

General Administration

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Volume 1

Nashville, Tennessee

The Connectional Table Summary Report to General Conference

Called to Act

Ben Boruff, 21, is a junior at Indiana University in Bloomington. He was among 60 members representing the denomination worldwide on the Connectional Table, who had the responsibility of evaluating and supporting a collaborative process to align mission and vision for the future of the church.

He says his experience has taught him two important things: “First, I believe in The United Methodist Church and what it is about. Second, the church believes in me. It has allowed me to be fully present and to have a voice.”

A snapshot of the major accomplishments of the Connectional Table for 2009-2012 has been organized under the seven essential functions of the Connectional Table (2008 *Book of Discipline*, ¶ 905).

Objective 1: To provide a forum for the understanding and implementation of the vision, mission, and ministries of the global church. . . . (BOD ¶ 905.1)
During this quadrennium, the Table:

- *Continued collaboration around the Four Areas of Focus;*
- *Traveled to the Philippines to more clearly understand the issues of the church in the Philippines today; Connectional Table members met with the Commission on Human Rights, April 20, 2010; Received reports from Filipino clergy and laity on what is being done within the Four Areas of Focus.*
- *Commissioned, received, and approved the Call to Action Report, which outlines and recommends:*
 - (A) *The Adaptive Challenge facing the UMC “To redirect the flow of attention, energy, and resources to an intense concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the num-*

ber of vital congregations. Effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

- (B) *Approved the formation of an Interim Operations Team of 7 members including 2 lay persons from CT, President of COB, and Chair of CT.*
- (C) *Adopted the Five Key Recommendations of the CTA Team.*

Objective 2: To enable the flow of information and communication among annual conferences, jurisdictions, central conferences, general agencies, and the Council of Bishops. (BOD ¶ 905.2)

- *Approved the Call to Action Report and authorized \$500,000 from Connectional Table funding for the work of this committee.*
- *Met with the General Council on Finance and Administration to hear report on Apportionment Structure Study Group and Economic Advisory Council.*

Objective 3: To coordinate the program life of the church . . . addressing emerging issues, and determining the most effective, cooperative, and efficient way to provide optimum stewardship of ministries, personnel, and resources. (BOD ¶ 905.3)

- *Supported the work of boards and agencies to align mission, ministry, and budgets around the Four Areas of Focus and General Conference mandates; the work resulted in systemwide change including challenging dialogue, restructuring of staff and finances, prioritization of work responsibilities, and greater collaboration.*
- *Approved Church Wide Appeal for the Philippines relief work.*
- *Approved funding from World Service Contingency funds for:*

- The Africana Hymnal; *God's Renewed Creation; Act of Repentance-GCCUIC*;
- A grant to Committee on Faith and Order to undertake a study on ecclesiology;
- A grant to secure property for the United Methodist seminary in Congo-Mulunguishi; and
- *DISCIPLE Bible Study/United Methodist Men request for pilot projects in 5 prisons throughout the US.*

Objective 4: To review and evaluate the missional effectiveness of general program-related agencies and connectional structures of the church. . . . (BOD ¶ 905.4) The Table

- *Established a Budget and Evaluation Review Process for the 2013-2016 quadrennial budget.*
- *Approved the establishment of the External Evaluation and Review Committee as an ongoing standing committee of the Connectional Table.*
- *Established internal review process for the Connectional Table.*

Objective 5: To recommend to the General Conference such changes and implementing legislation as may be appropriate to ensure effectiveness of the general agencies. (BOD ¶ 905.5)

- Evaluated the 2008 petitions that were referred to the Connectional Table and took appropriate action.
- Prepared and reviewed legislation for the 2012 General Conference.

Objective 6: To provide leadership in planning and research, assisting all levels of the church to evaluate needs and plan strategies to carry out the mission of the church. (BOD ¶ 905.6)

- *Received reports from General Conference mandated study committees.*

Objective 7: To collaborate with the General Council on Finance and Administration in the preparation of budgets for the apportioned funds as provided for in ¶¶ 806.1 and 810.1.

- *Established a Budget and Evaluation Review Process for the 2013-2016 quadrennial budget*

The Connectional Table Report to General Conference

“Young people are often referred to as the ‘future’ of the church. We are the ‘now’.”

— *Bethany Amey, Young Adult member,
Connectional Table*

A Quadrennium of Transformation

When Stefanie Schutz is asked by high school friends in Georgetown, Texas, why she is missing a week of school, she responds, “It’s complicated.” Then she explains further, “It’s a church thing.” She admits her brief answers hardly capture the full significance of her absence.

Stefanie, 17, is the youngest member of the Connectional Table (CT) of The United Methodist Church, a graying denomination with an average membership age approaching 60. She embraces her role as a voice for young people at this critical stage in the life of the denomination.

“I didn’t fully realize what an important job I had until my bishop and lay leader started to congratulate me on this high honor to serve,” she recalls. “I knew I had to take it seriously.”

Stefanie joined the CT in 2008, the same year the General Conference identified four priorities for ministry across the church. These “Four Areas of Focus” are:

- Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world;
- Creating new places for new people and renewing existing congregations;
- Engaging in ministry with the poor; and
- Stamping out the killer diseases of poverty by improving health globally.

At the same time, the denomination’s top legislative body commissioned a number of studies to help the denomination fulfill its mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Stefanie joined 47 voting members representing the denomination worldwide, plus agency general secretaries with voice but no vote, who were given the responsibility of evaluating and supporting a collaborative process to

align mission and vision for the future of the church. Members worked on the growth and development of the Four Areas of Focus. They also collaborated with the Council of Bishops to evaluate denominational practices and to produce documents that have become known as the “Call to Action Report.”

Stefanie admits to an initial learning curve as she sought to understand fully the Four Areas of Focus. However, she soon began to see ministry opportunities identified and implemented. For example:

- New leadership models, inspired by the Focus Areas, have emerged across the denomination. In the Dakotas Conference, a new position was created to provide year-round leadership development to clergy and laity. In the Pacific Northwest Conference, a holistic leadership model is bringing together ministries with children, youth, college students, and others.
- 440 new churches have been launched in 2008 and 2009 in the United States, thanks to the work of the Path 1 initiative led by the General Board of Discipleship; 163 new faith congregations and fellowships have been launched across Africa, Asia, Europe, and Eurasia.
- Eight United Methodist churches in northeast Alabama are working together to build homes for those in need in the rural areas of the Appalachian Mountains where the poverty rate is 70 percent. The homes are sold for the cost of materials. With average monthly mortgage payments of \$140, individuals are able to pay for their homes in less than 20 years.
- Nearly 500,000 insecticide-treated bed nets have been distributed in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, and Zimbabwe. The people of The United Methodist Church have raised \$15 million through the “Imagine No Malaria” effort in the United States.

Stefanie says she has learned much from the Four Areas of Focus. “Because of this work, I’ve been able to give people ideas for ministry in my community.” She is excited about the possibility of a future with no malaria and a stronger church with vital congregations.

While the CT sought to bring positive change to the denomination during the quadrennium, a personal change came to many of the CT members who attended the annual meeting in the Philippines in April 2010.

For some, like Stefanie, it was their first trip outside the United States. On a mission visit as part of the CT experience in the Philippines, she visited a Manila cemetery where 3,000 families live and saw children running barefoot on hot asphalt, gravel, and rocks.

“This experience has driven me to go deeper in my own faith every day,” she said. “Being present with the people in Manila took my understanding of God to a higher level.” Upon her return home, she started a new ministry at Wellspring United Methodist Church to collect shoes for people living in the Manila cemetery. She hopes to be able to deliver the shoes in person.

“With the changes the church is going through and the desire to get more young people involved, these trips are very important,” said Stefanie.

With her first quadrennium of service completed, she believes she has made a positive impact on behalf of young people. She is certain the church has made a positive impact on her. College is a must, but her brief experience on the CT has prompted her to reevaluate her role in life. She is prayerfully considering her future, confident that The United Methodist Church will be in it.

Called to Act

Another young member of the Connectional Table has been Ben Boruff, a socially active college student who credits the 2008 General Conference with sparking his global interest. The 21-year-old is a junior at Indiana University in Bloomington.

