

**GATEWAY LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-NINTH SESSION
FIRST SITTING – April 21, 2017**

The first sitting of the 139th session of the Gateway Annual Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America convened on Friday, April 21, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. at the Greenville Free Methodist Church in Greenville, IL with Bishop David Kendall presiding.

A time of worship was led by Joel Gropp of the Greenville Free Methodist Church.

Bishop David Kendall's message was regarding women in ministry. What does scripture clearly teach? Galatians 3:28 says, "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." These categories do not limit whether one may belong to the family of God nor do they limit how they may participate in the church of Jesus. It does not limit whether they belong to the family of God nor how they participate in the family of God. On the basis of this scripture passage, Paul does not say they are different in role; it implies the opposite. The context regarding women must be understood in I Corinthians 14:31-40 and I Timothy 2:8-15. The limitations women experience in the world are a result of sin. Jesus has brought a redemption that did away with sin. We should care about what God intended in the beginning – God's people fully empowered and totally engaged. We must create a space and opportunity for all women to engage in every way God calls and gifts them.

The bar of the conference was established and voting members were urged to be seated.

The conference was called to order by Bishop Kendall.

Roll call was read by Barb Sands.

ON MOTION from Ben Tolly, honorary seats were granted to Come to Jesus Affiliate (Burundi), New Life Fellowship (Jerseyville), and Ministerio Apostolico Plantio del Senor Fellowship (MAPS).

ON MOTION from John Glennon, the Standing Rules & Procedures were adopted.

Barb Sands was elected secretary by consensus.

ON MOTION from Steve Neville, Standing Rule #9 was amended to allow three collecting tellers and two counting tellers. Recommended collecting tellers were Chadwick Anderson, C.J. Dyas, and Jeremy Martin; counting tellers were Becky Decesaro and Donna Smith.

The Nominating Committee ballots were presented by Steve Neville.

ELECTION OF BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION:

Clergy (vote for two):

____ Linda Alf
____ Carl Brannon
____ Steve Neville
____ Peter Wan

_____ Write-in

Lay (vote for one):

_____ Marty Beans
_____ Mona Busch
_____ Linda Myette
_____ Write-in

Treasurer:

_____ David Hooks
_____ Write-in

ELECTION OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE AND APPOINTMENTS (MEGA)

Clergy (vote for four):

_____ Oliver Beans
_____ Tyler Boyer
_____ Ginger Coakley
_____ C.J. Dyas
_____ Margie Newton
_____ Mark Scandrett
_____ Write-in

ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Clergy (vote for one):

_____ Oliver Beans
_____ Greg Fish
_____ John Glennon
_____ Write-in

Lay (vote for one):

_____ Charles Coates
_____ Charles Finley
_____ Mandy Rathgeb
_____ Write-in

A video was presented which highlighted ministries at both Coffeen and Vandalia churches.

A video presentation was shown featuring ministries to set the prisoners free – prison ministry and Set Free.

Bishop Kendall reported on the election of positions nominated by the nominating committee.

Election of clergy to serve on the Board of Administration (BOA) –
Linda Alf (36 votes)

Carl Brannon (46 votes)
Steve Neville (31 vote)
Peter Wan (23 vote)

Election of lay to serve on the Board of Administration (BOA) –

Marty Beans (24 votes)
Mona Busch (15 votes)
Linda Myette (26 votes)

Election of Conference Treasurer

David Hooks (59 votes)

Election of clergy to serve on the Ministerial Education and Guidance and Appointments (MEGA) Board –

Oliver Beans (34 votes)
Tyler Boyer (41 votes)
Ginger Coakley (43 votes)
C.J. Dyas (27 votes)
Margie Newton (45 votes)
Mark Scandrett (48 votes)

Election of clergy to serve on the Nominating Committee (nominated by BOA) –

Oliver Beans (17 votes)
Greg Fish (26 votes)
John Glennon (20 votes)

Election of lay to serve on the Nominating Committee (nominated by BOA) –

Charles Coates (32 votes)
Charles Finley (7 votes)
Mandy Rathgeb (22 votes)

There were 69 ballots cast for BOA lay and Nominating Committee clergy and lay, necessary to elect 35, and there was no election. Ballots were distributed for a second vote.

Carolyn Martin, secretary, gave the report for the MEGA Board:

1. That the following persons be **received by transfer**:
Paul Alf (E), North Central Conference
Christopher Smith (E), Great Plains Conference
Deborah Somerville (E), Wabash Conference

The actions of the MEGA were affirmed by consensus.

