

Dubuque District Conference

Sunday, May 6, 2007, 2:30-5:00 PM
Manchester United Methodist Church

Fifty-five people attended the Dubuque District Conference. District Superintendent Bill Poland welcomed the group with an opening prayer and called the session to order.

Karen Jubeck was elected secretary.

Guest Jarama Filiya, visiting the Dubuque District from Nigeria, was introduced. Mr. Filiya was recently appointed Principle at the United Methodist Church of Nigeria's Junior Secondary School.

Reports written by District representatives to Conference Benevolence Agencies/District Committee Chairs/Coordinators of other Roles or Responsibilities were distributed:

- Advocate - Persons with Disabilities - Rev. Dick Iles
- Archives & History - Steve Story/A.W. Martin
- Board of Camps - Chad Leitch
- Board of Discipleship - Karl Goodfellow
- Camps Coordinator - Rev. Dick Iles
- Missions Secretary - Sue Hattel
- Church Location/Building/Parsonage - Bob Schaub
- District Council on Ministries - Fran Bowden
- District Committee on Ordained Ministry (dCOM) - Jerry Oakland
- District Leadership Development Team - Nancy Bradley
- District Nominations Committee - Margaret Mackey
- Superintendency Committee - Wayne Burk
- Disaster Preparedness/Response - Richard Sullivan
- Ingathering - Tom Berryman
- District Lay Leader / Board of Laity - Ilo Rhines
- Pictured Rocks - David Bracht-Wagner
- United Methodist Men - John Tyrell
- United Methodist Women - Helen Schaub
- Volunteers in Mission - Tom & Sandra Berryman

Rev. Poland explained that there will be another District Conference in September to adopt the budget. He called for any additions to the agenda or additional reports to be provided. There were none.

Verbal updates/reports were presented from:

- **Building/Location/Parsonage Committee** - Rev. Poland expressed appreciation to Bob Schaub and the committee for their work during the past year, which has included the selling of the District parsonage, which will close June 30.
- **District Council on Ministries (DCOM)** - Fran Bowden and Rev. Poland informed that District Askings did not have to be presented to the District Conference, as it will be presented to the new Districts in the fall. However, a motion was made

by Fran that we carry over the current DCOM budget to the new Districts, until the new one is adopted by them during the fall District Conferences. It was seconded by Wayne Burk, and passed with a verbal vote.

The first Northeast District Conference is scheduled for Sept. 16th, 2007. At this time the new District Superintendent and Field Outreach Minister will be installed. Rev. Poland requested approval to purchase two bibles to be inscribed with the new District names and presented to the new District Superintendents at the installation services. Margaret Mackey moved this be approved; Barbara Putney seconded; motion carried.

Great appreciation was expressed to Fran Bowden for the commitment and diligence she has brought to her duties as DCOM Chair.

- **District Committee on Ordained Ministry (dCOM)** - Rev. Jerry Oakland presented the recommendations of the dCOM for those ministerial candidates that this committee has reviewed, as listed below.

Jonathan Bailey	The Committee recommends that he be certified as a candidate. He is a member of Independence UMC and is a first year student at Perkins School of Theology. Janet Everhart at Simpson College is his mentor.
John Brockschink	The Committee recommends he be continued as a local pastor.
Neil Hofer	The Committee recommends that he be certified a lay minister (§ 272.).
Steve Hubbell	The Committee recommends that he be certified a lay minister (§ 272.). He is anticipating the candidacy process when he is eligible. His membership is in Wesley UMC, East Dubuque. He is graduating from UDTS this month and is the student pastor of Zwingle UCC. Jerry Oakland is his guide.
Crystal Karr	The Committee acknowledges her as an inquiring candidate. Her membership is in the Maquoketa UMC and she is a student at Saint Paul School of Theology. Alan Pruitt, a member of the Missouri West Conference, is her guide.
Jill Mack	The Committee recommends she be continued as a local pastor.
Jennifer Meyer	The Committee recommends that she be certified as a candidate and be licensed as a full-time local pastor. She will be graduating from UDTS this month. She serves as temporary pulpit supply at Center Grove & Rockdale UMCs. Ron Blix is her mentor.
Brian Oliver	The Committee recommends he be continued as a local pastor.
Judy Paulson	The Committee recommends she be continued as a local pastor.
Merle Paulson	The Committee recommends he be continued as a local pastor.
Keith Putney	The Committee recommends he be continued as a local pastor.
Christopher St. Clair	The Committee acknowledges him as an inquiring candidate. He is a member of Jordan Creek UMC, West Des Moines and is a student at UDTS, anticipating graduation in 2008. He serves as temporary pulpit supply at Wesley, East Dubuque. Ron Blix is his mentor.
Lisa Schroeder	The Cedar Rapids Committee has been responsible for her continuation as a local pastor; an interview was completed. The Northeast District will be responsible for her candidacy in the future.