“I met so many great people from different countries at General Conference,” said Ben, a reserve delegate from the Indiana Annual Conference. “The experience came at an important time in my life when I was transitioning from high school to college.”

Ben is a leader in STAND, an anti-genocide coalition on campus. The organization pushes for effective US policy on Sudan, provides education opportunities on the issue, advocates for peace and justice in Sudan, and raises money to help victims.

Ben says his participation on the Connectional Table has taught him two important things: “First, I

believe in The United Methodist Church and what it is about. Second, the church believes in me. It has allowed me to be fully present and to have a voice.”

Like Stefanie, Ben took part in the annual meeting in the Philippines. He was part of small delegations that toured Vietnam prior to going to Manila and met with the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines. In their meeting with the commission, the members heard firsthand reports of injustice, including the plight of 43 Morong health workers who were being unjustly detained by police. The visit resulted in a resolution condemning “past, recent, and ongoing extrajudicial killings” and abuses by the Philippine National Police and the Philippine Army.

Members of the Connectional Table and 2 Filipino bishops were delegated to share their concerns about human rights violations in the Philippines with staff members of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific & the Global Environment; the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights & Oversight; Senate Foreign Affairs subcommittee on the East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Human Rights First; and United Methodist clergyman and US House of Representative member Emanuel Cleaver, a Democrat from Missouri.

The Rev. Ruby-Nell Estrella, pastor of St. Mark United Methodist Church in Manila, is thankful that CT members made the effort to address these issues during their visit. She credits the release of the 43 Morong health workers in January 2011 to the pressure from the CT and other international and ecumenical groups.

“The country is still in crisis,” said the Manila pastor. “The affirmation and the encouragement we received from the Connectional Table inspires us to keep serving Christ and the least of our sisters and brothers even in the midst of difficulties and challenges we are going through as a church.”

Ben found himself in many new arenas during his time as a Connectional Table member. In addition to the international experience, he was appointed to the Call to Action Steering Team, a collaboration of the Connectional Table and the Council of Bishops. “The work of this group should be a turning point for the denomination,” he says. In simple terms, Ben says the Call to Action work is an attempt to unify the church around what drives local churches to be vital. “I am excited that this research in the Call to Action Report

represents the first time that any Christian denomination has conducted an intensive study on what makes a local church vital." The report offers specific ideas on what is needed for a local congregation to be vital. (The full report is available at www.umc.org/stateofthechurch.)

The CT received and approved the Call to Action Report in November 2010, specifically approving the "Adaptive Challenge" and the creation of the Interim Operations Team to move the work forward.

The adaptive challenge for The United Methodist Church is "to redirect the flow of attention, energy, and resources to an intense concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of **vital congregations** effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Key Drivers of Vitality:

- Effective pastoral leadership including aspects of management visioning and inspiration
- Multiple small groups and programs for children and youth
- Mix of traditional and contemporary worship services
- High percentage of spiritually engaged laity who assume leadership roles

Ben acknowledges that the findings in the Call to Action Report have been received with both enthusiasm and caution. The report identifies seven measurable factors of vitality. While not the only important indicators, they are descriptive, differentiating, available and quantifiable:

1. Average worship attendance and a percentage of membership
2. Total membership
3. Number of children, youth, and young adults attending as a percentage of membership
4. Number of professions of faith as a percentage of attendance
5. Number of professions of faith as a percentage of membership
6. Annual giving per attendee
7. Financial benevolence beyond the local church as a percentage of the church's budget

Ben believes the recommended changes coming from the Call to Action Report will help the church become more relevant in ministry. "It has been an honor to serve with the group that produced this Call to Action

Report," he said. "I was excited in the beginning about what could be, and I'm excited now to see things move forward."

Contributions to the Church

Another young person on the Connectional Table is Bethany Amey, elected representative from the Division on Ministries With Young People. The 27-year-old from Turnersville, New Jersey, hopes that United Methodists will appreciate the importance of CT as a place for exploration and open discussion by many voices, a place for discernment and visioning, and a place where mission, vision, and resources have come together for the good of the denomination.

"I feel like we are not just talking about the problems, but affecting the change," she said. "That has been really empowering as a young adult."

During the quadrennium the CT became an information hub where updates on major denominational emphases were regularly reported, including the Four Areas of Focus, the State of the Church Report, and the Call to Action research.

In addition to information sharing, the CT played an important role in receiving and reviewing General Conference mandated studies and findings from other independent study groups. The reviews identified new and untapped opportunities for collaborating and sharing resources and for assuring that one study was not in conflict with another. "If we go about the business of the church without a place to analyze the different findings from across the denomination, we just keep reinventing the wheel," said Bethany. "That was the benefit of having the CT look at all of the studies to see where they overlap."

The CT carefully organized itself around the essential functions mandated in the *Book of Discipline*; details about the Connectional Table can be found in ¶¶ 901- 907. The Connectional Table reports to, and is amenable to, the General Conference.

The major accomplishments of the Connectional Table for 2009-2012 have been organized under the seven essential functions of the Connectional Table (2008 *Book of Discipline*, ¶ 905).

Objective 1: To provide a forum for the understanding and implementation of the vision, mission,

and ministries of the global church as determined in consultation with the Council of Bishops and/or the actions of the General Conference. (BOD ¶ 905.1)

- Continued collaboration around the Four Areas of Focus.
- Traveled to the Philippines to more clearly understand the issues of the church in the Philippines today; Representatives of the Connectional Table met with the Commission on Human Rights, April 20, 2010; Received reports from Filipino clergy and laity on what is being done within the Four Areas of Focus.
- Providing Pre-General Conference briefings in the central conferences in early 2012.
- Commissioned, received, and approved the Call to Action Report, which outlines and recommends:
 - (A) The Adaptive Challenge facing the UMC “To redirect the flow of attention, energy, and resources to an intense concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of **vital congregations**. Effective in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”
 - (B) Approved the formation of an Interim Operations Team of 7 members including 2 lay persons from CT, President of COB, and Chair of CT.
 - (C) Adopted the Five Key Recommendations of the CTA Team:
 1. Adaptive Challenge (see above)
 2. Dramatically reform the clergy leadership development, deployment, evaluation, and accountability systems.
 3. Collect, report and review, and respond to statistical information that measures progress in key performance areas to learn and adjust our approaches to leadership, policies, and the use of human and financial resources. (See Towers Watson report for drivers of vitality.)
 4. Reform the Council of Bishops, with the active bishops assuming (1) responsibility and public accountability for improving results in attendance, professions of faith, baptisms, participation in servant/mission ministries, benevolent giving, and lowering the average age of participants in local church life; and (2) establishing a new culture of accountability throughout the church.
 5. Consolidate program and administrative agencies, align their work and resources

with the priorities of the Church and the decade-long commitment to build vital congregations, and reconstitute them with much smaller competency-based boards of directors in order to overcome current lack of alignment, diffused and redundant activity, and higher than necessary expense due to independent structures.

Objective 2: To enable the flow of information and communication among annual conferences, jurisdictions, central conferences, general agencies, and the Council of Bishops. (BOD ¶ 905.2)

- Approved the Call to Action Report and authorized \$500,000 from Connectional Table funding for the work of this committee.
- Celebrated progress in “systemwide” alignment around the Four Areas of Focus
- Appointed an Annual Conference Communications Task Group
- Met with the General Council on Finance and Administration to hear report on Apportionment Structure Study Group and Economic Advisory Council

Objective 3: Consistent with actions of the General Conference, to coordinate the program life of the church with the mandates of the gospel, the mission of the church, and the needs of the global community by listening to the expression of needs, addressing emerging issues, and determining the most effective, cooperative, and efficient way to provide optimum stewardship of ministries, personnel, and resources. (BOD ¶ 905.3)

- Supported the work of boards and agencies to align mission, ministry, and budgets around the Four Areas of Focus and General Conference mandates; the work resulted in a systemwide change including challenging dialogue, restructuring of staff and finances, prioritization of work responsibilities, and greater collaboration.
- Approved Church Wide Appeal for the Philippines relief work.
- Approved funding from World Service Contingency funds for:
 - The Africana Hymnal; God’s Renewed Creation; Act of Repentance-GCCUIC; Sand Creek Massacre Historical Site.
 - A grant to Committee on Faith and Order to undertake a study on ecclesiology. A

report on the doctrine of the church will serve as a companion piece to our theological statements on baptism and the Eucharist, and it would likely have the same significant impact on our church and its relations with other churches as those two documents have had.

