



Detroit Annual Conference Secretary Rev. Tracy Huffman and Bishop Deb scout the plenary floor for signs of where the conference is headed.

Today's highlights

- 8:30 AM Gathering Worship/ Episcopal Address
- 10:15 AM Design Team Report
- 11:15 AM Bishop Retirement Celebration
- 2:00 PM First Steps
- 3:45 PM Act of Repentance and Reconciliation
- 7:00 PM Fellowship Night

 **85° CHANCE OF RAIN**

*“I am the LORD,
I have called you in
righteousness, I have
taken you by the hand
and kept you.”*

-Isaiah 42:6a *NSRV*

DAC EMBRACES AND ENDORSES

By Kay DeMoss, Senior Writer/Editor

EASTLANSING, Mich. (MIC) --On Thursday evening the Detroit Annual Conference added another name to a distinguished company by endorsing the Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr. for the episcopacy. His name along with that of the Rev. Dr. Jerome DeVine, Rev. Laurie Haller, and Rev. Kennetha Bigham Tsai was placed on the ballot earlier in the afternoon. In the subsequent vote Boayue received the 60% support necessary to endorse.

Many members of the Detroit Conference will remember the names of these clergymen ... Jesse DeWitt, Woodie White, Ray Lamb, Bill Quick, Bob Ward, Brent McCummons, and Roger Ireson. What these men have in common is that they, too, were endorsed for the episcopacy by the Detroit Annual Conference. Jesse DeWitt (1972) and Woodie White (1984) went on to be elected bishop by the North Central Jurisdictional Conference.

“We are blessed to have a child of the Liberia Conference and we own him as a child of the Detroit Conference,” said the Rev. Elbert Dulworth, Dean of the Cabinet, when nominating Charles from the floor. “Charles is a pastor, preacher, and an effective administrator who can help us live into what it means to be a global church,” Dulworth continued. Boayue greeted the Conference saying, “I am humbled to stand before you. The church is crying for leadership and I will give you the best I have.”

Bishop Sharon Zimmerman Rader, presiding over the evening session, used the

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EPISCOPACY A-B-C

By Kay DeMoss, Senior Writer/Editor

Bishops will be elected at the North Central Jurisdictional Conference meeting in Peoria, IL, July 13-16, 2016. The North Central Jurisdiction is comprised of 11 conferences (including West Michigan and Detroit). Four of the currently serving NCJ bishops have announced their retirements following the 2016 Jurisdictional Conference: Michael Coyner (Indiana), John Hopkins (East Ohio), Jonathan Keaton (Illinois Great Rivers) and Deborah Lieder Kiesey (Michigan).

At the present time there are 14 pastors in nomination to fill the vacancies created by those four retirements in the NCJ including: Rev. Kennetha Bigham Tsai, Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr., Rev. Dr. Jerome DeVine, and Rev. Laurie Haller.

Two of those four persons—Rev. Laurie Haller and Rev. Kennetha Bigham Tsai—have been endorsed by the combined Michigan Delegation. Today The Detroit Conference endorsed Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue Jr. On Monday, June 13, The West Michigan Conference will consider endorsement.

The Jurisdictional Conference delegates from Detroit Conference (12 in number) and West Michigan Conference (4 in number) will join 168 others in Peoria to participate in the election process. Delegates will meet with nominees, talk with other delegates, hear reports and cast ballots until four persons are elected.

Following the election of four bishops, assignments will be made of all newly elected and continuing NCJ bishops to the nine episcopal areas. This is done by a Jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy.

Michigan will welcome a newly assigned bishop on September 1, 2016. He or she will serve for the next four years, with the possibility of being reassigned for an additional eight years. Another matter that will be considered at NCJ 2016 is the authorization for the Detroit and West Michigan conferences to come together to form The Michigan Conference.



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Wesley Covenant Prayer in blessing Charles, sending him forward into the next steps toward the episcopal journey.

Plenty of other voting took place on Thursday. Ten resolutions came to the floor for action.

Approval was given for: 1) Questions to be asked candidates for Federal Office; 2) a call to repeal Michigan’s Emergency Manager Law; 3) a long-term commitment to the Flint Water Crisis; 4) advocacy for Restorative Justice; 5) establishment of churches as gun-free zones (with exceptions); 6) support for reasonable Gun Control Measures; 7) appeal for reduction of Mass Incarceration; and (8) speaking out against Anti-Islam Discrimination.

The Rev. Marsha Woolley, chair of the Program Committee, prayed at adjournment of the business: “We wondered about this space and if we would still be who we are as a Detroit Conference. We are OK because you are here and we look forward to tomorrow with eagerness and readiness.”

SWEET TWEET O’THE DAY



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Annual Conference can be grueling. #MIUMC16