Individual motions were made for those recommended above, with each being accepted with a verbal vote.

Note that there were changes to this presentation from that which was listed in the written report in the District Conference bulletin for candidates Brian Oliver and Lisa Schroeder.

- District Nominations Committee - Margaret Mackey presented the Nominations report and ballot.

DCOM Executive Committee		
Chair & CCMC Rep	Fran Bowden	2003
Vice-Chair	Jim Rozendaal	2002
District Lay Leader & Board of Laity Rep	Ilo Rhines	2004
District Superintendent	Bill Poland	2006
Recording Secretary	Shirley Rozendaal	

DCOM Representatives to Conference Benevolence Agencies		
Advocate - Persons w/Disabilities	Dick Iles	2006
Archives & History	Steve Story	2004
	A.W. Martin	2003
Age Level Council	Shirley Rozendaal	2003
Board of Camps	Chad Leitch	2003
Board of Discipleship	Karl Goodfellow	2003
Board of Global Ministries	Open	
Board of Higher Education	Laurie Riley	2006
Camps Coordinator	Dick Iles	2006
Christian Unity Rep	Farr Jebens	2003
Church & Society	Ollie Pleggenkuhl	2004
Hispanic Task Force	Keith Putney	2003
Institutional Ministries	John Tyrrell	2005
Missions Secretary	Open	
Parish Development	Open-LW	
Religion & Race	Barbara Tabor	2006
Status/Role of Women	Larry Loeppke	2003
Spiritual Life Coordinator	Shirley Rozendaal	2002

DCOM – Other District Responsibilities		
Disaster Preparedness/Response	Richard Sullivan	2003
Heifer Project	Corby Johnson	2006
Ingathering Representative	Tom Berryman	2005
Iowa-Nigeria Partnership	Bill Lux	1992
Lay Speaker Chair	Neil Hofer	2004
UMM President	Dr. John Tyrrell	2000
UMW President	Helen Schaub	2004
VIM Coordinator	Tom & Sandra Berryman	11/2006
Youth Coordinator	Scott Kober	5/24/2006
Older Adults	Donna Smith	2006

DCOM – Ex Officio		
Bi-District Connectional Min.	Jill Sanders	
dCOM Chair	Dennis Gilbert	1998
Church Location/Bldg/Pars Chair	Bob Schaub	1999
Nominating Chair	Margaret Mackey	2002
Pictured Rocks Director	David Bracht-Wagner	
Superintendency Chair	Wayne Burke	

Margaret Mackey explained that those holding positions highlighted in **yellow** are at the end of their term, but are asked to stay in this position an additional year, through the District reorganization transition. A suspension of Conference Rules of Order will be requested at the 2007 Annual Conference to allow this to happen. Margaret made the motion to extend these terms; motion seconded by Tom Berryman; motion carried.

Those positions shaded in grey are on the current ballot. Rev. Poland made the motion to accept these nominees as presented; motion was carried by verbal response of 'Praise God'.

