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ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
INFORMATION

COME, LIVE IN THE LIGHT!

Once you were in darkness, but now in the Lord you are light! Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. – EPHESIANS 5:8-9

Welcome to the Eighteenth Session of the Mississippi Annual Conference!

We gather as children of light! The first Christians were described as *children of light*, and we claim that ancient image as we sense the light of God's love.

The past twelve months have been remarkable ones, months that will live forever in our memories. This is a distinctive time; it will not fade into other seasons of our lives as some times do. We will recall this time as a time of weeping and helping, of destruction and recovery, of mission partnership.

United Methodist people celebrate *connection*: we live together in God's light. We bear one another's burdens. We help one another. We welcome others whose hearts resonate with our own. We will gather at the Table of the Lord, sensing keenly the communion of the saints who have lived among us for a season and now live eternally with God.

In this annual conference, we will celebrate *Chabadza*, the vital partnership of workers joining others already at work and affirm a covenant with the Zimbabwe Area of The United Methodist Church. We will give thanks for our shared mission with the young, inviting every congregation to become a *Congregation for Children*. We will celebrate those who are living remarkably in the Light, as they plant new churches, strengthen leadership skills, lead congregations in wellness ministries, seek commissioning and ordination, transition into retirement, extend Christ's mission in the world.

It is good to know ourselves as *children of light*. God has beckoned us out of darkness into marvelous light. In these days, let us live as children of light be renewed for the ministry that lies ahead.

With gratitude for the light of Christ in you,
Hope Morgan Ward

2006 REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

(Please read carefully, this has changed)

Registration for the Annual Conference will be Sunday, June 11, at Christ United Methodist Church for **Laiety** and at Anderson United Methodist Church for **Clergy** from 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Monday, June 12, at Christ United Methodist Church from 8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. for **both**. It is strongly recommended that you complete it at the pre-conference briefing and turn it in to your district at that time. This will enable the registration process to move quickly. The roll card should be completed and submitted prior to your arrival. **NOTE: All registrations after Monday will be considered late registrations and will be handled by the Hospitality Committee.**

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Lay Members:

Please submit your completed roll card to your district prior to conference then report to your district table at conference to complete registration and receive your badge.

If you will not be attending conference, please give this workbook and roll card to the alternate member who will be attending in your place. The badges for lay members, including diaconals and deaconesses, will be blue in color.

Clergy Members:

Please submit your completed roll card to your district prior to conference then report to your district table at conference to complete registration and receive your badge. If you are moving to a new appointment please put your **new** HOME address and telephone number(s) on your registration card. All clergy badges are red in color. * ALL need emergency contact # included.

Please print your appointment code in the upper right hand corner.

AF – AFFILIATE MEMBER	PD – PROBATIONARY DEACON
AM – ASSOCIATE MEMBER	PE – PROBATIONARY ELDER
DEA – DEACONESS	PL – PART TIME LOCAL PASTOR
DM – DIACONAL MINISTER	PM – PROBATIONARY MEMBER
DP – DEACON OTHER DENOMINATION	RA – RETIRED ASSOCIATE MEMBER
SERVING UM PROBATION	RDE – RETIRED DEACONESS
EP – ELDER OTHER DENOMIN.	RDI – RETIRED DIACONAL
SERVING UM PROBATION	RFD – RETIRED DEACON,
FE – ELDER IN FULL CONNECTION	FULL CONNECTION
FD – DEACON IN FULL CONNECTION	RL – RETIRED LOCAL PASTOR
FL – FULL TIME LOCAL PASTOR	ROE – RETIRED ELDER,
LP – OTHER LOCAL PASTOR	OTHER CONFERENCE
OA – ASSOC. MEMBER OF OTHER AC	RP – RETIRED PROBATIONARY MEMBER
OD – DEACON OTHER CONFERENCE	RPL – RETIRED PART-TIME
OE – ELDER OF OTHER AC	LOCAL PASTOR
OF – FULL MEMBER OF OTHER	RM – RETIRED FULL MEMBER
DENOMINATION	SP – STUDENT PASTOR
OP – PM/PD OTHER AC	SY – SUPPLY PASTOR

BAR OF THE CONFERENCE

In order to vote, CLERGY and LAY MEMBERS must sit within the “bar of the conference” (voting area) designated at the opening organizational plenary.

BADGES (name tags) must be worn for entrance into the designated voting area.

Should it become necessary for a LAY MEMBER to leave the conference, he/she should turn in his/her badge to the Conference Secretary’s desk. The reserve, or alternate, member may pick up the proper credentials so that church/charge may be represented. CLERGY MEMBERS who find it necessary to leave must advise their district superintendent of their departure.

District superintendents and conference staff have reserved seats toward the front.

Ushers will be on duty at all entrances at the sessions to assist and give directions for seating.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Tuesday, June 12, 2006

THE RHYTHMS OF LITURGY AND LIFE: WORSHIP DYNAMIC AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Presenter: Marcia McFee of Worship Workshop

There is more to what draws us to a particular style or type of worship than meets the eye. Drawing from her doctoral work in liturgics as well as a whole host of venues for worship, Marcia McFee will help participants examine more closely the dynamics at work in various worship experiences, and why we resonate with some more than others.