2. That the following persons be **ordained as an Elder**:
Gloelma Rivera
3. That the following person be received as **conference ministerial candidate**.
Remington Dyas

The actions of the MEGA were affirmed by consensus.

4. That the following persons be **continued as conference ministerial candidates**:
Kathie Filby (2)
Niquita Reinhard Hohm (4)
Matthew Scandrett (2)

The actions of the MEGA were affirmed by consensus.

5. That the following persons be **discontinued as conference ministerial candidates**:
Amanda DiMiele (2)
Zachary DiMiele (3)

The actions of the MEGA were affirmed by consensus.

6. That the following person be given a **certificate of standing**:
Jon Carrell (E), United Methodist Church

7. That the following persons continue to be **located**:
Steven LaFleur (E) Decatur, Moundford
Ronald Tucker (E) Decatur, Moundford

8. Upon recommendation by the various pastors and local boards of administration of the churches where they are located, and based on the conversations with the Elders/Deacons, the MEG Board reviewed and affirmed the integrity and Christian discipleship of the located deacons and located elders.

9. The Ministerial Education and Guidance Board has given due consideration to the character and performance of each ministerial member of the Gateway Conference. Based on the information available to the MEG Board through the minister's annual Confidential Report, and input from the Superintendent, the MEG Board recommends passing on the integrity and Christian discipleship of the ministers in accord with paragraphs 5300-5310 of the 2015 *Book of Discipline*.

Bishop Kendall reported on the second election of positions nominated by the nominating committee.

Election of lay to serve on the Board of Administration –

Marty Beans (21 votes)
Mona Busch (8 votes)
Linda Myette (40 votes)

Election of clergy to serve on the Nominating Committee (nominated by BOA) –

Oliver Beans (19 votes)
Greg Fish (37 votes)
John Glennon (15 votes)

Election of lay to serve on the Nominating Committee (nominated by BOA) –

Charles Coates (48 votes)
Charles Finley (5 votes)
Mandy Rathgeb (18 votes)

A Restore Network video was presented.

Michael Aden, chair, gave the report for the Board of Administration.

President Ivan Filby gave a report for Greenville College.

Superintendent Ben Tolly presented the financial report.

David Sain led in prayer as the conference dismissed for lunch.

The Conference reconvened at 1:25 p.m.

Dan Fisher gave a report for Oakdale Christian Academy.

Another video was presented regarding inner city ministries featuring Alton Mission, Laurel House, and Gregory House.

Reports were given by representatives from various institutions/areas:

Free Methodist Foundation – Cary Holman

Durley Camp – Greg Groves

Director of Global Church Advocacy – Gerald Coates

A video was presented showing the use of technology by Rushville and MAPS.

The conference dismissed for break-out sessions:

Peter Wernett – MissionInsite

Michael Forney – Concepts for Church Revitalization

The conference reconvened at 4:50 p.m.

Several individuals shared take-a-ways from the break-out sessions.

Kelcey Gropp shared a video presentation on Fresh Start, which focuses on renewed health for women.

A memorial video was presented honoring Norma Sussenbach, Donald Jordahl, and Rev. Lewis Siefert.

Special appointments were read by Bishop David Kendall.

The conference adjourned for dinner at 5:20 p.m.

Service awards were presented after dinner to the following:

Jeremy Martin – 5 years

Benjamin Wayman – 10 years

Chadwick Anderson – 10 years

Eugene Dunkley – 10 years

Brian Atkins – 15 years

Greg Groves – 35 years

The 7:30 evening service opened with worship led by Joel Gropp and team members from other churches.

Superintendent Ben Tolly presented a certificate of affiliation to Pastor Mitabara Bernard of Come to Jesus and a certificate of fellowship to New Life.

Bishop Kendall's message entitled "Lessons from the Manager of the Poor Widow's Soup Kitchen" was taken from Acts 6-7.

If you are looking for the perfect church, you are going to be disappointed. Through the imperfections of church, glory often shows up and the mission is accomplished. Stephen is the central character and makes four observations:

1. The mission of the church goes through, or will be stopped by, the human heart. Is there a highway, a detour, or a dead end?
2. The mission of the church depends on ordinary people who are made into extraordinary, powerful agents of God and Messiah Jesus by the power of God's Spirit.
3. The mission of the church challenges the common ways most of us think about God, about the world and its lands, about how best to worship and serve God and people, and then the mission offers another way.
4. The mission of the church is, in fact, the mission of Jesus.

God shapes and transforms people's hearts from the inside out. The world will change when ordinary people are enlivened by the love of God and people are made new. It might get worse before it gets better, but it's going to get better.

