



SC Annual Conference 2019 Highlights

Annual conference kicked off on Sunday evening in Greenville with a message from Bishop Jonathan Holston entitled “A Future with Hope” which was the theme of this year’s conference. In what would be a jam packed 4 days, this message would continue to pop up in bible studies, annual reports, worship services, and even during the voting process.

Highlights of Annual Conference:

- Nineteen new clergy were commissioned and ordained.
- Thanksgiving and Memorial service were held for the 58 active and retired clergy and/or their spouses who died during the past year
- Thirty of clergy retired
- Donations were received all week for the native American Elder baskets and the Harvest Hope food bank in Greenville
- Eight clergy and eight laity were elected for each General and Jurisdictional Conference for 2020, plus 2 alternates for each, for a total of 32 elected delegates and 4 alternates
- A lunch meeting was held for the What’s Next movement for centrist and progressive members of the UMC church
- There were no petitions or resolutions to vote on. The 3 petitions that were initially brought before the AC were found to be not in compliance with the book of discipline and will need to be reformatted if they want to be sent from the SC Annual Conference to the General Conference in 2020.
- There was a vote on the sale of the Methodist Oaks retirement facility which was passed.
- All the ministries being supported in the annual budget were highlighted with special recommendation for churches to make additional donations throughout the year to support the Conference Advance Specials Giving Day of Nov 1st, and campus ministries to help with work beyond just what apportionments cover
- Over 1,200 summer campers attended Asbury Hills and Camp Providence in 2018, the highest attendance on record, with 2019 projected to top those numbers
- Seven churches were closed in the past year
- Two hundred and eighty-seven homes were repaired due to the SC UMC disaster recovery efforts

Submitted by Erin Kelly & Anne Walker
TUMC Annual Conference Delegates