- *A grant to secure property for the United Methodist seminary in Congo-Mulunguishi.*
- *DISCIPLE Bible Study/United Methodist Men request for pilot projects in 5 prisons throughout the US.*
- *A grant for the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund.*
- *A grant for development of Young Adult Leadership program.*

Objective 4: To review and evaluate the missional effectiveness of general program-related agencies and connectional structures of the church as they collectively seek to aid annual conferences and local churches as they fulfill the mission of The United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. (BOD ¶ 905.4)

- *Established a Budget and Evaluation Review Process for the 2013-2016 quadrennial budget.*
- *Received updates at each Connectional Table meeting from the General Secretaries of church-wide boards and agencies, specifically around the Four Areas of Focus.*
- *Approved the establishment of the External Evaluation and Review Committee as an ongoing standing committee of the Connectional Table.*
- *Set a standard baseline process for evaluation and review of agencies in the future.*
- *Established internal review process for the Connectional Table.*

Objective 5: To recommend to the General Conference such changes and implementing legislation as may be appropriate to ensure effectiveness of the general agencies. (BOD ¶ 905.5)

- *Evaluated the 2008 petitions that were referred to the Connectional Table and took appropriate action.*
- *Prepared and reviewed legislation for the 2012 General Conference.*

Objective 6: To provide leadership in planning and research, assisting all levels of the church to evaluate needs and plan strategies to carry out the mission of the church. (BOD ¶ 905.6)

- *Received reports from the following nine studies/commissions:*
The Call to Action Steering Committee; Church Systems Task Force; the Study Committee on the Worldwide Nature of The UMC; the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters; the General Church Apportionment Structure Study Group; the Sustainability Advisory Group; United Methodist Committee on Faith and Order; the Ministry Study Commission; and the Council of Bishops Task Force on Theological Education and Leadership Formation.

Objective 7: In order to be accountable, along with the General Council on Finance and Administration, to The United Methodist Church through the General Conference, the Connectional Table shall have the authority and responsibility in the following matters:

- a) **to collaborate with the General Council on Finance and Administration in the preparation of budgets for the apportioned funds as provided for in ¶¶ 806.1 and 810.1.**
- b) **To receive from the General Council on Finance and Administration and approve all general agency budget reviews.**
- c) **To review and approve special offerings and churchwide appeals. (BOD ¶ 905.7)**
 - *Established a Budget and Evaluation Review Process for the 2013-2016 quadrennial budget.*

* * * * *

At its final meeting for 2011 the Connectional Table reviewed, revised, and acted upon a series of recommendations for the Interim Operations Team (related to the Call to Action). In addition to the petitions endorsed by CT and submitted to the 2012 General Conference, the Connectional Table refers the following seven items to the Council of Bishops, the General Council for Strategy and Oversight, and the proposed Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry for study and action as appropriate during the 2013-2016 quadrennium:

1. The Connectional Table supports the Council of Bishops' proposal to add the following sentence to ¶ 49:

“The Council of Bishops may elect from its active membership a fulltime president of the Council. The bishop so elected shall be relieved from presidential and residential responsibilities during the time of holding such office.”

2. The Call to Action team conducted an extensive study to determine the characteristics of vital congregations that contribute to the Church's mission of “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” These characteristics include the number of small groups, the character and strength of the lay leadership, the nature and quality of worship and preaching, and effective clergy in longer term appointments. The Connectional Table requests that the Council of Bishops use the findings of this study to assume responsibility and public accountability for improving results in attendance, professions of faith, baptisms, participation in servant/mission ministries, benevolent giving, and lowering the average age of participants in local church life and that the bishops seek to establish a new culture of accountability throughout the Church.

3. Jurisdictional Committees on Episcopacy and Area Committees on Episcopacy are responsible for reviewing the work of bishops and evaluating their character and effectiveness. The Connectional Table calls on these committees to conduct annual assessments with special attention to ways in which the bishops are seeking local church accountability for improving results in attendance, professions of faith, baptisms, participation in servant/mission ministries, benevolent giving, and lowering the average age of participants in local churches and that the results of these annual assessments be sent to the Council of Bishops.

4. The United Methodist Publishing House and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits operate in highly specialized and competitive markets, and both agencies receive no apportioned funds from the general church. The ability to provide the best possible services requires immense investment in technology and nimbleness to quickly react to market changes. We recommend that the Council of Bishops and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight collaborate with the boards of these two agencies in establishing a group (or two groups) of persons with expertise in publishing, pensions, and health care to review the organizational struc-

tures and business models of the two agencies in order to determine the optimal structure and governance that will best serve the Church and preserve the ability of the agencies to continue be self-funding.

5. The Call to Action team conducted an extensive study to determine the characteristics of vital congregations that contribute to the Church's mission of “making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” One of the essential characteristics to a vital congregation is strong pastoral leadership.

The Connectional Table requests that the Council of Bishops and appropriate general church offices collaborate with the seminaries responsible for training future United Methodist clergypersons to design a curriculum that helps students gain relevant skills for pastoring vital congregations and that meets the needs of a changing society. The Connectional Table recommends that seminaries receiving Ministerial Education Funds have their funding tied to the ways in which their curriculum meets the standards established by the Council of Bishops and other appropriate general Church offices.

6. The Church is facing an uncertain financial future, and local churches struggle to pay their apportionments while annual conferences and general agencies cope with increasing costs and stagnant or declining revenue. The Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry, or other relevant organization, shall create a nine-member task force to study the total fund raising and spending practices across the denomination. The task force shall consist of one representative from each jurisdiction, one representative from Africa, one from Europe, one from Asia, and a bishop named by the Council of Bishops. The task force shall study data and recommendations from the 2009-2012 Church Systems Task Force and the Sustainability Advisory Group. The task force shall also provide a report on the financial practices of all annual conferences based on reports from conference officials.

Following the study, the task force will recommend strategies to reduce general Church and annual conference costs and increase effectiveness. The report shall be sent to all resident bishops and other conference officials for their consideration. The task force shall also propose a more equitable and effective apportionment system to the Council of Bishops and the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry or other relevant organization.

LEGISLATION***2008 Petitions Referred to the Connectional Table***

The Connectional Table received thirty-three (33) petitions from General Conference 2008 for information or action; seventeen (17) did not require any action or response from the CT, while sixteen (16) required conversation or action. These sixteen (16) petitions are listed in numerical order with the action taken by the Connectional Table in the 2009-2012 quadrennium. None of these petitions are coming back to General Conference (2012) for further action.

Seventeen Petitions requiring no action

- 80061 Commitment in Mission and Ministry
Information: Affirms the four areas of focus
- 80160 Committee on Faith and Order
Information: This committee is accountable to CT during quadrennium
- 80216 Commitment to Unity in Mission and Ministry
Information: Affirms four areas of focus as sponsored by CT and Council of Bishops
- 80238 DMYP Membership
Information: CT elects membership of youth and young adult nominated by DMYP
- 80264 Committee on Older Adult Ministries
Information: CT originally named to Committee but then removed
- 80256 Statement Against Extra-Judicial Killings in the Philippines
Information: CT named as having led a fact-finding mission
- 80361 Fiscal Responsibilities
Information: CT is named, yet no responsibilities have changed
- 80378 Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices
Information: Changes composition of committee due to small CT staff
- 80415 Holy Boldness
Information: Names CT in relation to four focus areas
- 80511 Commission on the General Conference
Information: CT is named with the general agencies
- 80982 Review Book of Resolutions
Information: CT transferred this responsibility to appropriate agencies
- 80983 Tenure
Information: CT no longer monitors tenure of elected agency staff

- 80985 Budget Process
Information: Updated language to clarify CT budget responsibilities
- 81192 Election
Information: Refers to CT, yet deals with agency election of General Secretaries
- 81485 General Agencies
Information: Includes CT when clarifying membership requirements in agencies
- 81564 Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development
Information: CT named as one who requested name change adding "Methodist"
- 81570 Budget
Information: CT named as doing collaborative work