Church Location/Building/Parsonage		
Class of 2006	Art Fudge	1984
	Gretta Kling	1993
	Carol Kress	2003
Class of 2007	Jan Roseland	2004
	Ken Hartman	2007
	Onalee Oakes	2006
Class of 2008	Bob Schaub, Chair	1999
	Janet Busch	2006
	Duane Datisman	2006
Advocate - Persons w/Disabilities	Dick Iles	2006
Conference Trustee	Helen Schaub	2005
District Superintendent	Bill Poland	

Committee On Ordained Ministry (dCOM)		
Chair	Dennis Gilbert	1992
Registrar	Open	
	Carol Kress	9/2006
	Jane Cooper	1997
	Darwin Moore	2001
	David Pacholke	1977
	Colleen Petaros	2004
	Don Rhines	2003
	Lorraine Hartman	2007
	Jeff Dadisman	2007
District Superintendent	Bill Poland	

Parish Development		
Chair	Darwin Moore	2001
	Judy Alford	2002
	David Bracht-Wagner	2003
	Jim Dotson	1990
	Open	
	Kevin Powell	2002
District Superintendent	Bill Poland	

Superintendency		
Class of 2006	Wayne Burk	1996
	Richard Klinefelter	2005
	Open	
Class of 2007	Judy Niehaus	2004
	Bruce Bane	2004
	Lorraine Hartman	1/2007
Class of 2008	Ollie Pleggenkuhle	1996
	Mary Purdy	2000
	Linda Watson	2002
Ex Officio - District Lay Leader	Ilo Rhines	2004

Nominating			
Class of 2006	Karen Carlton	2003	
	Lois Rasmus	2003	
Class of 2007	Ollie Pleggenkuhle	1995	
	Open		
	Margaret Mackey, chair	2002	
Class of 2008	Richard Klinefelter	1996	
	Steve Kahler	2002	
Ex Officio:	District Sup't	Bill Poland	
	Lay Leader	Ilo Rhines	
	COSROW Rep	Larry Loeppke	
	CORR Rep	Barbara Tabor	2002
	YAC Rep	Open	

Lay Speaker Committee		
Chair	Neil Hofer	2000
	Lonnie Fawver	1994
	Steven Kahler	2001
	Richard Klinefelter	1996
	Kathy Lamb	1996
	Gay Bowden	1996

Vital Worship		
Chair	Missy Brown	2006
District Sup't	Bill Poland	

District Representatives to Conference Administrative Agencies		
C Sessions Planning	Kathi Mitchell	2001
Board of Pensions	Gay Bowden	2007
Board of Trustees	Helen Schaub	2005
Committee on Episcopacy	None requested from Dubuque 2006 or 2007...	
Conference Finance & Administration	Cheryl Walser-Kramer	2005
Equitable Compensation Commission	Art Fudge	2003
Human Resources	Dennis Gilbert	2006
Leadership Development	Noreen Miller	2005
Nominating Coordinating Committee	Margaret Mackey	2006
Pastoral Care & Counseling	James Rozendaal	2000
Rules Of Order	Jane Cooper	2003

Those holding positions shaded in **blue** will be on the 2007 Annual Conference ballot.

Jill Sanders made the motion that the following roles be added as seats of the DCOM - Other District Responsibilities, and the following individuals fill those seats:

- **Expanding Participation** (in School for Lay Ministry); Ann Glime is currently serving as Dean of the Cornell School for Lay Ministry,
- **Matthew 25 Committee Chair**; Donna Meinhard

Matthew 25 Team		
Chair	Donna Meinhard	2007
	Kathi Mitchell	2006
District Sup't	Bill Poland	

Wayne Burk seconded the motion; motion carrier by a verbal vote.

Margaret recognized Barb Oakland for the outstanding work she does with Conference Nominations.

Rev. Poland moved that the nominees for District Representatives to Conference Administrative Agencies (highlighted in blue) are approved for the Conference ballot. Motion carried by a verbal vote.

Other reports presented included:

Disaster Preparedness & Response - Dick Sullivan reported that he had been seeking a job description since 2003, and found that none existed in the IAC. He obtained a well constructed description and plan from the Wisconsin AC, and will present that to

the Conference Disaster Preparedness & Response Committee.

Rev. Poland called for further reports or action items to come before the Conference; none were brought.

Rev. Poland shared some history from the book, *History of the Dubuque District*. These excerpts are attached below.

Lois Novak, Conference Ingathering Coordinator, presented information about Missions activities planned for the 2007 Annual Conference, starting with our Dubuque initiated Walk for AIDS, and including a Sleepout on Friday, June 8th on the lawn of Hilton to raise awareness of homelessness. Bring your cardboard tents, sleeping bags, etc.! Mission morning will be held Saturday, June 9th, with presentations to be given from various mission organizations as well as hands on mission activities. Bring food for the food pantry and components for kits. More info can be found online at www.iaumc.org (About Us/Annual Conference/2007 AC/Mission Opportunities).

