

2023 Annual Conference Working Agenda
The Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church
Sunday, June 11 – Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Theme: “When They Prayed...”- Acts 4:31

Location: The Mitchell Center, University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama

Sunday, June 11

When they prayed... like Naomi

When we pray blessings on others, God redeems. Ruth 1:8

- 2:30 p.m. Display Set Up
- 3:30 p.m. Doors Open and Registration Opens
Registration will reopen for 30 minutes following Opening Worship
- Fellowship of Local Pastors Gathering – USA Wesley Foundation
- 4:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal – Mitchell Center Arena
- 6:00 p.m. Opening Worship
Sermon: Bishop David Graves
Offering: New Ministry Initiatives
- 8:00 p.m. Laity Session – Christ UMC Sanctuary
Clergy Session – Mitchell Center Arena
- 8:30 p.m. Registration Closes

Monday, June 12

When they prayed... like Nehemiah

When we acknowledge our shortcomings, God rebuilds. Nehemiah 1:5

- 7:45 a.m. Registration Opens
- 8:30 a.m. OPENING WORSHIP
Sermon: Rev. Richard Williams
- Teller Meeting immediately following worship*
- 9:15 a.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION
Gathering Music – Jarvis Wilson and Rev. Darrin Isaac
Hymn – *And Are We Yet Alive*

Welcome from the Host District Superintendent – Rev. Dr. Mike Pearson
Prayer – Carolyn Davis, Locust Bluff UMC

Monitoring Explanation – Rev. Ashley Davis

Parliamentary Review Video

Practice Vote

Opening Business and Organization of the Conference

Setting the “bar” of the Conference

Election of secretarial staff

Approval of the 2022 Conference *Journal*

Adoption of the 2023 Conference Working Agenda

Presentation of the 2023 Consent Agenda

Committee on Standing Rules (to lie on the table overnight) –

Rev. Dr. Kathy Knight

Committee on Resolutions and Petitions (to lie on the table overnight) –

Rev. Christina Shaver

Committee on Nominations – Rev. Ashley Davis

Break

11:00 a.m. ORDER OF THE DAY – Memorial Service
Remembering those who passed since the 2022 Annual Conference Session
Sermon: Rev. Christina Shaver

12:00 p.m. Memorial Luncheon
Lunch Break

2:00 p.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION
Gathering Music – Jarvis Wilson and Rev. Darrin Isaac
Prayer – Bill Richardson, Montgomery First UMC

Episcopacy Committee – Rev. Dr. Cory Smith

Board of Ordained Ministry – Rev. Emily Kincaid

Recognition of Commissioning and Ordination classes

Recognition of First-Time Licensed Local Pastors

Recognition of Licensed Local Pastors who completed Course of Study

Recognition of Clergy in Extension Ministries and Appointments Beyond the
Local Church

Recognition of Retiring Clergy

- 4:30 p.m. ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordinand and Commissionees Depart for Pre-Service Preparations
Registration Closes
- 7:00 p.m. Service of Ordination and Commissioning – Dauphin Way United Methodist Church
Sermon: President J. Cameron West, Huntingdon College
Offering: Ministerial Education Fund

Tuesday, June 13

When they prayed... like Mary

When we rejoice and give thanks, God reveals. Luke 1:46-56

- 7:00 a.m. Biometric Health Screenings Begin – Mitchell Center, Room 1106
- 7:45 a.m. Registration Opens
- 8:30 a.m. OPENING WORSHIP
Sermon: Rev. Emily Kincaid
- Teller Meeting immediately following worship*
- 9:15 a.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION
Gathering Music – Jarvis Wilson and Rev. Darrin Isaac
Opening Prayer – Randy Lovelady, Church Street UMC
- Report of the *Journal* Committee
- 10:00 a.m. ORDER OF THE DAY: Connectional Ministries Report (video)
Commission on the Status and Role of Women –
Rev. Kelli Hitchman-Craig and Rev. Chelsea Brown
Embrace Kids – Dr. Blake Horne
Grant Writing Update – Kristi McClellan
Blue Lake United Methodist Assembly
Tanzania Partnership
- 10:30 a.m. *Action* on Standing Rules – Rev. Dr. Kathy Knight
- Action* on Resolutions and Petitions – Rev. Christina Shaver
- 12:00 p.m. Conference Announcements and Lunch Break
Biometric Health Screenings Close

- 2:00 p.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION
 Gathering Music – Jarvis Wilson and Rev. Darrin Isaac
 Prayer – Linda Walker, Ivy Creek UMC
- Task Force on the Future Structure of the AWFUMC – Rev. Dr. Jeremy Pridgeon
- Task Force on Church Planting and Revitalization – Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz
- Coalition for Disrupting and Dismantling Racism – Rev. Jackie Slaughter
- Board of Pension and Health Benefits – Rev. Allison Posell, Chair
Action Item: Past Service Rate
Action Item: Funding Plan
Action Item: Post-Retirement Medical Effect on Withdrawn Pastors
- Board Trustees –Rev. Dr. Olivia Poole
- Report of the Cabinet – Rev. Dr. Jeff Wilson
 Change in Charge Lines
 Property Resolutions
- Where shall the 2024 Session be held?
- 5:00 p.m. Dinner Break
- 7:00 p.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION
 Gathering Music – Jarvis Wilson and Rev. Darrin Isaac
 Prayer – Ricky Messick, Millbrook UMC

Wednesday, June 14

When they prayed... like Peter

When we pray boldly, God revives. Acts 9:40

- 8:30 a.m. OPENING WORSHIP
 Sermon: Rev. Dr. Nathan Attwood
- Teller Meeting immediately following worship*
- 9:15 a.m. CONFERENCE BUSINESS SESSION
 Gathering Music – Jarvis Wilson and Rev. Darrin Isaac
 Prayer – Mattie Baker, Metropolitan UMC
- Report of the *Journal* Committee

Equitable Compensation – Suzanne Jones
Action Item: Setting of Minimum Salary

ORDER OF THE DAY: Council on Finance and Administration- George Mingledorff
Action Item: 2024 Conference Budget
Action Item: Setting of District Superintendent Salary

Announcement of Health Screening Drawing Winner – Rev. Allison Posell

Break

11:00 a.m. ORDER OF THE DAY
Gathering Music – Jarvis Wilson and Rev. Darrin Isaac
Hymn –

Episcopal Remarks: Bishop David Graves

Fixing of the 2023-2024 Appointments

Sending Forth

Adjournment *Sine Die*

Following the conclusion of Annual Conference, the General Conference Delegation will meet in the John Counts Room.