Sixteen Petitions requiring conversation or action

- 80194 Rural Ministry representative on CT
Action: Petition not adopted by the GC 2008 and referred to the CT asking for a representative from rural ministries to be on the CT. The CT cannot add membership without the approval of GC. The CT did select a liaison from CT to the United Methodist Rural Fellowship.
- 80213 Annual Conference Records
Action: Each annual conference is to send one copy of their journal to the CT. Letter from the CT is sent annually to annual conferences and journals are being received.
- 80363 General Directives
Action: Requests that if emergency arises in which funds are needed regarding World Service Specials and One Great Hour of Sharing, the CT will be consulted. The CT Advisory Team has authority to act and has been doing so.
- 80405 Committee on Central Conference Affairs
Action: Requires that the chairperson of the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters shall also serve on the CT. This is currently in place for the quadrennium.
- 80659 Denominational Health—Church Systems Task Force
Action: General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits requested to form a task force and report to the CT during the quadrennium; task force was developed and reported to the CT.
- 80831 World Wide Nature—UMC
Action: General Conference approved forming

- a 20-member study committee appointed by the CT and the Council of Bishops. This action was completed.
- 80984 Include Connectional Table
Action: Adds the CT to paragraph for approval of church-wide appeals; this action is ongoing. In the event that it occurs when CT is not in session, the Advisory Team acts on behalf of the CT.
- 81098 Connectional Table Membership
Action: Petition regards the changing of the membership of the CT and was referred to the CT and asked for a report back to the GC 2008 delegates by January 31, 2010. The action of the November, 2009 CT, sent to the General Conference secretary states: "At this point, the petition is premature given the work of the Call to Action Steering Committee and we take no action at this time."
- 81451 Peacemaking (*Book of Resolutions*)
Action: The Resolution calls upon various general church entities to engage in peacemaking efforts and resources and requests the CT to "facilitate cooperation among United Methodist boards, agencies, conferences, and congregations on peacemaking endeavors." CT received the Resolution, affirmed the added emphasis of CT's mission (*Book of Discipline*, ¶ 905), understanding that the very nature of the CT is to facilitate peacemaking among the entities of the Church.
- 81488 World Service Specials
Action: CT is added as programmatic supervision with GCFA for World Service Specials. A process was developed and the collaborative effort with GCFA has been enacted during this quadrennium.
- 81571 Apportionment Formula
Action: This petition concerns the work of GCFA, yet was referred to both GCFA and the CT. Though the work is done by GCFA, CT is kept apprised.
- 81572 Sundays with General Church Offerings
Action: CT is named as a consultative body for GCFA on recommendations for the special offerings on a church-wide basis; all recommendations are approved by GC. A joint committee was formed and has taken appropriate action.
- 81573 Directives for the Administration of the General Funds
Action: CT is named as a consultative body for GCFA when emerging ministries arise between sessions of GC. Appropriate action has been taken during the quadrennium when emerging ministries have arisen.
- 81579 Study Committee on Latin America and the Caribbean
Action: CT named in Recommendation #3—we are to join with other agencies and the COB to see that these recommendations are carried out. A special committee met during the meeting in Panama and CT was represented. CT received the report at its November, 2010, meeting
- 81581 World Service Special Gifts
Action: CT is named as a consultative body to GCFA in the approval of World Service Special Gifts between sessions of General Conference. CT stands ready to assist if this need arises.
- 81678 Headquarters/Staff
Action: This is a report regarding agency headquarters relocation from 2005-2008. It names the need for coordination of review of the requests by GCFA and CT, yet does not require action since no relocations have been requested during the quadrennium.

The Connectional Table Membership 2009-2012

Bishop John Hopkins, Connectional Table Chairperson

Raul Alegria (Treasurer), Methodists Associated to Represent Hispanic Americans

Neil Alexander, UMPH

Bethany Amey, GBOD

Rev. Darryl Barrow, North Central New York Conference (NEJ)

David Beckley, Mississippi Conference (SEJ)

Judy Benson, Oklahoma Conference (SCJ)

Rev. Ava Berry, NorthWest Texas Conference (SCJ)

Bishop Thomas Bickerton, Western Pennsylvania Conference

Charlene Black, South Georgia Conference (SEJ)

Barbara Boigegrain, GBOPHB

Benjamin Boruff, Indiana Annual Conference (NCJ)

Rev. Elizabeth Braddon, New York Conference (NEJ)

Jay Brim, Southwest Texas Conference (SCJ)

Garlinda Burton, GCSRW

Rev. Kim Cape, GBHEM

Rev. Dr. John Corry, Black Methodists for Church Renewal

Anthony Danburam, West Africa

Bishop Lindsey Davis, GCFA

Bishop Sally Dyck, UMCOM

Rev. Ruby-Nell Estrella, Philippines

Sandra Ferguson, Baltimore-Washington Conference (NEJ)
Rev. Dr. H. Eddie Fox, Holston Conference (SEJ)
Rev. Karen Greenwaldt, GBOD
Ray Hamill, Wyoming Conference (NEJ)
Gil Hanke, GCUMM
Erin Hawkins, GCORR
Rev. Øyvind Helliesen, Northern Europe
Rev. Larry Hollon, UMCOM
Bishop Charlene Kammerer, GBOD
Rev. Ilunga Kandolo Kasolwa, Congo
Rev. Eddie Kelemeni, Pacific Islanders National Caucus of United Methodists
Thomas Kemper, GBGM
Bishop Deborah Kiesey, GBCS
Bishop James King, GCUMM
Moses Kumar, GCFA
Rev. Andy Langford, Western North Carolina Conference (SEJ)
Bishop Linda Lee, GCORR
Anne Marshall, Native American International Caucus
Rev. Forbes Matonga, Central Africa
Bishop Marcus Matthews, GBHEM
Rev. Tim McClendon, South Carolina Conference (SEJ)
Rev. Deborah McLeod, Florida Conference (SEJ)

Bishop Bruce Ough, GBGM
Rev. Harald Rückert, Germany
Bishop Roy Sano, National Federation of Asian American United Methodists
Bishop John Schol, GCAH
Stefanie Schutz, GBOD
Rev. M. Lynn Scott, Wisconsin Conference (NCJ)
Rev. Dr. Stephen Sidorak, GCCUIC
Rev. Gregory Stover, West Ohio Conference (NCJ)
Bishop Dr. Patrick Streiff, Central/Southern Europe
Bishop Mary Ann Swenson, GCCUIC
Kunle Taiwo, Rocky Mountain Conference (WJ)
Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, GCSROW
Rev. Ted Virts, California-Nevada Conference (WJ)
Joe Whitemore, North Georgia Conference (SEJ)
Rev. Beverly Wilkes-Null, Illinois Great Rivers Conference (NCJ)
Rev. Robert "Bob" Williams, GCAH
Rev. David Wilson, Oklahoma Indian Missionary (SCJ)
James Winkler, GBCS

Mary Brooke Casad, Executive Secretary
Cynthia Dopke, Special Projects Coordinator
Stefany Simmons, Office Manager

Proposed Amendments to the *Book of Discipline*

¶00.

Petition Number: 20469-GA-00-C-G; Jackson, Fredric O. - White Plains, NY, USA for New York Annual Conference.

General Church Ethics Policies

Amend The Constitution, Division One—General, inserting new article/paragraph after ¶5, Article V, as follows:

All official general church organizations, councils, boards, and agencies of The United Methodist Church and all Annual Conferences shall adopt a code of ethics and conflict of interest policy, applicable to both members and employees.

Rationale:

Religious organizations are not immune to the need for transparency and accountability. Placing this provision in the Constitution is a statement about the importance of The United Methodist Church's ethical values and is the only way to include the Judicial Council within this requirement.

¶4.

Petition Number: 20113-GA-¶4-C-G; Burton, M. Garlinda - Chicago, IL, USA for General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

Inclusiveness

Amend ¶ No. 4. *Article IV. Inclusiveness of the Church* — The United Methodist Church is a part of the church universal, which is one Body in Christ. The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, gender, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection. In The United Methodist Church no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church because of race, gender, color, national origin, status or economic condition.

