2013 Kansas West Annual Conference
Official Journal of the Kansas West Conference of the United Methodist Church

FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Kansas
May 22 - 24, 2013

This certifies that the following pages constitute the Official Journal of the Kansas West Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, held at the Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Kansas, May 22 - 24, 2013, including officers, personnel, boards and commissions, committees, representatives on the boards and committees, that acted during the Conference or were elected by it; proceedings of business sessions; communications and other matters ordered printed by the Kansas West Conference.

Edited by the Secretary and adopted by the Conference as the Official Record
Bishop’s Message

New beginnings create new opportunities. The creation of the Great Plains Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is that kind of new beginning. Many things will change in our life together. All of these create new opportunities for greater faithfulness and fruitfulness for God.

A great deal of energy has been expended by the Transition Team, Dream Teams, working groups and conference staff to plan for this new entity. The plan of organization we approved at the Uniting Conference August 22-24, in Salina, Kansas was the covenant guiding and shaping this new ecclesial reality.

All of the work will be for nothing if we do not seize this new beginning as a new opportunity for greater service to Christ. We must take seriously the mission, calling and priorities of the new Great Plains Conference and find ways to live out our service to the best of our abilities.

What we will accomplish together will be by the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit. We need to pray daily for the power to flow through us and shape our thoughts, words and deeds.

This is the last Journal of the Kansas West Annual Conference. It marks the end of a particular way of being a connectional church in this part of God’s work. We have celebrated our accomplishments and remembered our saints. We have thanked God for our many blessings. There is something a little painful in saying goodbye to a community that has shaped us for so long. Yet, what God has done through us in the past will not be lost. We hope to carry forward the best of the Kansas East, Kansas West and Nebraska Annual Conferences. We will be enriched by the traditions and experiences of each one. We will learn from each other and together find new ways of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

I am deeply grateful for this conference and all it has meant to its laity, clergy, congregations and missions. What God will do through us in years to come will be based on all that has been accomplished through us and our foremothers and forefathers in the past. As bishop of all three conferences, I have learned much from each one and been blessed by each one in many ways. May we all seek God’s blessings so that we can bless others in the name of Christ.
Vision Statement of Kansas West Annual Conference

As we make disciples of Jesus Christ, the Kansas West Conference calls God’s people to...

INVITE through radical hospitality
EXCITE for intentional faith-sharing
UNITE in risk-taking mission

For the transformation of the world

The 2013-14 Cabinet is pictured above, from left: Rev. Max Clayton, Rev. Linda Louderback, Rev. Dennis Livingston, Bishop Scott J. Jones, Rev. Lewis Van der Wege, Rev. Gary Brooks, Rev. Don Hasty

The 2013 class of elders and full members: Revs. Janet Myers, Christopher Eshelman, Ross Baker, Mike Gaddie, Anne Williams, Justin Jamis and Margaret Johnson.

Rev. Nancy Proffitt was received into Associate Membership at the 2013 Annual Conference.

Rev. Abby Lynn Caseman and Rev. Ashley Prescott Barlow-Thompson were ordained deacons with full membership.

Commissioned into United Methodist ministry at the 2013 Annual Conference: William Kenyon, Aaron Duell, and Donna Goltry.
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