The service concluded with the ordination of Gloelma Quintana.

Greenville College provided an ice cream social following the service.

SECOND SITTING – April 22, 2017

The second sitting of the 139th session of the Gateway Annual Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America convened on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Greenville Free Methodist Church in Greenville, IL with Bishop David Kendall presiding.

Superintendent Ben Tolly opened with prayer, and worship was led by Joel Gropp.

Superintendent Ben Tolly presented his State of the Work address comparing ministry to a Rubik's cube. There are confusing moments with turns and adjustments, and sometimes the proper moves have been made with the right colors showing up. This will be the fourth year we continue strengthening the base, activating the assets, and pursuing the opportunities. God desires us to spend 25%, 25%, and 50% respectively on each of these in order to take new ground. The theme for 2017-2018 is Seek and Solve.

Gateway churches must embrace six SEEK and SOLVE truths.

1. Gateway churches know Church planting reaches lost people.
2. Gateway churches know Church planting follows a biblical pattern.
3. Gateway churches know Church planting is essential for survival.
4. Gateway Churches define reality and point to a future.
5. Gateway Churches expect to birth new life.
6. Gateway Churches help outsiders become insiders.

The expectations will be:

1. We will match scholarships for pastoral training to assist in church planting strategies.
2. We will duplicate Strategy Blast in St. Louis in collaboration with Michael Forney.
3. We plan to grow to 50 churches by 2025.
4. We will establish more incarnational ministry models similar to the Laurel House.

The conference was dismissed for break-out sessions:

Center for Transformational Leadership – Kelly Soifer

Tech Resources in Worship – Joel Gropp

Engaging Millennials – Suzanne Davis

Children's Ministry – Christie Kessinger

Planning for FMYC and Beyond – Greg Groves

Missions – Gerald Coates

Bookkeeping Support – Ron Gines & Chiyo Palen

In preparation for communion, Bishop Kendall shared thoughts about grace. Jesus offers us all the grace we will ever need to accomplish the mission of the church. We should approach the table with the precise need we know about, suspect is ours, and the need that we have every reason will become apparent as obedience takes us on the path. Come intentionally and expectantly to receive the grace for whatever it is we need for accomplishing the mission.

The conference celebrated communion together.

Appointments were read by Bishop Kendall. (See appointments.)

Conference was adjourned with a benediction from Bishop David Kendall.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barb Sands". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Barb" and last name "Sands" clearly distinguishable.

Barb Sands, Conference Secretary

139th Annual Session, 2017

Roll Call

Elders

Abbott, Roy D.	X
Aden, Michael	X
Alf, Linda	X
Allen, Thomas, P.	
Anderson, Chadwick	X
Atkins, Brian K.	X
Beans, Oliver	X
Bonney, M. Doane	
Borwick, Steve	X
Boyer, Tyler	X
Brandt, Andrew	X
Brannon, W. Carl	X
Busch, Thomas	X
Coakley, Ginger	X
Coates, Gerald W.	X
Coates, Herbert H.	
Coates, Stephen M.	
Coleman, Jerry D.	
Cox, Judy	X
Dunkley, Eugene	
Dunkley, Jennifer	
Dyas, Clifford James	X
Dyas, Stephanie	X
Feneley, Kurt	X
Fish, Greg	X
Frost, Willard W.	X
Fry, Timothy L.	
Gaffner, Lori	
Glennon, John	X
Griggs, Dale V.	
Grimmett, Tim	X
Groves, Gregory W.	X
Hall, Norman	X
Hartley, Brian	X
Heaney, James R.	
Heston, Pat	
Hough, Peter	X
Hubbs, John D.	
Huston, Ruth Winslow	
Jackson, Michael Scott	
Janicke, Martin	
Keefe, Jr., Victor	X
Kirkham, J. Robert	
Long, Barry W.	X

Elders cont'd

Mallory, Dennis R.	
Marshall, Kristine	
Martin, Jeremy	X
McPeak, Rick	
Mehlig, Mark D.	
Morris, Charles	
Neville, Steven	X
Newton, Douglas M.	X
Newton, Margie	X
Ogden, Gary	
Pennington, Greg	
Quintana, Javier	X
Reinhard, James A.	X
Richardson, Bruce	
Robart, Vaughn	X
Ross, Rosalee K.	
Rovenstine, Loren D.	
Sain, David	X
Samuel, Robert	X
Sands, Randall L.	X
Scandrett, Mark E.	X
Scandrett-Leatherman, Craig	
Smith, Robert L.	
Sussenbach, Ward V.	X
Thompson, Frank H.	
Tippey, James	
Tolly, Benjamin Joel	X
Wan, Peter	X
Ward, Phillip D.	
Wayman, Benjamin J.	X