Rationale:

Recommends adding “gender” to the categories of persons protected against discriminatory treatment in the denomination’s global foundation document. The addition of “gender” (meaning male and female) constitutionally affirms and protects The UMC’s commitment to gender equity throughout our worldwide connection. We must explicitly name gender in our Constitution.

¶4.

Petition Number: 20482-GA-¶4-C-G; Shaffer, John J. - Stanwood, WA, USA for Pacific Northwest Annual Conference. 10 similar petitions.

Expand List of Exclusions

Amend Article IV of Division One-General of the Constitution of the United Methodist Church as follows:

The United Methodist Church is a part of the church universal, which is one Body in Christ. The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, color, national origin, status, economic condition, gender, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation, and ability shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members. And upon taking the vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection. In The United Methodist Church no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, status, economic condition, gender, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation, or ability.

Rationale:

Originally adopted at the uniting General Conference (1968), this section of the Constitution has been amended, because it is incomplete. Notice that even today it does **not** include gender. God gives us new understandings of our exclusion and/or discrimination. This amendment updates the list of marginalized groups to be included.

¶4.

Petition Number: 20540-GA-¶4-C-G; Cherry, William T. - Lancaster, PA, USA. 2 similar petitions.

Inclusiveness

AMEND ¶ 4 as follows:

Article IV. *Inclusiveness of the Church* — The United Methodist Church is a part of the church universal, which is one Body in Christ. The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth, and that we are in ministry to all. All persons ~~without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition~~ shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection. In The United Methodist Church no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church ~~because of race, color, national origin, status or economic condition.~~

Rationale:

This proposed change in The Constitution was voted affirmatively on May 21, 2008 at the session of The General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas by a recorded vote of 558 Yes, 276 No. However, it was not adopted by 2/3s of each of 2/3s...

¶4.

Petition Number: 20772-GA-¶4-C-G; DiPaulo, Joseph - Radnor, PA, USA.

Readiness for Membership

Amend Constitution, Division One, Article IV, with additional language as follows:

The United Methodist Church is a part of the church universal, which is one Body in Christ. The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking the vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection. This

shall in no way be construed to remove the discretion of the local pastor in discerning prospective members' understanding of and readiness to embrace UM membership vows; nor that of the leadership of a local church from holding all members accountable to high standards of Christian behavior and ethics. In The United Methodist Church no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition.

Rationale:

All persons are welcome and invited to attend, join and become involved, yet not all attitudes or actions can be embraced (e.g. overt racism, adultery, etc.). Local pastors and leaders require discretion as they work with prospective members to help them to fully understanding and embrace the meaning of membership.

¶4.

Petition Number: 20786-GA-¶4-C-G; Merrick, Tracy R. - Wexford, PA, USA for First United Methodist Church - Pittsburgh, PA.

Broaden UM Constitution on Inclusiveness

Change ¶ 4. Article IV as follows:

¶ 4. Article IV. *Inclusiveness of the Church*—The United Methodist Church is a part of the church universal, which is one Body in Christ. The United Methodist Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred worth. All persons ~~without regard to race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition,~~ shall be eligible to attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments, upon baptism be admitted as baptized members, and upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith, become professing members in any local church in the connection. In The United Methodist Church no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, status or economic condition.

Rationale:

Without exception, all persons should be eligible to participate in the life of a United Methodist congregation. The listing at the end of the paragraph keeps the set of included constituencies before us, extends its reach, and creates consistency with similar lists elsewhere in the Book of Discipline.

¶16.

Petition Number: 20527-GA-¶16-C-G; Williams, Joe - Tullahoma, TN, USA.

Delegation of Authority

Add a new ¶16.16 and renumber other paragraphs as appropriate:

¶ 16.16 To delegate to a specific body of the Church its legislative authority for the purpose of enacting structural changes in the Church. The direction and general intent for such changes must be specified by General Conference. Such authority will be delegated for a specified and limited period of time not to exceed one quadrennium. Any structural changes enacted pursuant to this delegation of authority for restructuring will be subject to review, affirmation, rejection, or modification by the succeeding General Conference.

Rationale:

An efficient and effective major restructuring of the Church will require significant transition time. This constitutional amendment would empower General Conference to delegate authority to carry out restructure to another body, such as the Connectional Table, as long as the specific road map has been established by General Conference.

¶17.

Petition Number: 21099-GA-¶17-C-G; Vines, Darrell L. - Lubbock, TX, USA for St. John's UMC - Lubbock, TX.

Amend First Restrictive Rule

Amend ¶ 17 of the 2008 *Discipline* as follows:

¶ 17. Article I. The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, or change our Articles of Religion or establish any new standards or rules of doctrine ~~contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine.~~ except by at least a two-thirds majority of the General Conference present and voting.

Rationale:

Omit words because Wesley's several volumes of *Sermons* and detailed *Notes* are now clearly "established standards" but are extremely difficult to correlate with concise doctrinal summaries. Add words to allow for carefully updating the Articles so that we may more adequately carry out "our theological task" (*Discipline*, 2008, ¶ 104).

¶18.

Petition Number: 21102-GA-¶18-C-G; Vines, Darrell L. - Lubbock, TX, USA for St. John's UMC - Lubbock, TX.

Amend Second Restrictive Rule

Amend ¶18 of the 2008 *Discipline* as follows:

¶ 18. Article II. The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, or change our Confession of Faith-, except by at least a two-thirds majority of the General Conference present and voting.

Rationale:

Official confessions help in "discernment of Christian truth in ever-changing contexts." They sometimes need careful revision as "[d]octrine arises out of the life of the Church—its faith, its worship, its discipline, its conflicts, its challenges from the world it would serve" ("Our Theological Task," *Discipline*, ¶ 104, 75, 85).

¶59.

Petition Number: 21100-GA-¶59-C-G; Vines, Darrell L. - Lubbock, TX, USA for St. John's UMC - Lubbock, TX.

Change Three-Fourths to Two-Thirds Requirement

Amend the first sentence of Division Five, Article II, of the Constitution (*Discipline*, 2008, ¶ 59) as follows:

Amendments to the Constitution shall be made upon a two-thirds majority of the General Conference present and voting and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the aggregate number of the several annual conferences present and voting, ~~except in the case of the first and second Restrictive Rules, which shall require a three-fourths majority of all the members of the annual conferences present and voting.~~

Rationale:

To complete the task of harmonizing the Articles and the Confession, left unfinished in 1968, more flexibility is needed. A two-thirds vote is adequate to protect our doctrinal standards from hasty or unwarranted change. It allows for various views in the Church about official doctrine to be considered.

¶256.

Petition Number: 21085-GA-¶256.6-G; Bobo, Hiram - Johns Creek, GA, USA.

Restructure GCUMM

Amend ¶256.6 as follows:

¶256.6. United Methodist Men—Each church or charge shall have an organized unit of United Methodist Men chartered and annually renewed through the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men. Other organized men's ministry groups in a local United Methodist Church shall annually report to the charge conference and be resourced through the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men.

...

a) Local church resource material for supporting effective men's ministries shall be provided by the district, conference, and jurisdictional organizations of United Methodist Men and the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men (¶ 2302).

Amend ¶537 as follows:

¶537. Committee on United Methodist Men—In each jurisdiction there shall be a Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men (¶ 2301).

The membership of the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall be composed of the elected officers, committee chairpersons, and ministry coordinators as defined by the organizations' bylaws as well as the conference president of United Methodist Men of each annual conference organization within the boundary of the jurisdiction.

Each Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the policies and programs of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men.

The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall elect the jurisdictional president during the last year of the quadrennium. The jurisdictional president shall serve on the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men (¶2303.1.b).

Amend ¶648 as follows:

¶ 648. United Methodist Men—Constitution of United Methodist Men in the Conference—Article 1. Name—In each annual conference there shall be a

conference organization named United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men and to the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men (¶2301).

Article 2. Function—The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Men shall be to build and support the district organizations of United Methodist Men in developing resources to meet the needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal witness and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to encourage and support spiritual growth and faith development; and to promote the objectives and responsibilities of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men. In the absence of a district organization, the conference organization, in consultation with the district superintendent, shall fulfill the district responsibilities (¶ 671).

