

160<sup>th</sup> Session of the California-Nevada Annual Conference – Sacramento, California,  
June 17-21, 2008

*Extending Christ's Invitation for a Joyous Life*  
**The Daily Summary of Thursday, June 19, 2008**

**Opening Plenary:**

Bishop Shamana opened the Plenary Session.

Jeff Kunkel, Curator for the Artistic Presence, invited Conference members to enjoy a gift of Playdough to express their own creativity during Session, and described the Artistic Presence celebrations.

**Commission on Religion and Race (CORR):**

Jeff Kuan and Eveline Koloto reported that CORR monitors racial, ethnic, gender, and generational inclusion during all activities of the Annual Conference.

Courtesy: Motoe Yamada introduced Steven Cutting of Asian Rural Institute, Japan, which has formed new partnerships with San Jose: Wesley UMC; Steven introduced 3 ARI volunteer program graduates who are also here with us this week.

**Roll Call & Recognition of Service of 50 Years or More:**

Bill Beck (50), Don Cunningham (53), Glenn Fuller (61), John Corson (50), John Emerson (50), Leo Fong (56), [Alfred Chandler (75)], John Schmidt (67), Bill McCord (55), Oscar Escamilla (51), Amos Cambic (59), Gordon Fairchild (50), Don Fado (52), Alpha Takagi (58), John Albright (59), Jim Corson (57), unidentified honoree (50 years), Sarge Wright (66), Claude Friesen (52), [Robert Moon (64)], Phil Greer (53).

Clergy that have answered roll call 50 times or more, stood and introduced themselves. Bishop Shamana invited Plenary to show appreciation to each honoree by using the ASL sign for applause (waving the fingers of our open hands), to be followed after all have introduced themselves by "our louder applause" (clapping hands). Roger reported that quick calculations by podium volunteers show a total of 1,138 years of accumulated service! Lay Members answering roll call for 10 years or more were asked to stand, accompanied by "loud applause."

**Fixing of Appointments, Fresno District (Mariellen Yoshino & Bishop Shamana):**

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2, read in Spanish by Pastor Elmar deOcerro (Delano UMC).

As Superintendent Yoshino and Bishop Shamana alternated reading the appointments, each pastor stood in place.

Afterward, Roger invited Plenary to bestow "the ancient blessing" of laying-on-of-hands; the Bishop offered a prayer for "extending the dance to others"; Plenary sang the hymn "Joy to the World."

**Introductory Speeches by Episcopal Nominees:**

Roger described the protocol: 5 minutes allotted for each speech, in the order received by the Secretary:

Ted Virts, Tom Kimball, Felicisimo Cao, Renae Extrum-Fernandez, Siosifa Hingano, David Bunje.

**Poeticus Interruptus:** Mary Elyn Bahlert read "The Summer Day," by Mary Oliver, a contemporary American poet.

**First Ballot:**

Roger gave instructions, shown on screen. Plenary took first ballot, and Roger added, "On the next ballot, we will pray before we vote; this one we will pray at the end of it." Bishop offered prayer.

**Conference Theme and Leadership:** "Extending Christ's Invitation for a Joyous Life."

Bishop invited Linda Wiberg to speak on the theme and leadership. In keeping with artistic presence, Linda read the poem "To Be of Use" and recognized the people who offer their talents to be in ministry among us: "Extending Invitation with our Talent."

Linda introduced the Committee on Nominations.

David Bunje introduced Candidates elected to Probationary Membership, “who are now preparing for their Commissioning this Saturday.”

Denise Leslie & Gwen Bortner introduced Residents in Ministry elected to Full Membership.

Ted Virts, Dean of the Cabinet, introduced new pastoral appointments.

Kathy Warner introduced the 2008 graduates of the Conference Lay Ministry Training program (CLayM).

Kelly Newell, Youth & Camping Coordinator, introduced Conference youth members and chaperones.

### **State of the Conference Address by Bishop Beverly Shamana**

#### **Courtesies:**

Janet Saavedra introduced Superintendent from Fiji Methodist Church.

Larry Pearson introduced Superintendent in the Calan Circuit, Panama/Costa-Rica Conference.

#### **Results from Ballot No. 1, Episcopal Nominees:**

Total Ballots Votes Cast 779

Needed for Election 390

#### **Votes Received:**

Thomas (Ted) E. Virts 226

Tom Kimball 115

Felicisimo Cao 50

Rena Extrum-Fernandez 202

Siosifa Hingano 151

David Bunje 35

Felicisimo Cao and David Bunje withdrew from nomination.

Bishop asked: “Shall the Annual Conference continue to ballot in order to nominate ministers for Episcopal election?”

Voice Vote: Yes.

#### **Board of Church & Society (BCS):**

Margo Tenold introduced the Litany for the Social Creed “as a gift to us from 2008 General Conference in celebration of the 100th anniversary of The Social Creed.” Plenary recited the Litany with sung Response. Margo reported major accomplishments of BCS during the year: Task Force on Immigration, materials to support church members seeking Conscientious Objector status, AIDS Coordinator, Church & Society website.

Bishop Shamana introduced the keynote speaker, Jim Winkler, General Secretary of General Board of Church & Society.

#### **Keynote Speaker: Jim Winkler**

#### **Fixing of Appointments, Bay View District (Rena Extrum-Fernandez and Bishop Shamana):**

Reading of Scripture, Romans 12:3, in Taiwanese by Patrick Huang, San Leandro Formosan UMC.

Superintendent Extrum-Fernandez and Bishop alternated reading the appointments, each pastor stood in place, followed by laying-on-of-hands, and the Bishop’s Prayer.

**Poeticus Interruptus:** Mary Elyn Bahlert read the poem, “What I Learned from My Mother.”