

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 19, 2008 MEETING OF THE
EASTERN ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION**

The Eastern Annual Conference Board of Administration convened on April 19, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at First Southern Methodist Church in Sumter, SC. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Ellison Evans, Annual Conference Vice-President and Board Chairman.

The chairman led in the time of devotion and spiritual orientation. He shared from Matthew 15:32 regarding compassion and noted that we need to have compassion on people around us, on our churches, and on our pastors.

After receiving prayer requests, the chairman called on Rev. Nathanael Waites, who led in a season of prayer.

The chairman distributed a proposed agenda and noted that additional items for the meeting could be brought from the floor at the appropriate time.

The secretary called the roll with the following members present:

1. Rev. Ellison L. Evans, III
2. Rev. Dr. Philip C. Fulmer
3. Mr. James D. Minton, Sr.
4. Mr. Julian Boland
5. Mr. Woody Gregory
6. Rev. Steven Reynolds
7. Miss Deborah Westbury
8. Mrs. Betty Tindall
9. Rev. Greg Williams
10. Rev. Dr. Larry Crowe
11. Rev. Nathanael Waites
12. Mr. Tim Enlow
13. Rev. William Allen
14. Mr. Earl Bullard
15. Rev. George C. Howell
16. Rev. David E. Fulmer
17. Mr. Jack Corbett
18. Mrs. Laura Westbury

The chairman called for the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The secretary read the minutes from the November 2007 meeting. Rev. Nathanael Waites moved that the minutes be received; the motion was seconded by Rev. Greg Williams and carried without dissent.

The chairman called for the Report of the Conference Treasurer. Mr. James Minton, Treasurer, read his report (see attached). Rev. William Allen moved the report be received; the motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Bullard and carried without dissent.

The chairman called for the report on the two retirees' funds (see attached). Mr. James Minton reported on the balance of monies in the Adopt-A-Retiree Fund and in the Love Offering Fund. Mr. Woody Gregory moved that the report be received; the motion was seconded by Rev. Nathanael

The chairman reviewed the committee assignments and declared the following committee structure:

Board Committee on Finance –Rev. Ellison Evans; Mr. James D. Minton, Rev. George Howell, Rev. Philip Fulmer, Mr. Jack Corbett

Board Committee on Christian Life and Action – Rev. David Fulmer, Rev. Tony Curcio, Mr. John Mellis, Mr. Tim Enlow, Mr. Alan Berry, Rev. William Allen, Mr. Earl Bullard, and Rev. Dr. Larry Crowe.

Board Committee on Lay Activities and Home Missions – Mrs. Betty Tindall, Rev. Steven Reynolds, Mr. Julian Boland, Miss Deborah Westbury, Rev. Greg Williams, Mrs. Laura Westbury, Rev. Nathanael Waites, and Mr. Woody Gregory.

Following announcements, the Board recessed so that the Board Committees could meet to consider relevant items.

The Board of Administration reconvened to consider reports from committees.

The chairman called for the report of the Committee on Lay Activities and Home Missions. Rev. Steven Reynolds reported that the committee was investigating the possibility of posting audio files from the Leadership Retreat in February on the EAC web site. He also reported that the committee suggested posting or sending out copies of minutes from previous meetings. He further reported on suggestions from the committee on budget items to be considered. The Board voted to receive the report without dissent.

The chairman called for the report of the Committee on Christian Life and Action. Rev. William Allen reported that the committee discussed the Askings program and their concern over its future in raising needed funds. The Board voted to receive the report without dissent.

The chairman called for the report of the Board Committee on Finance. Rev. Philip Fulmer, committee secretary, reported the following:

1. The Committee recommends distributing any amount in the treasury in excess of \$5000 that is left at the end of the current church year to the retirees and widows of retirees in equal amounts not to exceed \$100 per retiree or widow.
2. The Committee reviewed the financial records of the treasurer and found them to be in good order. The committee commends the treasurer for his diligence in keeping the records.
3. The Committee recommends a budget for 2008-2009 in the amount of \$23,900 as distributed to the Board (attached to this report).

The Board voted to receive the report without dissent. The chairman called for consideration of action items. Item 1 above was adopted without dissent.

With respect to Item 3, the committee on lay activities and home missions moved that the budget allocation for the Youth Director and Sunday School Superintendent be increased to \$1000 each and that a new line item for the Epworth League be instituted at an amount of \$1000. The committee also

moved that the budgeted amount for retirees and widows be increased to a committed value of \$1200. Following discussion, a vote on the amendment was defeated 9-6.

Mrs. Laura Westbury moved that the budget be approved as amended in the amount of \$25,500. The motion was seconded by Mr. Earl Bullard and carried without dissent.

The chairman shared a request from the Southern Methodist Mission of Florence to be recommended to the Eastern Annual Conference for admission as a mission. Rev. Philip Fulmer moved that the BOA recommend that this church fellowship be received as a mission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woody Gregory and carried without dissent.