Article 3. Authority—Each conference organization of United Methodist Men shall have the authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men.

...

Article 5...

d) Additional officers (including civic youth-serving agencies/scouting coordinator) and committees shall be elected or appointed in accordance with the guidelines of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men and/or the bylaws of the conference organization of United Methodist Men.

Article 6. Meetings and Elections—a) There shall be an annual meeting of the conference organization of United Methodist Men, at which time there shall be presented an annual report and a program plan designed to meet the needs of the men of the conference. Officers and committees shall be elected in accordance with the requirements of the organization's bylaws.

b) The voting body of the annual meeting of the conference shall be determined by the organization's bylaws but shall include conference and district officers and committee chairpersons as determined, members of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men, and members of the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men residing within the bounds of the conference.

...

Article 9. Amendments—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~

~~on~~ United Methodist Men prior to the last annual meeting of the commission in the third year of the quadrennium.

Article 10. Connectional Reporting and Accountability—a) Each annual conference United Methodist Men shall have on file a current copy of their constitution and bylaws with the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men.

b) Each annual conference shall submit an annual report to the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men. This report will be presented by the conference president at the spring meeting of the National Association of Conference Presidents and shall include but not be restricted to:

1. Annual goals and progress towards those goals in the last 12 months.

2. A review of the work in evangelism, mission and spiritual growth within the annual conference or beyond.

3. A listing of training events conducted at a conference, district and local church level to expand men's ministry in the all levels of the church.

4. An assessment of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men to include the annual conference UMM's appraisal of the commission's goals and the commission's progress toward those goals in the last 12 months.

5. A report of the significant challenges to men's ministry and the significant successes of men's ministry to be shared with other conference organizations of UMM.

These reports will become part of the internal review process of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men and each conference report shall be shared with the annual conference leadership by the Conference President.

Amend ¶670 as follows:

¶ 670. United Methodist Men—Constitution of United Methodist Men in the District—Article 1. Name—In each district there shall be a district organization named United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the conference organization of United Methodist Men and the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men (¶ 2301).

Article 2. Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the district organization of United Methodist Men shall be to work with local units of United Methodist Men in developing resources to meet the needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal witness and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to encourage and support spiritual growth and faith development; and

to promote the objectives and responsibilities of the conference organization and the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men. The district organization shall also encourage and promote the chartering and annual recertification of local units through the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men (¶¶ 2302 and 256.6).

Article 3. Authority—Each district organization of United Methodist Men shall have the authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference organization and the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men.

Article 4. Membership—All men and clergy of local churches or charges (chartered and unchartered) of the district shall be considered members of the district organization.

Article 5. Officers and Committees—a) The district organization shall elect a president, at least one vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

b) additional officers (including civic youth-serving agencies/scouting coordinator) and committees shall be elected or appointed in accordance with the guidelines of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men and/or the bylaws of the district organization of United Methodist Men.

...

Article 9. Amendments—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the International Association of ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men prior to the last annual meeting of the commission in the third year of the quadrennium.

Amend ¶702 as follows:

¶702.2. Between sessions of the General Conference, the following general agencies are accountable to the Connectional Table for those functions that are outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Commission on Archives and History, ~~the General Commission on United Methodist Men~~, and the General Commission on Communication in matters pertaining to their program responsibilities.

Amend ¶703 as follows:

5. Program-Related General Agencies—The general boards and commissions that have program and/or

advocacy functions shall be designated as program-related general agencies. These agencies are amenable to the General Conference, and between sessions of the General Conference are accountable to the Connectional Table for those functions outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Religion and Race, ~~the General Commission on United Methodist Men,~~

Amend ¶705 as follows:

¶705.3.e) The membership of the International Association of General Commission on United Methodist Men shall be elected in accordance with ¶ 537 and ¶ 2303.3. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the Association Commission holding membership by virtue of office may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

...

.4.c) Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa); three each on the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the International Association of General Commission on United Methodist Men,

Amend ¶805 as follows:

¶805.4. d) Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices—The council shall organize a committee consisting of three representatives from the General Council on Finance and Administration, one of whom shall serve as chairperson, and one representative of each of the following agencies: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on Religion and Race, and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, ~~and the General Commission on United Methodist Men.~~

Amend ¶906 as follows:

¶906.1. c) The presidents of the following agencies: General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global

Ministries, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, General Commission on Religion and Race, General Commission on Status and Role of Women, ~~General Commission on United Methodist Men,~~

Amend ¶1121 as follows:

¶1121.4. Membership—The committee shall be composed of one board member and one staff member from each of the following agencies: the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; one member (board or staff) from each of the following: the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the Commission on Religion and Race, the International Association of General Commission on United Methodist Men,

Amend ¶1122 as follows:

¶1122.4.b) Opportunity for timely review shall be offered to teachers, leaders, and pastors in local churches of various sizes, locations, and racial, ethnic, and cultural constituencies; general secretaries of the General Boards of Discipleship, Global Ministries, Church and Society, and Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Commissions on or Associations of

Amend ¶1207 as follows:

¶1207.2. h) International Association of General Commission on United Methodist Men

Amend ¶¶2301-2303 as follows:

¶ 2301. There shall be an International Association of a General Commission on United Methodist Men in The United Methodist Church.

The Association general commission shall be amenable to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. It shall not be considered to be a general agency of the Church, but shall be a free standing association affiliated with no body of the Church other than the General Conference. Between sessions of the General Conference, the general commission shall be accountable to the Connectional Table by reporting and interpreting activities in its purpose (¶ 702.2).

¶ 2302. Purpose—The International Association of General Commission on United Methodist Men shall have primary oversight for the coordination and resourcing of men's ministry within The United Methodist Church.

...3.c) promote the annual certification of local church men's ministry and the chartering/annual renewal of local church men's units (¶ 256.6) with the

~~International Association of General Commission on United Methodist Men.~~

...5. The ~~Association General Commission~~ will provide resources and support for the office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting Ministries:

¶ 2303. Membership—1. The ~~Association commission~~ shall consist of ~~twenty (20) twenty-five (25)~~ voting members as defined in ¶ 705.3 in the General Provisions and ¶ 537. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the ~~Association Commission~~ holding membership by office or organization, may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms. The membership shall be composed of:

a) three bishops, including at least one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops;

b) the five (5) jurisdictional presidents of United Methodist Men and the national president;

~~e) six members elected by the National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men, including the national president and five members at large (including at least two members of the Commission from the previous quadrennium, for continuity) chosen for expertise and jurisdictional balance if possible;~~

d) two central conference members named by the Council of Bishops;

e) the president of the United Methodist Men Foundation;

~~f) the president of the National Association of United Methodist Scouters;~~

g) ~~six~~ eight members at large elected by the ~~Association Commission~~ for inclusiveness, expertise, and balance, which should include at least one young person under the age of 30 and at least two members of the national organization from the previous quadrennium;

~~(h) one representative from a men's ministry from a Pan-Methodist church.~~

~~This legislation shall take effect upon the adjournment of the 2008 General Conference.~~

2. Vacancies—Vacancies in the ~~Association general Commission~~ membership shall be filled by procedures defined in ¶ 712 of the General Provisions.

3. Officers—The ~~Association General Commission on United Methodist Men~~ shall elect as its officers a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and other such officers as it shall deem necessary. In addition, the president of the National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men shall also be considered an officer.

4. Staff—The ~~Association General Commission on United Methodist Men~~ shall elect annually by ballot its general secretary, who shall provide executive, administrative, and programmatic leadership (¶ 713). The

~~Association commission~~ shall elect such other staff members as needs require within the General Conference mandates and the authority vested in the ~~Association commission~~ to develop policies and programs directed toward the realization of its purpose.

5. Meetings—The ~~Association general commission~~ shall meet annually, with such additional meetings as needs demand.

6. Funding—The General Council on Finance and Administration shall make provision for the necessary support of the work of the ~~Association Commission~~ by providing World Service Funds to complement the direct revenue and contributions from United Methodist Men. This shall include meeting and related expenses for ~~the~~ central conference representatives.

Rationale:

The General Commission on United Methodist Men should become a free standing association.

¶262.

