacific Conference are a compassionate people and you are once again giving expression to your compassion through your engagement in our United Methodist connectional work that leads us to imagine a day when malaria and its deadly impact on humanity will be no more. It is both an institutional and a personal matter.

Not that long ago I went to a Council of Bishops meeting and learned that one of our bishops from Africa was delayed. When he arrived Bishop Eben Nhiwatiwa, our bishop in Zimbabwe, greeted us and shared with us that he had just buried his young adult daughter. She had died of malaria. Two years ago we established a brand new conference in the Democratic Republic of the Congo because God is blessing us with such incredible church growth in that part of the world that we needed yet another conference there. Soon thereafter we were pleased to welcome to the community of bishops of the church the new bishop of the East Congo Episcopal Area, Bishop Gabriel Unda. In our Council of Bishops, new bishops are invited to preach and share our faith journey. When it came time for Bishop Unda to do so, he shared with us that he is the father of 8 children. He is also a widower. His wife died of malaria. These who are dying of malaria are not strangers. They are, many of them, members of our United Methodist family.
Just a few months before coming to serve as your bishop I took a trip to visit Africa University and our United Methodist Mission in Mutare, Zimbabwe. When we visited the Old Mutare Mission we were welcomed by children who had been orphaned but provided a home and a family through our connectional ministry. Children are so beautiful all over the world! There was one child in particular who captured all of our hearts. A tiny little boy with cheeks that you just wanted to hold in your hands and kiss! He also had a spirit and a smile that were contagious. He ran around all the other children to be the first to welcome us, and welcome us he did, with a thumbs up! All of us held him in our arms, but I was the last one to hold him, and thus the one who had to let him go. As we left I wondered whether he would live or whether malaria would strike him down like so many other children in Africa, robbing the world of his beauty, his charisma, his gifts of spirit and possibility.

You and I can make a difference. I hope you’ll listen carefully to Bishop Thomas Bickerton as he shares with us how we are already making a difference. What I will say now is that our United Methodist work on Imagine No Malaria is not just about a momentary act of compassion. It is about saving the continent of Africa and our future with it. Our United Methodist bishops in Africa have invited us to think bigger than we have perhaps ever thought. They have shared how a community will begin to be built in Africa only to be destroyed by countless deaths at the sting of malaria. They have planted United Methodist communities of faith that have grown only to be decimated by malaria. Friends, we cannot build the church and we cannot transform the world if the children keep dying. But because of your good work, malaria will not have the last word.

Many of you are working so very hard to fulfill our conference commitment to Imagine No Malaria. You are doing such creative things to support the dream of eradicating malaria, giving of yourselves and of the resources God has placed under your stewardship in sacrificial ways. God bless you. Please keep doing it. I have made my pledge and am bringing my gift before God every month and encourage you to make your pledge and bring your gifts before God in an effort that could change the world.

I would be remiss in not mentioning that during this past conference year I have taken a step that encouraged some of you and troubled others. In prayerful consultation with my colleague bishop, Bishop Peggy Johnson of the Pennsylvania Conference, I invited Frank Schaeffer to come and join us in ministry in our conference. At that moment Frank Schaeffer had just been defrocked by a jury of his peers in his home conference for having conducted the same gender marriage of one of his sons. While it is understandable that some may have viewed my action as purely political in favor of full inclusion of persons of a homosexual gender identity, it was for me an action of Christian mercy and grace.

Frank Schaeffer in that moment was the representative of many in our churches and in our communities who feel excluded and alienated by the actions of our United Methodist Church. We cannot say that we are a body of Christians who stand on grace and grace alone and then legislate and bring to trial and defrock and exclude those who simply seek to live by God’s grace. The bottom line is that the God of Holy Scripture excludes no one, creates us all in our diversity including our diversity of gender identity, and calls us all to faithful living in the example and sacred name of Christ Jesus.

I stand before you once again declaring that I fervently believe that our United Methodist Book of Discipline is scripturally wrong in its exclusion of persons whose gender identity is LGBTQ. While working to change our Book of Discipline I will continue to invite us into holy conversation about this matter, for inclusion is not without a Holy Spirit illumined Christian understanding of what it means to be faithful to God and to Christ, an understanding that we must all grapple with whether gay or straight.
Last year as your temporal leader I came to you with the concern of our fiscal situation. The General Council on Finance and Administration had come and assisted us in a major assessment of our financial administration. The concerns they raised were serious. As I pledged to you, I gathered a table of our principle financial and administrative leaders and by the grace of God we were able to work through each of the major concerns our GCFA had brought to our attention. I trust that the report of the Strategic Financial Planning Task Force will encourage you as much as it has encouraged me. The work of this task force is a true testament to what the people of God can do through the power of Christ Jesus.