The chairman called for suggestions to pass to the Nominating Committee for the Board of Administration. The following names were suggested for laypersons: Joe Ponds, Ralph Brown, Sandra Tindall, and Diane Cochran. The following names were suggested for ministers: Rev. Steve Davis, Rev. Chris Sweatman, and Rev. Fletcher Rawls.

The chairman called for the report of Conference officers.

The chairman distributed a written report of his activities since the last meeting of the BOA (attached to this report).

The chairman recognized Rev. Greg Williams, Sunday School Superintendent, who reported on the Sunday School Seminar that was held in January 2008. He noted that it was well-attended and commented on possible ways that the Sunday School can reach the unchurched in local communities.

The chairman recognized Mr. Julian Boland, Conference Lay Leader, who encouraged continued participation in distribution of tracts and in the Adopt-A-Retiree program.

The chairman recognized Mrs. Betty Tindall, EAC WMS President, who reported on the various district meetings and conference meetings that had taken place during the previous few months.

The chairman recognized Rev. Steven Reynolds, Conference Youth Director, who distributed information on the effort from the EAC Board of Trustees and the Epworth League Committee to raise funds to support a full-time Youth Director.

The chairman recognized Miss Deborah Westbury, President of the Epworth League, who reported that an Epworth League Retreat will be held at Camp Summers and Manget on February 29-March 2.

Following announcements, the chairman announced that the next meeting of the BOA would be held on August 16, 2008, at the First Southern Methodist Church in Sumter, SC.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Steven Reynolds.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Dr. Philip C. Fulmer, Secretary
Eastern Annual Conference

ANNUAL CONFERENCE TREASURER'S REPORT**GENERAL FUND**

Balance June 8, 2007		\$ 4,553.50
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Income:

General Conference	\$ 20,986.09
EAC Men's and Pastor's Fellowship	\$ 374.00

Total	\$ 21,360.09
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Expenditures:

Retiree's and Widows' Stipends	\$ 12,375.00
Vice-President's Expenses	\$ 2,000.00
Treasurer's Expenses	\$ 205.00
Secretary's Expenses	\$ 100.00
Sunday School Superintendent's Expenses	\$ 200.00
Ministerial Relations Chairman's Expenses	\$ 200.00
Min. Relations Secretary Expenses	\$ 300.00
Min. Relations Secretary Gift ('07-'08)	\$ 400.00
Contingency Fund	\$ 113.21
EAC Men/Pastors' Fellowship (Home Missions)	\$ 187.00
EAC Men/Pastors' Fellowship (Boys Farm)	\$ 187.00

Total	\$ 16,267.21
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Balance, April 18, 2008		\$9,646.38
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RETIREE'S AND WIDOWS' LOVE OFFERING FUND

Beginning Balance, June 8, 2007		\$ 4,553.58
Income:		
Churches and Individuals	\$ 13,635.07	
Annual Conference Offering	\$ 6,791.50	
Golf Tournament	\$ 2,300.00	
Woman's Missionary Council	\$ 915.05	
Total	\$23,641.62	
Expenditures:		
Retirees and Widows	\$25,548.05	
Balance, April 18, 2008-05-06		\$ 2,647.15

ADOPT-A-RETIREE PROGRAM

Balance, June 8, 2007		\$ 5,594.50
Income:		
Churches and Individuals	\$ 22,841.00	
Total		\$ 28,841.00
Expenditures:		
Adope-A-Retiree	\$21,737.00	
Balance, April 18, 2008		\$ 6,698.50

“Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.” Psalm 56:22

Board Members,

It is a joy to serve the Lord in His Kingdom. We each are called to a place of service and the Lord will use us as we serve Him in the Southern Methodist Church. I have experienced great joys and a few sorrows in the ministries that my Lord has called me to. Joys and sorrows are a part of serving our Lord. I am sure that you have experienced like emotions in your place of service. I often think of the praise chorus that says, “The joy of the Lord is my strength.” It is a joy to serve Jesus.

David experienced joy and sorrow in his life. You could say that he had many experiences in these areas of life. So in time of joy and sorrow he would sing unto the Lord. Our hearts become burdened with the events of life. What are we to do? The Word tells us to cast our “burden upon the Lord and He will sustain us.”

Since the November 10th board meeting I have attended the following Annual Conference meetings: two Board of Trustees (January and February), Conference Epworth League, Sunday School Seminar, Retreat at Camp Summers and Manget and Annual Conference Pastor fellowship (March). I attended the General Conference Board of Administration on March 13 and 14.

In closing, let me share several “burdens” that I have cast before the Lord. The first concerns the ministry to our youth. The Board of Trustees made a step of faith to raise funds for a full time Camp Director. They have asked me this question, “What can the Conference BOA do for us?” — they need funds. Second concerns home missions. We need new churches-congregations in our conference, and our local churches need growth. What can we do to assist and encourage our people in these areas of service? Funds are needed in this area too! The third burden that I have is for ministers or pastors. We need the new men to answer the call to ministry and for our present pastors to search and encourage men to answer the call of ministry. These are some of the burdens that I have cast before the Lord.

Pray with me for our Church, and that we will be moved to serve our Lord in reaching the world for Him!

In His Service,
Rev. Ellison L. Evans, III
Vice President