Petition Number: 20158-GA-¶262; Hollon, Larry - Nashville, TN, USA for General Commission on Communications.

Program Calendar

Amend the third paragraph of ¶262 as follows:

The special Sundays approved by General Conference shall be the only Sundays of churchwide emphasis. The program calendar of the denomination shall include ~~only~~ the special Sundays approved by General Conference, special Sundays approved by ecumenical agencies to which The United Methodist Church officially relates, and the days and seasons of the Christian Year.

Rationale:

Deleting the word “only” in the second line allows United Methodist Communications to include other days of churchwide interest as needed.

¶262.

Petition Number: 21077-GA-¶262-\$-G; Carlsen, Jonathan - Arcadia, FL, USA.

Special Sundays

Amend ¶¶ 262, 264, 427.2, and 1903.2, per ¶ 507.2 (composite petition), as shown:

1. Amend ¶ 262:

¶ 262. The special Sundays ...

Six churchwide special Sundays ... and Native American Ministries Sunday. ~~Four~~ Six special Sundays are without offering: Aldersgate Sunday, Heritage Sunday, Laity Sunday, the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday, and Men's Ministry Sunday. Four churchwide ...

2. Amend ¶ 264:

¶ 264. ~~Four~~ Six special Sundays are without ... functions to be implemented.

1. ~~Heritage Sunday~~ Aldersgate Sunday — ~~Heritage Sunday~~ Aldersgate Sunday shall be observed on Aldersgate Day (May 24), or the Sunday preceding that date. It commemorates John Wesley's heart-warming (born-again) experience on May 24, 1738, and marks the beginning of the Wesleyan Revival, the British phase of Europe's Pietistic Reformation (See Historical Statement on page 10).

2. Heritage Sunday — shall be observed on the third Sunday in June (Father's Day) or, if Pentecost falls in June, on Pentecost. The day provides an opportunity for reflection on heritage, celebration of where the Church has been, what it has received from "so great a cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1), and how it understands itself as it shapes us today, ~~and the meaning of Christian conferencing~~. It is scheduled in June, a month when several United Methodist pioneers were born including: John Wesley (born June 17 or June 28, New Style, 1703), Philip William Otterbein (born June 3, 1726), Henry Boehm (June 8, 1775), and William Nast (born June 15, 1807). Its observance on Pentecost, when Pentecost falls in June, commemorates the birthday of the church (33 A.D.) and the beginning of the Evangelical United Brethren tradition with the first meeting of Philip Otterbein and Martin Boehm on Pentecost 1767. Heritage Sunday calls the Church to remember ...

2 3. Laity Sunday — shall be observed ...

4. International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church — The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church shall be observed on the second Sunday in November. Since 1996, more than 100,000 churches around the world have gathered on this Sunday to pray for persecuted Christians as well as for their persecutors (Matthew 5:44). More Christians have died for their faith in the twentieth century than in the previous nineteen combined. The United Methodist Church voted to participate in 2000. The observance of the International Day of Prayer in The United Methodist

Church shall be under the joint supervision of the Council of Bishops and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (¶¶ 427.2, and 1903.6) in cooperation with national and international organizations concerned with persecuted Christians and religious liberty.

3 5. Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday — Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday shall be observed annually, preferably on the ~~second~~ Sunday ~~in November~~ before Thanksgiving since the date is ~~close to Thanksgiving~~ and is viewed ...

4 6. Men's Ministry Sunday—Men's Ministry Sunday may be observed...

3. Amend ¶ 427.2:

2. The Council of Bishops is ... to give leadership in the quest for Christian unity and interreligious relationships. Therefore, Council shall work closely with the General Commission on Christian United and Interreligious Concerns and shall partner with the commission within The United Methodist Church to promote the observance of the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (¶¶ 264.4 and 1903.6).

4. Amend ¶ 1903.6:

6. To pursue and initiate, in cooperation with the Council of Bishops (¶ 427.2), with Christian ministries, ... in the U.S.A., to cooperate with national and international agencies concerned with persecuted Christians and religious liberty, promoting the churchwide observance of the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (¶ 265.4), and to seek other areas of cooperation and common cause in the advancement of the cause of Christ.

Rationale:

Since 1977, "Easter fatigue" and conflicting observances undermined April and May Heritage Sundays. (May denigrates EUBs, Resolution 8007.) June, Wesley's birth month, etc., is better. The International Day of Prayer needs a sponsor, preferably, the bishops and the GCCUIC. O&TD Sunday's claim to monopolize November's second Sunday is spurious.

¶263.

Petition Number: 20483-GA-¶263-G; Shaffer, John J. - Stanwood, WA, USA for Pacific Northwest Annual Conference; Harriott, Michael M., NJ, USA for Greater New Jersey Annual Conference; Myers, Kevin Rice - Sun Prairie, WI, USA for Wisconsin Annual Conference. 1 similar petition.

Disability Awareness Sunday with Offering

Delete ¶ 265.4 of the 2008 *Discipline*.

~~¶ 265.4. *Disability Awareness Sunday* – Disability Awareness Sunday shall be observed annually on a date to be determined by the annual conference. Disability Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate the gifts and graces of persons with disabilities and calls the Church and society to full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the community. If the annual conference so directs, an offering may be received and the funds used by the annual conference to promote the creation of architectural and attitudinal accessibility in local churches. The observance of Disability Awareness Sunday shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

The opening sentence of ¶ 263 is amended:

¶ 263. ~~Seven~~ Six church wide special Sundays with offerings shall be celebrated in each United Methodist Church.

¶ 263.7 is added:

263.7. *Disability Awareness Sunday* – Historically Disability Awareness Sunday has been observed annually on a date determined by each annual conference. Congregations are to observe Disability Awareness Sunday on the Sunday after Labor Day or on another date appropriate to the local church. Disability Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate the gifts and graces of persons with disabilities and calls the Church and society to full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the community. The observance of Disability Awareness Sunday shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Global Ministries.

a. The annual conference treasurer shall retain 50 percent of the receipts for disability-related ministries which develop and promote the creation of architectural and attitudinal accessibility in local churches and agencies within the annual conference, to be administered by the annual conference Disability Concerns Committee (see ¶ 653) or an equivalent structure.

b. The annual conference treasurer shall remit the remaining 50 percent of the receipts to the General Council on Finance and Administration. Net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, shall be distributed by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration to the General Board of Global Ministries or the designated administering agency for disability-related ministries.

¶ 823 is amended (as related to General Church Budget Implications):

Add:

¶ 823.7 *Disability Awareness Sunday* – Historically

Disability Awareness Sunday has been observed annually on a date determined by each annual conference. Congregations are to observe Disability Awareness Sunday on the Sunday after Labor Day or on another date appropriate to the local church. Disability Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate the gifts and graces of persons with disabilities and calls the Church and society to full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the community. The observance of Disability Awareness Sunday shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Global Ministries.

a. The annual conference treasurer shall retain 50 percent of the receipts for disability-related ministries which develop and promote the creation of architectural and attitudinal accessibility in local churches and agencies within the annual conference, to be administered by the annual conference Disability Concerns Committee (see ¶ 653) or an equivalent structure.

b. The annual conference treasurer shall remit the remaining 50 percent of the receipts to the General Council on Finance and Administration. Net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, shall be distributed by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration to the General Board of Global Ministries or the designated administering agency for disability-related ministries.

Amend: ¶ 823.7 to ¶ 823.8

Amend: ¶ 823.8 to ¶ 823.9

Rationale:

Disability Awareness Sunday was established as an Approved Sunday for Annual Conference Observance in 1996 (¶ 265.4). The transitioning of Disability Awareness Sunday to a church wide special Sunday with offering will enable the Church to promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities and to provide more adequate funding...

¶263.

Petition Number: 20980-GA-¶263-!-G; Hopkins, John - Evanston, IL, USA for Connectional Table.

Implementation of Call to Action Proposals

Total number of pages: 79

Suggested title: Implementation of Call to Action proposals

¶263 and following paragraphs that implement Call to Action proposals

General church budget implications: Yes

Global implications: Yes

Delete all disciplinary references to the Connectional Table and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when otherwise specified. See Paragraphs: 263, 264, 432, 511, 606, 654, 702, 703, 705, 712, 713, 804, 806, 807, 811, 812, 818, 819, 820, 901-906, 1207, 1310, 1403, 1421, 1637, 1703, 1804, 1806, 1807, 1903, 1907, 1910, 2004, 2201, and 2301.