As we look toward the conference year ahead I will again be inviting persons to assist me in the ongoing work of assessment. One assessment will be of the work of our Congregational Loan office. The other will be of our conference’s organizational structure and rules. As we finished the work of our Strategic Financial Planning Task Force it was clear that it was time to determine how best to direct the work of our Congregational Loan office so that we tap its full potential for supporting the mission and ministry of our local churches. I am grateful for the hard work of our Congregational Loan Committee and look forward to working with them closely on this assessment.

During these two years of serving with you it has also become abundantly clear to me that our conference organizational structure and rules, while intended to be helpful, are so complex, complicated, and redundant, that they have become an obstacle to our ministry rather than a help. There are also questions about whether some of our structure and rules stand out of compliance with our Book of Discipline. I believe, however, that we can get ourselves to a better place by the end of this quadrennium. We will do our best to bring at least a progress report on a way forward by next year’s annual conference. Recommendations pertaining to both our Congregational Loan office and our conference organizational structure and rules will come back to the annual conference session for its action where appropriate and necessary.

Finally as your spiritual leader I need to bring to your attention that as a conference we continue to lose members and worship attendance. There is no good reason for this. There is absolutely no doubt that God continues to touch lives through God’s grace; a grace, abundant grace, that reaches out to every child of God even before we are aware of our need of God. I believe that our decline is because we have forgotten that the church exists not only for the maintenance of worship, and the edification of believers, but also for the redemption of the world.¹ As United Methodists we believe that the church of Jesus Christ exists in and for the world...under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, helping people to accept and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and living lives in right relationship with God.² Friends, we need to look outwardly and with a spirit of humble and joyful invitation. Every church in our conference can grow but we will need to make those who have yet to know Christ Jesus and those who have no community of faith, the priority, above our own needs.

A few weeks ago I preached at one of our churches and had the joyful privilege of receiving 10 persons into membership in The United Methodist Church. In fact, that local church has in the last 2 years received 40 new members. I asked how this was happening. The answer was clear: they were welcoming others, some who look just like them and others who do not. Their recent church growth had begun with a phone call. A woman who lived in the neighborhood had called and asked whether the United Methodist Church on the corner had persons like her. She is African American. The church secretary had laughed to herself as she said to the woman, “But of course, our pastor is African American.” The congregation was primarily white at that moment, but the pastor was a person like her! That neighbor joined the church and brought her family and
friends with her. What I saw the morning I was with this congregation was a multi-cultural congregation. Even more, I saw a congregation that welcomes its neighbors, every single one of them.

Growing the church takes great intentionality. We have to be willing to share Christ Jesus with others and invite others to consider following Jesus as Lord and Savior. This won’t happen if the primary focus of our church life is us. This does not mean that we cease to provide ministry to those who are already members of the church, but it does mean that we make others the priority.

- Ask you pastor to spend more time in the community reaching out to new people and less time with you because you are mature Christians who can take care of yourselves.
- Have the laity of your church spend more time reaching out to others as well, rather than just maintaining the church community, programs and properties you already have.
- Pray fervently for those who have yet to know Christ, and ask the Holy Spirit to teach you how to reach them for Christ.
- And serve without ceasing, living lovingly and justly as servants of Christ by healing the sick, feeding the hungry, caring for the stranger, freeing the oppressed, being and becoming a compassionate, caring presence, while also working with others to develop social structures that are consistent with the gospel.3

Let us again reclaim our commitment to personal and social holiness, a commitment that once made us a vital and growing Methodist movement whose heart was making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We are a broken people in so many ways, but we are so much more than that. We are the people of God, our faithful and loving God who will never abandon us on our journey to wholeness, the wholeness God will give us! Thanks be to God!1

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño

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1 The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church 2012, paragraph 201, p. 243.
2 Ibid. Paragraph 202, p. 143.
3 Ibid. Paragraph 122, p. 92.
CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify and declare the Daily Proceedings of the Thirtieth Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference, meeting in Redlands, CA, June 18-21, 2014, to be the Official Record of the Annual Conference.

Minerva G. Carcaño,
Presiding Bishop
The Los Angeles Area
The United Methodist Church

J. Daniel Lewis & Leanne Nakanishi,
Conference Co-Secretaries
California-Pacific Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church