Deacons

Fuller, Earl	
Newman, Ronald	X

Ministerial Candidates

Filby, Kathie	X
Hohm, Niquita	X
Rivera, Gloelma	X
Scandrett, Matthew	X

Licensed Pastor (seat, but no vote)

Cunningham, Ted	
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Located

LaFleur, Steven J.
Tucker, Ron

Honorary Elder

Jack Kennedy
(no voting privileges)

X

Lay DelegatesReserves

Alton- Bob Lorentz	X	
Alton- Kerry Minton	X	
Alton- Louann Prough	X	
Alton- Mary Lou Cromwell	X	
Alton Mission Fellowship- Ashburn-		
Bethany- Phillip Spracklen	X	
Centralia- Mike Richards	X	
Coffeen- Bryan Vollintine	X	
Cowden- David Hooks	X	
Decatur- Charles Coates	X	
Decatur – Mary Tribe	X	
Decatur- Gary Waltrip	X	
Decatur-	R	Katie Busch
Edwardsville- Ron Ceglinski	X	
Ferges- Laura Sain	X	
Greenville- Greg Delamarter	X	
Greenville- Dennis Fenton	X	
Greenville- Carolyn Martin	X	
Greenville- Don Mason	X	
Greenville- Sandy Schmidt	X	
Greenville, St. Paul's- Martha Iler	X	
Greenville, St. Paul's- Georgann Kurtz-Shaw	X	
Greenville, St. Paul's- Pedro Valentin	X	
Hannibal-		
Hillsboro- Roger Fath	X	
Hillsboro- Charles Shelhamer	X	
Hillsboro- Larry Hewitt	R	Bob Hester
Hillsboro- Robbie Shipman	X	
Lewistown- Stowanna Goforth		
Pontoon Beach, Solid Rock- Charles Finley	X	
Pontoon Beach, Solid Rock- Gustavo Cruz	X	
Rushville- Trent Chockley	X	
STL Lighthouse- Jianping Li	R	Xian Xie
MAPS Fellowship*		
STL Open Door- Clara Kline		
Salem- Donna Smith	X	
Springfield- Mark Whitlock	X	
Tower Hill- Archie Fox	X	
Vandalia – Kenny Montgomery	X	

*Honorary position, no voting privileges.

Appointments
GATEWAY CONFERENCE
 2017-2018

(4) Ben Tolly (E), Conference Superintendent
 (Fourth year of a four-year term)

Alton, Emmanuel	(33) Mark Scandrett (E)
.....	(2) Pat Heston (E)
.....	(1) Christopher Smith (E)
Alton Mission Fellowship	(5) Peter Hough (E)
Ashburn	(11) Victor Keefe, Jr. (E)
Bethany	(10) Barry Long (E)
Centralia	(6) Jeremy Martin (E)
Coffeen	(11) Eugene Dunkley (E)
	(4) Jennifer Dunkley (E)
Cowden	(8) Steve Neville (E)
Decatur, Moundford	(1) Paul Alf (E)
.....	(11) Chadwick Anderson (E), AP, MY
Edwardsville, The Bridge	(3) Oliver Beans (E)
	(1) Linda Alf (E)
Ferges	(1) David Sain (E)
Greenville	(1) Deborah Somerville (E)
.....	(32) Gregory W. Groves (E), AP, MY
.....	(11) Carl Brannon (E), AP, MO, MD
Greenville, St. Paul's	(19) Rick McPeak (E)
.....	(11) Ben Wayman (E), AP
.....	(5) Judy Cox (E), AP
Hannibal	Under the Superintendent
Hillsboro	(31) Randall L. Sands (E)
.....	(7) Clifford James Dyas (E), AP
.....	(7) Stephanie Dyas (E), AP
.....	(1) Rem Dyas (CMC)
Lewistown, Crossroads	Under the Superintendent
Pontoon Beach, The Solid Rock	(1) Javier Quintana (E)
.....	(1) Gloelma Quintana (E)
Rushville	(4) Gregory Fish (E)
St. Louis, Lighthouse Chinese	(27) Peter Wan (E)
Ministerio Apostolico Plantio del Senor Fellowship	(5) Javier Quintana (E)
	(4) Gloelma Quintana (E)
Open Door	Under the Superintendent
Salem	(6) Jeremy Martin (E)