Lois noted that Tom Berryman will be in the East Central District, so the Northeast District is in need of a new Ingathering representative. She also asked that we continue Ingathering activities as usual; the same five Ingathering sites will be in place as have been for the past years.

Rev. Poland led a discussion of pre-conference manual items, with the intent not to debate, but to present information that will be debated at Annual Conference. Items covered included:

- From P.183, information concerning the discretion that each church, deciding at it's annual Charge Conference, will have regarding what Conference Benevolences they want to contribute to:

Editor's Note. The Formula presented here is the formula recommended by CFA for the year 2008.

7. Apportionment Formula

- a. The budget adopted by the Annual Conference shall be apportioned to the Churches of the Annual Conference in accordance with Paragraph 247.14 and 614 of The Book of Discipline.
- b. As soon as practicable after the Annual Conference Session, the Conference Treasure shall notify each local church pastor and treasurer what amounts have been apportioned to it for our Shared Ministries. Such apportioned amounts shall be based upon a percent of income as reported on Table 3 Item 1, computed by applying the Consumer Price Index for the most recent rolling 12 months. If a local congregation has not reported Table 3 or reported less income than spent for Pastoral Ministries, Operating Expense and Program Expense the amount shall be adjusted using the expenses reported by those completing Table 3 and a percentage differential being applied. If a congregation fails to report any information for the statistical tables, the apportioned amount shall increase by 10% from the previous year's apportionment. The percent of income needed to meet the Conference apportioned budget shall be determined by the Council on Finance and Administration after it completes the budget building process in accordance with Paragraph 612, 613 and 614 of the Book of Discipline.
- c. The apportionment analysis that is presented to each Annual Conference Session will be formatted in the following three categories
 - 1 General Church Apportionments
 - 2 Conference Ministries
 - 3 Conference Benevolences
- d. In the 2009 budget, the General Church apportionments and Conference Ministries shall be apportioned.
- e. In the 2009 and 2010 budgeting cycle the following provision shall apply to the Conference Benevolence apportionment.

It was noted that the intent behind item a. above is to tie apportionments to inflation.

The concern was raised whether 'advertising' would be needed by each of the Boards and Agencies, in effect lowering the dollars that were left for missions. Another comment was made that it was stated at a CF&A meeting that a funding review process needed to be addressed, to assess how the various boards and agencies are functioning and currently funded. Another comment was made that the budget growth requested for next year is very moderate.

Jill Sanders said that she has seen much improvement over the past several years in the way the various Boards and Agencies work together, viewing the big picture in cooperation, rather than individual interests competitively. The CCMC looks for ways to improve. The current procedure is for each Board or Agency to submit their program/funding proposal to a review board each year.

A comment was made that little is known by laity about what the church is doing; that we need to communicate by 'telling the story' of conference and local ministries to members. The Conference website, District newsletters and email distribution lists are all great venues for future communication.

A clarification was made that the Annual Conference budget is set by the Annual Conference on recommendation of CF&A.

Barb Oakland made the note that there are changes to the nominations proposed. The changes are explained on manual beginning on page 108. Existing Board/Agency members will assume a larger role in the nominations process; with nominated members being elected by the Annual Conference. Jill Sanders explained the intent behind the proposed changes are to be inclusive, but also to assure passion for the role.

Implementation Team updates can be found in the Appendix section of the manual.

Rev. Poland shared more history from the book, *History of the Dubuque District*.

A worship service was held that included celebration of the Dubuque District presentation of the 2006 Rainbow Covenant Awards.

The meeting was closed by District Superintendent Bill Poland, with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Jubeck
District Administrative Secretary

Excerpts shared from the book *The Dubuque District A History*, by Lyle Johnston...

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The Dubuque District of the United Methodist Church had its beginning with the establishment of the first church six years before it was named a district. With the opening of the Black Hawk Purchase (eastern Iowa) by the United States Government in June, 1833, it did not take long for land-hungry settlers and money-hungry miners to cross the Mississippi River at the little settlement of Dubuque.

