

Annual Conference 2010 Notes

I arrived a day late, on Friday afternoon, due to Aunt Mary's death. The fellowship among our FUMC group is always enjoyable, and the meals we shared were as well. It's also fun to see old friends from around the state, especially Scarlett.

Overall, worship services seemed to be shorter than in the past, as were the business sessions, except for the one on immigration, which dragged on and on (and on) and was finally referred (after a couple of hours) to committee. Though the awards session is too lengthy portion and could be/should be abbreviated, I do enjoy seeing and hearing about different churches and programs.

Saturday's session with the awards was insightful, and I particularly liked Tom Kinard, the speaker/presenter. Still think FUMC can get the Bishop's 5-star. Other than ordination, which is a privilege to be a part of, the retirement service was nice and probably my favorite part of conference. It's interesting to hear the memories and the words of wisdom! I was disappointed our retiring DS did not render info for a video.

I did not stay for the memorial service, opting instead to shop the Cokesbury store and listen to it from the conference floor. The speaker was good and the violin music was outstanding. I picked up some things I may use for teaching Sun. School or for facilitating Evangelism and got a couple of gifts.

Rooming with Sara is always fun, and we stayed up one night for two hours brainstorming about our church and particularly how the Fellowship groups and Evangelism can compliment each other.

Thanks for allowing me to again be a delegate,
Beth Ervin