

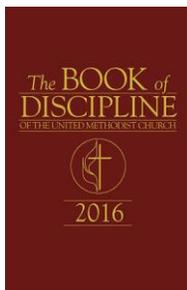
California-Nevada Annual Conference 2019 Report

By Gordon Barbosa, Lay Leader, Evergreen UMC

The California-Nevada Annual Conference for 2019 was once again held in the DoubleTree Hotel in Modesto. It is scheduled to be held there through at least 2020.

This year, we celebrated the 171st session, dating back to 1848.

As I mentioned last year, these sessions are a time for Methodists to gather, give account to God of the work they have done and their stewardship of the resources God has given them. It has also been a holy time to discern God's will for our future, a time when persons called to ordained ministry are commissioned and ordained, and both clergy and lay personnel and financial resources are deployed for ministry. Above all, annual conference sessions have been connectional gatherings where the gathered have experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit and have been revived for God's holy work. This is done every year, in every Conference here in the United States and around the world.



Every four years, each Conference sends a delegation of representatives to the General Conference where they work on items found in the Book of Discipline which serves as the Constitutional foundation of the United Methodist Church.

This year, we elected the delegates that we will be sending to the 2020 General Conference held next May in Minneapolis, MN.

For me, one of the most enjoyable aspects of attending the Annual Conference is seeing the diversity of people within our Conference and networking with the many different schools, connectional ministries and other organizations available to us as a United Methodist Church. Due to time restraints, I'm only going to share a few of them with you.



Rise Against Hunger offers the opportunity to host a hands-on service project at the location of your choice. Its mission is to end hunger in our lifetime by providing food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable and creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources.

<https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>

California-Nevada Annual Conference 2019 Report

By Gordon Barbosa, Lay Leader, Evergreen UMC

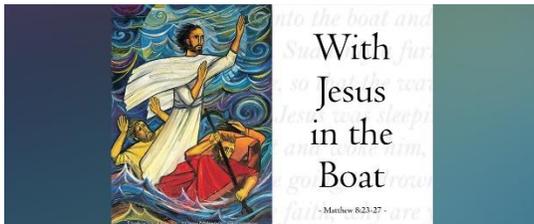


The General Board on Church and Society addresses more than 30 social issues on which The United Methodist Church has claimed a position, Church and Society communicates with policymakers and leaders around the world with the mission of transforming the world. Their website has a wide range of resources available. www.umcjustice.org



The United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (VIM) allows participants to live out their faith by serving on short-term projects to create long-term relationships with communities throughout the world. UMVIM teams respond to disasters through Early Response and Long Term Recovery Teams. It has medical, dental and health care volunteer teams, construction teams, teams that teach vocational skills and more. www.umvimwj.com

These are just a few of the ministries available through our connection with the United Methodist Church. I have a display of materials available from a range of ministries in the Fellowship Hall. Please browse through them, but I would like to keep them on file for my resources. The websites will provide a better description of their services.



This year's theme at Annual Conference was "With Jesus in the Boat" Due to the results of the Special General Conference held earlier this year, there has been a lot of anguish about the future of the United Methodist Church. The theme was meant to calm some of the fears that came as a result of that conference.



Speaking to more than 1,000 attendees, Bishop Minerva Carcaño shared her opening address. I am going to show you a few minutes of her address.

California-Nevada Annual Conference 2019 Report

By Gordon Barbosa, Lay Leader, Evergreen UMC



During the conference, there are separate sessions set aside for the Clergy and the Laity. At the Laity session our Conference Lay Leader Micheal Pope shared her address. Here is a portion of her message.

If you would like to watch the entire addresses of the Bishop and Lay Leader, as well as all of the videos shown during the conference, you can see them online at this address: <https://www.cnumc.org/2019-acsvideos>

A more detailed report is available for downloading on our website. I will also be posting this report on our "Sunday Morning Sermons" page of our website.



The Conference begins each day with a morning devotion before beginning the business of the church. Today our sermon message is from the Reverend Brian Adkins, Pastor at Open Door UMC in Richmond, CA. This is the message that he shared...