Springfield, Knox Knolls
 Tower Hill
 Vandalia, Parkview

 *New Life Fellowship.....
 **Come To Jesus Affiliate

(5) Tyler Boyer, (E)
 Under the Superintendent
 (8) John Glennon (E)
 (1) Kathie Filby (CMC)
 (1) Drew Brandt (E)
 (1) Mitabara Bernard (LP)

***New Fellowship**
****New Affiliate**

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS AND RELATIONSHIPS

RETIRED:

Tom Allen (E)	Charles Morris (E)
M. Doane Bonney (E)	Ronald Newman (D)
Steve Borwick (E)	Gary Ogden (E)
Herbert H. Coates (E)	James A. Reinhard (E)
Willard W. Frost (E)	Bruce Richardson (E)
Earl Fuller (D)	Rosalee Ross (E)
Dale V. Griggs (E)	Loren D. Rovenstine (E)
James R. Heaney (E)	Robert L. Smith (E)
Michael Jackson (E)	Ward Sussenbach (E)
Martin Janicke (E)	Frank H. Thompson (E)
J. Robert Kirkham (E)	Phillip D. Ward (E)
Dennis Mallory (E)	
Mark Mehlig (E)	

DENOMINATIONAL SERVICE:

Mike Aden (E), Greenville College
Gerald W. Coates (E), Director of Global Church Advocacy, FMCUSA
CMDR Stephen M. Coates (E), Chaplain, U.S. Navy
Timothy L. Fry (E), Chaplain, Federal Bureau of Prisons
Lori Gaffner (E), Greenville College
Norman Hall (E), Greenville College
Brian Hartley (E), Greenville College
MAJ John D. Hubbs (E), Chaplain, U.S. Army
Ruth W. Huston (E), Greenville College
Doug Newton (E), Denominational Prayer Coordinator, FMCUSA
Margaret Newton (E), Denominational Prayer Coordinator, FMCUSA
Vaughn Robart (E), Chaplain, Almira Manor
Benjamin Wayman (E), Greenville College

ATTENDING SCHOOL:

Matthew Scandrett (CMC)

GATEWAY MINISTRIES:

Ginger Coakley (E), Global Associate, the Set Free Movement
Tim Grimmett (E), Global Associate, "Blessings To Others"

RELEASED FOR MINISTRY OUTSIDE THE DENOMINATION:

Tom Busch (E), serving another evangelical church
Jerry Coleman (E), director of Francis Asbury Society International
Kristine Marshall (E), serving another evangelical church
Dan Maurer (E), Joy Song Global
Greg Pennington (E), Unity Point Methodist Peoria
Robert J. Samuel (E), serving in a Christian College
Craig Scandrett-Leatherman (E), serving in a secular university
James E. Tippey (E), secular work

AWAITING APPOINTMENT:

Roy Abbott (E)
Brian Atkins (E)
Niquita Reinhard Hohm (CMC)
Kurt Feneley (E)

LOCATED:

Steve LaFleur (E)
Ron Tucker (E)

Deceased:

Donald Jordahl (E)
Lewis Seifert (E)

CONFERENCE ACTIONS

RECEIVED BY TRANSFER:

Paul Alf (E), North Central Conference
Deborah Somerville (E), Wabash Conference
Christopher Smith (E), Great Plains Conference

RECEIVED AS CONFERENCE MINISTERIAL CANDIDATE:

Rem Dyas

ADMITTED IN FULL MEMBERSHIP AND ORDAINED ELDER:

Gloelma Quintana

DISCONTINUED AS CONFERENCE MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES:

Amanda DiMiele
Zach DiMiele

GRANTED CERTIFICATE OF STANDING WITH VIEW TO TRANSFER:

Jon Carrell, United Methodist Church

TRANSFER COMPLETE:

Linda Alf (E)
Pat Heston (E)
Dan Maurer (E)

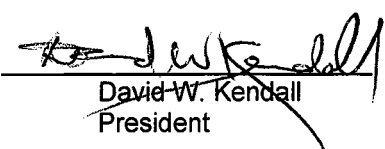
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KEY:

(E) Elder
(D) Deacon
(CMC) Conference Ministerial Candidate
(LP) Licensed Pastor

AP	Associate Pastor
ASP	Assistant Pastor
ATP	Assistant to the Pastor
EP	Executive Pastor
FLM	Family Life Ministries
MD	Minister of Discipleship
MM	Minister of Music
MO	Minister of Outreach
MW	Minister of Worship
MY	Minister of Youth

April 21-22, 2017
Greenville, Illinois


David W. Kendall
President