THE LEADING CAUSE OF LIFE

Presenter: Gary Gunderson, Vice-President of Methodist Health Systems

Where will health care run amuck find a stopping place? Gary Gunderson will call on his years of training and experience as he offers insight into the world of public health policy with a twist. What if we and our congregations were a key to helping change the face of healthcare in Mississippi and the mid-south?

SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW (SoSA) ... NEXT STEPS

Presenter: Bob Fritchey, Mississippi Director of SoSA

Where's the food? SoSA stood up in the face of Katrina and moved forward with its placement of an office and personnel in Mississippi. Bob Fritchey has hit the ground running as he has moved to make contacts with growers in the food producing areas of our annual conference. Bob will update participants on SoSA's plan of operation as well as how churches and individuals can become involved in feeding folk with food left behind.

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

Presenter: Bishop Tom Bickerton, Resident Bishop of the Pittsburg Area

The church doesn't need just any kind of leadership. It needs spiritually mature, spiritually prepared, spiritually committed people who are willing to lead by stepping up, stepping out, but also, by listening for a still voice. Bishop Bickerton offers a refreshing understanding of what it means to be a leader in The church of the twenty-first century.

KATRINA RECOVERY: THE PLAN

Presenter: Ed Blakeslee, Mississippi Conference Disaster Recovery Coordinator

The three "R's": Response, Relief, and Recovery. Ed Blakeslee has described putting together our recovery plan as being like "piloting a 737 jet at 35,000 feet while trying to repair damages to keep it in the air." Ed and members of the recovery staff will report on the long-term plan which has been and is being put into place for our recovery.

A JOURNEY TO HEALTH

Presenter: Elaine Dye, Mississippi Conference Health & Wellness Initiative

Salvation, health, and wholeness signify different traditions, and yet, they are so interdependent. We have often spoken of folk as being "ahead of their times." After years of working with the idea of local churches as an in-road to healthy church members, "the times" and Elaine have met through the Health and Wellness missional initiative. Come explore the relationship between salvation and health.

ZIMBABWE PARTNERSHIP

Bishop Eben Nhiwatiwa, Resident Bishop of Zimbabwe Area

The word partnership suggests mutuality. As we enter the Chabadza Covenant with Zimbabwe, Bishop Nhiwatiwa will share with participants around the gifts that the United Methodists of Zimbabwe have to offer our conference and our churches. He will also share the partnership needs of his people.

SHARE HOUSE

Ray Buchanan, President of Stop Hunger Now

A founding partner of Society of St. Andrew, Ray Buchanan moved beyond the geographical borders of hunger in the U.S. to hunger in the world. Food aid and supplies offered between governments do not always get to intended recipients. Stop Hunger Now, whose board of directors is chaired by our Mike Ward, targets people and locales that can receive direct shipments of food stuffs for direct distribution. Participants will become acquainted with ways they and their local churches can be involved in stopping hunger now.

LOCAL CHURCH AS LIGHT PARTNER

Twick Morrison, Chairperson of Mississippi Conference Religion and Race

It's interesting when things "come to light" how a different understanding of life situations and circumstances can be understood. Light Partners is our United Methodist Church in Mississippi looking to the light of Christ as the source of new understanding between people of different color and race. Twick with members of the Commission on Religion and Race will offer help to local churches who seek to be involved in this part of God's kingdom work.

	School for Congregational Development	
	Life in the Light: Small Membership Churches	Ron Barham
	Parish & Community Ministries	Lou Ann Staggs
	Harry Denman Evangelism Award	John Sudduth
	Camp Lake Stephens at 60	Darrell Whitaker
	Black College Fund Representative	Latoya Glover
	Higher Education Scholastic Awards	Warren Coile
3:30 p.m.	CONFERENCE IN RECESS	
3:45 p.m.	Wesley Heritage Tour	Peggy Dawson
	Life In the Light: Health & Wellness	Embra Jackson
	Methodist Healthcare Introductions	Jim Ormon
	Emma Elzy Award	Twick Morrison
	Life in the Light: Racial Reconciliation	Twick Morrison
	Tobias Gibson Award	Mary Simpson
	Council on Finance and Administration	Delmar Robinson
5:00 p.m.	CONFERENCE IN RECESS - DINNER BREAK	
7:30 p.m.	WORSHIP: Congregations for Children	Sanctuary
	Speakers: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward	
	Mr. Hank Bounds	
9:30 p.m.	Ordinands Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

