

Sessions Action Team

Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church (MAC)

Minnesota Church Center
122 W. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404

May 11, 2017

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Sessions Action Team

Meeting commence @ 10:03 am

Present: Rev. Marianne Ozanne, Sessions co-leader; Sessions co-leader; Bishop Bruce Ough; Rev. Cindy Gregorson, MAC Director of Ministries; Barb Brower MAC Treasurer and Finance Gail Johnson, MAC Events Coordinator; Christa Meland MAC Director of Communications; Karla Hovde MAC Communications Specialist; Robert Kutter, MAC Co-Lay Leader; , Rev. Paula Colten, Worship Leader; Janet Beard, MAC Conference Secretary; Laura Miles, MAC Office and IT Coordinator; and Deltry Coles, MAC Administrative Assistant. Michelle Behsma Administrative Assistant, Guy Sederski

Absent- Rev. Carol Zaagsma,

I. Devotions and Introductions

- Marianne Ozanne open with Devotions and Introductions – **Karla Hovde**

II. Communications

Deadlines

- Printer Deadlines on track. Materials for PowerPoints need to be collected by May 26th. Music and lyrics are needed from Paula Colten also by May 26th. Christa will send out the PowerPoint Template to those who need it.

Timing -Pre-conference

- Pre-conference workshop 1:00 p-8:30 p cost to attend the whole conference is \$30 and include dinner. If individuals only participate in partial it is \$10.00

Maximizing Conference will take place from 10:00 -11:00 am- When this is over Barb or Cindy will need to corral everyone out so that we can stay on track and get everyone to the appropriate places.

- 11:30 am – 2:00 pm- Opening worship – Love offering and missional report. The house band will be led by Chuck Bell and everyone will be sitting around Round Tables. For communion everyone will go up to receive communion so that people can move around and stretch a little. 45 minutes has been set aside for missional report, 45 minutes for lunch, 15 minutes for prayer and worship and 15 minutes for opening motions.
- 2 hours set aside for clergy and laity sessions- We will need to set some time so that Jean can speak at the laity session. Also, Bob Kutter is needing to connect with chuck Bell on how he could help him during clergy session. Paula will be meeting with Chuck Bell soon and can remind him to contact Bob.
- To assist with timing and so that people do not disperse and not attend the activities at the park, Gail is asking that the clergy/laity go until at least 5:00 and that people start arriving by 5:30 to the Park. We have a great program set to go with Junius

speaking and there will be a Liberian Choir singing. The Liberian church will be bringing 2 bus loads of their church members along with their choir to participate. We will also be Honoring the Earth Keepers at the Park.

- We will have a lawn toss, and obstacle course and we will need at least 2 adults to work the games @ 30 minute intervals
- Deacons Dinner will be in the park also and they will have tables set-up and Famous Dave's will be delivered for their dinner.
- If it rains the program will be taken indoors and go from 6:30-8:00 pm. Gail will put together a contingency plan. It may be possible for the bouncy house to come indoors also.
- For the Hymn Sing-Chuck Bell has an app and a website for Smart phones for people to go to and pull up the words to the hymns on their phone. It's important that we promote this event as the evening activity and that it is not optional. We need everyone to participate so that we can have a good celebration together.
- Bishop would like to introduce Junius at 1:45 pm to engage people – so that when the event in the park takes place no one will wander off. 250 chairs have been rented for in the park.

Wednesday Worship

- Morning Worship is for 1 hour. Worship with episcopal address starting at 8 am and going until noon. There will be 10 deacons robed and serving. Bishop O has been invited to robe also. We will be highlighting the importance of deacon's roles and Bishop will have 45 minutes to speak for the episcopal address. We will start the Remembering of our baptism after the episcopal address.
- There will be Tai Chi movement that will be shown on the screens that the deacons will be doing. And then we will have 8-10 stations set up for individuals to go to remember their baptism
- We will break at 10:00 and then Junius will be teaching 1.5 hours has been set aside for this. Possibly at 11:30 we can do 2 pieces of the legislation RAL and constitutional amendment, after which we can show the video from Commission on the way Forward it's only a 6-minute video and it's more of a reflection video not something for dialog. Bishop would like for someone to verify if this is what the commission wants us to Show. Christa will verify that.
- Those that are to be ordained and commissioned should get ballots to vote. Voting ballots should be included in their name tag so that each one will have it with them when we prepare to vote. We are not announcing the vote count. Lunch will be in conference center and there will be 15 specialty spots set up. There will be box lunches and we will not be utilizing the hotel at all.
- Ted Talks 1- We have 6 candidates but will narrow it down to 3 given each 10 minutes to talk and 10 minutes for table discussion.
- Missional report will follow. 30 minutes has been set aside and this is a place where it should be scripted and one story told with different individual speaking about how we can celebrate what we have done with our financials, health, benefits, etc. Ensuring that they are keeping everyone engaged and interested. Using people with interesting and animated voices would be good and then we need to be out of the room by 3:00 pm so that room can be reset.

After Room Set-up-

- Photographs will be happening in Haws room, there will be Balloons set up so individuals can find their stations and the childcare will be in the back of lobby office.

Service in Life Ministry-

- During this time everyone relationship changes will be honored. The clergy will procession in while singing hymns.
- We have our open call to worship, our ecumenical guest-Lawrence Wohlrabe and call to baptismal fountain. Seating for clergy has not been decided at this time, but it is in the works and the service is written but the music elements have not been included in. We will need kneelers for everyone being ordained and commissioned, we currently have 4, Elk River has 4, Hennepin has 2, St Cloud has 3. The stage is 42 feet wide, 24 feet deep and there are 2 levels with 1/3 in the back. We will have 1 set of stairs in the front and 2 sets on the sides. We will need to separate award tables so that they can go down at the appropriate location and not have to walk across the stage. We also would like to split the screens so that we are able to see both the words and also the individuals throughout the ceremony.

Thursday Worship-

- Greg Strunk is the preacher for this worship session and we've set aside 1 hour. Recognition of the Eli interns and reading the appointments is also a part of this service; the details have not been mapped out yet. We will come out of this day with another Ted talk, GBGM wants us to show a video and then meet for legislation with 3 items. Afternoon will consist of another Ted talk and finish up legislation and then we will wrap it up with brief worship and sendoff everyone into the mission fields. We will sing our way out and then have communion on the way out the doors as we send them to communion stations. We can wrap it up with a video and transition music. We need to be totally done by 4 pm.

III. Meeting Schedule: Annual Conference 2018 May 29-June 1, 2018

- Thursday, August 3, 2017 from 9am-11am
- Tuesday, September 5, 2017 from 10am -12 noon
- Thursday, November 2, 2017 from 10am -12 noon
- Thursday, February 1, 2018 from 10am -12 noon
- Wednesday, April 4, 2017 from 10am -12 noon
- Re-cap Monday, June 18, 2018

Review assignments:

- Joelle working on prayer stations.

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Deltry Coles, Recorder