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At the 1839 session of the Illinois Conference held in Bloomington, the Rev. Thomas A. Morris, presiding Bishop, announced to his objecting cabinet, "We must have a district in Iowa...I have passed people between (Bloomington) and Cincinnati bound for Iowa, to form a district. The Iowa District (covering all of Iowa and Minnesota) was formed with the Reverend Henry Summers appointed as presiding elder. The appointments included such places as Fort Madison, Burlington, Rockingham (near present-day Davenport), the Fox River, the Manchester, the Bellevue Missions, Dubuque, the Richland and the Iowa Missions. "Manchester was an ephemeral town somewhere along the Mississippi River, and the Mission covered the territory along the Wapsipinicon River."

In 1840 the Illinois Conference was reorganized and from this the General Conference created the Rock River Conference (present-day Northern Illinois Conference) with the Iowa Territory attached. The Iowa District was divided with the northern half becoming the Dubuque District and the southern half becoming the Burlington District. The Reverend Bartholomew Weed was appointed presiding elder of the Dubuque District which included Rockingham, Comanche the Marion Mission, Bellevue, Dubuque and Clarksville.

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To show that Iowa was important to the Rock River Conference, its 1843 session was held in Dubuque's Centenary Church (forerunner to present-day St. Luke's). Some of the business included: 1) dividing the Burlington District and forming the Des Moines District, 2) realigning the districts so that Bloomington (Muscatine), Grandview and Maquoketa were included in the Burlington District from the Dubuque District, 3) new appointments in the latter included: the Dubuque Circuit and the Cedar Rapids Mission, and lastly, a resolution was adopted requesting the 1844 General Conference to separate and organize the work from the Rock River Conference into the Iowa Conference. The request was granted.

In the late summer of 1844 Bishop Thomas A. Morris, the man responsible for the 1839 formation of the Iowa District, officially convened the first session of the Iowa Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Iowa City. The Reverend Henry Reed was continued as presiding elder (his second year) on the Dubuque District. New appointments included the Delaware Mission (as part of the Dubuque Circuit), the

Iowa Circuit and Iowa City on the district. The Reverend Richard Swearingen wrote:

I was received into the Iowa Conference in 1846. My first charge was Canton in Jackson County and extended up the Maquoketa and Turkey Rivers as far as civilization extended. I received \$66 for my services that year. The second year I traveled the Wapsipinicon Mission and went up to Pine Creek near Independence. Independence was not large enough for an appointment at that time, and yet we made appointments out of very small things in those days. The third year, living four miles from Iowa City, I traveled up the Iowa River as far as civilization extended, organizing the first class at Janesville. My first charge had twenty-eight appointments, one every day of the week.

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Rev. John Clinton made his first report about the district in 1880 by saying:

I am on the largest district on the conference. The foreign elements in the population on the district prevail. Inroads are being made by our church, and formality is giving way to an earnest Christianity...I have traveled 5,890 miles, have preached 195 times, aiming to be at every quarterly conference. We held a glorious camp meeting at Grand Meadow. It has been a hard year to manage finances, owing to the failure of cereals (crops), but we have accomplished wonders. The salaries of our ministers have been increased, and generally paid. We have had to grapple with grievous church debts, but many of them have been paid, and others are in the process of payment. We have had revivals on the district (with five hundred persons (having) professed conversion. The churches are growing into greater spiritual life, and the Sabbath school work has received a fresh impetus. We have an increase, I think of one hundred per cent in benevolent collections.

The years later Clinton spent much of the report on the "foreign elements":

Our population is...largely foreign, but we as Methodists are unwilling to make the inconsistent admission that we cannot, to some extent, handle that element among us while we are sending our money to convert them abroad. Our German Methodists and Scandinavian Methodists have some of the best churches in the bounds of the district. I met one of the German pastors this week on his way to the conference at Le Mars, and he had \$250 missionary money that he was carrying up from a country circuit. It was they and we together that held that country level when working for the passage of our Constitutional Amendment (on liquor) on June 27. Among the worst...of foreigners it was customary to call any person a Methodist who voted and worked for the Amendment. Many of these foreigners are attending our English-speaking services and some of them are being converted.