6:30 a.m.	'Arise! Shine! 5K Run/Walk	Gym
7:45 a.m.	Program/Agenda Participants Meeting	Choir Room
8:30 a.m.	CONFERENCE PLENARY	Sanctuary
	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
	Preacher: Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton	
9:15 a.m.	Resolutions & Petitions	David Beckley
	Commission on Equitable Compensation	Steve McAllily
9:30 a.m.	BREAKOUT SESSIONS/MISSIONS FAIR	
	The Rhythms of Liturgy and Life:	
	Worship Dynamics and Spiritual Formation <i>Marcia McFee</i>	Sanctuary
	The Leading Cause of Life <i>Gary Gunderson</i>	Room 236
	Society of St. Andrew – Next Steps <i>Bob Fritchey</i>	Room 229
	Spiritual Leadership <i>Bishop Tom Bickerton</i>	Youth Worship Room
	Katrina Recovery: The Plan <i>Ed Blakeslee</i>	Fellowship Hall
	A Journey to Health <i>Elaine Dye</i>	Choir Room
	Zimbabwe Partnership <i>Bishop Eben Nhiwatiwa</i>	Room 224
	Share House <i>Ray Buchanan/Mike Ward</i>	Room 235
	Local Church as Light Partner <i>Twick Morrison</i>	Room 225
10:40 a.m.	CONFERENCE PLENARY	Sanctuary
	CELEBRATION of 50 Years of Full Clergy Rights for Women	Hope Morgan Ward
	Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (Part I)	Sam Morris
	Recognition of Clergy Celebrating 50 years of Christian Ministry	
	SERVICE OF RECOGNITION OF RETIRING CLERGY	
12:30 p.m.	CONFERENCE IN RECESS – LUNCH BREAK	
2:00 p.m.	CONFERENCE PLENARY	Sanctuary
	Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (Part II)	Sam Morris
	Presentation of Class into Full Connection	
	Recognition of Extension Ministers	
	Recognition of Local Pastors and Associate Members	
	Recognition of persons who have received License to Preach in past 12 months	
	Recognition of persons completing Course of Study in past 12 months	
	Commissioning of Probationary Members	
3:45 p.m.	CONFERENCE IN RECESS	

4:00 p.m.	Conference Trustees Board of Pensions United Methodist Publishing House Presentation Board of Medical Benefits	<i>Henderson Rasberry</i> <i>Ed Jones</i> <i>Alicia Beam-Ingram</i> <i>Elvernice Davis</i>
5:30 p.m.	CONFERENCE IN RECESS – DINNER BREAK	
7:30 p.m.	WORSHIP: The Service of Ordination Preacher: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward Following Worship: Reception honoring persons ordained and their families	Sanctuary Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

7:45 a.m.	Program/Agenda Participants Meeting	Choir Room
8:30 a.m.	CONFERENCE PLENARY Morning Worship: Love Feast Preacher: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward	Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	CONFERENCE IN RECESS	
10:30 a.m.	Mississippi Methodist Senior Services Resolutions & Petitions Conference Nominating Committee (for Election) Council on Finance and Administration 2007 Conference Budget (Final Adoption) Logging In @ www.mississippi-umc.org	<i>Steve McAlilly</i> <i>David Beckley</i> <i>Roger Puhr</i> <i>Delmar Robinson</i>
12:30 p.m.	CONFERENCE IN RECESS – LUNCH BREAK	
2:00 p.m.	District Property Resolutions and Changes in Charge Lines Journal Committee Minute Questions Where Shall the 2007 Annual Conference Meet? Where Shall the 2008 Annual Conference Meet? Courtesy Committee The 2006 Pastoral Appointments Covenanting Service and Sending Forth Leader: Bishop Hope Morgan Ward	<i>Steve McDonald</i> <i>Sue Whitt</i> <i>Alicia Beam Ingram</i>

CONFERENCE ADJOURNMENT – SINE DIE

2006 MISSISSIPPI ANNUAL CONFERENCE CHILDCARE REGISTRATION FORM

Please print clearly:

Child's Full Name: _____

Name Called: _____ Gender: Male Female

Child's Date of Birth: _____ Grade completed as of 5/06: _____

List child's medical concerns (i.e. Down Syndrome, Autism, Hearing/Vision Impaired, Asthma, etc.)

_____Does your child have any allergies? _____ If yes, please list: _____
_____**Parent/Guardian Information:**

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Insurance Information:

Name of Insurance Company: _____

Policy Number: _____

Group Number (if applicable): _____

Insurance Claim Address: _____

Name of Insured's Employer: _____

Cost of Childcare – PAYMENT IS DUE UPON REGISTRATION

\$10 registration fee per family (non-refundable)

\$10 per daily session per child

\$25 late fee if registration is not RECEIVED by Monday, May 22, 2006

Please mark which sessions your child will be attending:

 Monday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Wednesday 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**Please make checks payable to CUMC. Write "AC Childcare" in the memo line. Mail to: 6000 Old
Canton Road, Jackson, MS 39211** I will bring my child's lunch. My child will eat a boxed lunch (\$3 per day – please include payment with this form.)*In the event of an emergency, I authorize first aid and/or medical treatment for this child and I release Christ United Methodist Church from any and all responsibility in connection therewith.*

Signature: _____ Relationship: _____

Date: _____



Just Don't Get It?

STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT HOW EVERYBODY ELSE seems to know what's going on but you don't? It's probably because they receive the *Mississippi United Methodist Advocate* and you don't.

You can change that, however, by simply sending in the subscription form below. Then you, too, will know about what great things God is doing in the

Mississippi Conference. The *Advocate* offers something for everyone, including United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, recipes, movie reviews and thought provoking commentary by local and national church leaders.

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✂

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