Delete all references in the Discipline to the General Council on Finance and Administration and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs 233, 263, 331, 343, 408, 416, 422, 511, 545, 559, 606, 610, 612, 613, 614, 615, 619, 627, 635, 665, 703, 704, 718, 800-823, 905, 906, 1115, 1207, 1208, 1327, 1406, 1407, 1421, 1504, 1506, 1804, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1903, 1904, 2007, 2008, 2201, 2303, 2402, 2502, 2509, and 2533.

Delete all references to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs: 710, 805, 814, 815, 816, 905, 1104, 1100, 1111, 1113, 1114, 1121, 1127, 1203, 1207, 1209, 1313, 1401-1423, and 1911.

Delete references to the Division of Ordained Ministry of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and replace with the Center on Connectional Mission and Ministry or a unit appointed by the Center and assigned to an office. See paragraphs 319, 335, 635, 1408, and 1422

Delete references to the Division of Ordained Ministry and replace with the Center on Connectional Mission and Ministry or a unit appointed by the Center and assigned to an office. See paragraphs 338, 1409 and 1421.

Delete all references to the General Board of Global Ministry and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs: 237, 256, 263, 265, 344, 416, 536, 542, 546, 563, 571, 581, 582, 584, 585, 586, 587, 590, 591, 612, 633, 645, 647, 669, 702, 703, 705, 719, 805, 819, 821, 822, 1010, 1107, 1111, 1113, 1121, 1127, 1203, 1207, 1301-1327, 1405, 1406, 1414, 1422, 1423, and 2201.

Delete all references to the General Board of Discipleship and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or other-

wise specified. See paragraphs 533, 610, 630, 631, 645, 649, 667, 702, 703, 705, 807, 906, 1101-1127, 1201-1211, 1313, 1402, 1639, 1640, 1806, 2202, and 2533.

Delete all references to the General Board of Church and Society and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs: 263, 264, 629, 823, 905, 1001-1011, 1127, 1203, 1207, 1209, 1319, 1903, and 2008.

Delete all references to the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs 705, 807, 811, 1004, 1121, 1208, and 2101-2109.

Delete all references to the General Commission on Religion and Race and replace with the Center on Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs 643, 702, 703, 705, 805, 807, 811, 906, 1004, 1121, 1207, 1903, and 2001-2008.

Delete all references to the General Commission on Archives and History and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs 264, 641, 702, 703, 705, 906, and 1701-1712.

Delete all references to the General Commission on Communication and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs 820, 905, 906, 1121, 1327, 1404, 1637, and 1801-1807.

Delete all references to the General Commission on United Methodist Men and replace with the Board of United Methodist Men except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs 256, 264, 537, 648, 670, 702, 703, 705, 805, 906, 1121, 1207, and 2301-2303.

Delete all references to the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries with the Board of United Methodist Women except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified. See paragraphs 256, 536, 647, 669, 1010, 1121, and 1207.

When a disciplinary paragraph contains two or more references to the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the Commission on Archives and History, the General

Commission on Communications, the General Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women in the same sentence, delete all agencies and replace with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry except when referring to their role or position in historical record or otherwise specified in this petition. See paragraphs 702, 703, 705, 805, 807, 811, 906, 1004, 1121, 1127, 1203, 1207, 1208, 1209 and 1903.

¶ 263. Six churchwide special Sundays with offerings shall be celebrated in each United Methodist Church.

Purpose—General Conference shall determine the purpose of the churchwide offerings upon recommendation of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, after consultation with the Council of Bishops and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight ~~Connectional Table~~. The purpose of these offerings shall remain constant for the quadrennium, and the net receipts shall be distributed on ratio to the administering agencies by the treasurer of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ (see ¶ 823.7 and ¶ 805.6). ~~The General Commission on Communication shall promote these offerings in cooperation with the agencies responsible for the administration of these funds. (See ¶ 1806.12.)~~ Each offering shall be promptly remitted in full by the local church treasurer to the annual conference treasurer, who shall transmit the funds in full, except where noted differently below, to the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ within thirty days of receipt in the office of the annual conference treasurer.

¶ 510. Duties of the Secretary—The secretary of the General Conference shall be responsible for the permanent record of the General Conference, which shall include:

1. Corrections to the Daily Christian Advocate. The editor will then file with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry ~~Commission on Archives and History~~ two bound copies of the Daily Christian Advocate and corrections as the official record of General Conference. Bound copies shall also be made available at cost by The United Methodist Publishing House.

4. All original documents of a General Conference shall be filed with the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry ~~General Commission on Archives and History~~.

¶ 545. Records and Archives—1. The journal of the proceedings of a central conference, duly signed by the president and secretary, shall be sent for examination to the General Conference through its secretary. Two paper copies in every translation shall be sent without charge to the ~~General Commission on Archives and History~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, and one copy of a digital version shall be sent along with the paper copies, if available. It is recommended that the journal include memoirs of deceased clergy and deceased clergy spouse.

¶ 606.2 Each annual conference shall send without charge to the ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, ~~the General Commission on Archives and History~~ the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry, the Central or Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History (or the equivalent structure), and the Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History (or the equivalent structure) two printed copies and one digital copy of its annual journal. ~~and one to the Connectional Table and to United Methodist Communications. If available, one copy of a digital version of the journal shall be sent to the General Commission on Archives and History.~~

¶ 613. Responsibilities—~~The council shall~~ An entity designated by the annual conference may have authority and responsibility to perform the following functions:

1. To recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination budgets of anticipated income and proposed expenditures for all funds that provide for annual conference clergy support, annual conference administrative expenses, and annual conference benevolence and program causes (¶ 614).⁵²

2. To receive, consider, report, and make recommendations to the annual conference regarding the following prior to final decision by the annual conference: (a) any proposal to raise capital funds for any purpose; (b) funding considerations related to any proposal that may come before the conference; (c) any requests to conduct a special conference-wide financial appeal, whether by special collections, campaigns, or otherwise in the local churches of the conference.

3. To recommend to the annual conference for its action and decision the methods or formulas by which apportionments to churches, charges, or districts for duly authorized general, jurisdictional, conference, and district funds shall be determined (¶ 615.4).⁵³

4. To consult and cooperate with the commission on communication in providing district superintendents,

pastors, and appropriate officers of the local churches and charge conferences with interpretive aids or other materials to assist in gaining understanding and support of the conference budget and other approved conference causes. This shall include the theology and discipline of financial giving.

5. To develop policies governing the investment of conference funds (except for pension funds as provided in ¶ 1508), whether in debt or equity, short-term or long-term instruments, with the aim of maximizing funds available for mission in a manner consistent with the preservation of capital, the Policies Relative to Socially Responsible Investments (¶ 716), and the Social Principles of the Church. A statement of such policies shall be printed in the conference journal at least once in each quadrennium.

6. To recommend to the annual conference procedures for funding local churches, including the theology of financial giving.

7. To assist local churches in making their church buildings, facilities, and programs accessible.

8. To recommend to the annual conference for its action procedures for dealing responsibly with situations in which budgeted funds, as approved by the annual conference, are inadequate to meet emerging missional needs or unforeseen circumstances.⁵⁴

9. To review at least quarterly and to account to the annual conference for the disbursement of funds in accordance with budgets approved by the conference.

10. To recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination the conditions under which it may borrow funds for current expense purposes and the maximum amount of such borrowing.

11. To have authority and supervision over the conference treasurer/director of administrative services subject to ¶ 619; to establish policies governing the treasurer/director's work.

12. To work in cooperation with other annual conference agencies for the design and implementation of a plan by which the annual conference may designate the conference treasury as a central treasury for funds designated for any or all conference agencies participating in conference funds.

13. To establish uniform and equitable policies and practices in the employment and compensation of personnel, in consultation and cooperation with other conference agencies that employ staff, unless the annual conference has designated another agency to carry this responsibility. These policies and practices shall be in accordance with the Social Principles (¶ 162 A, E, F, and I). In addition, the council shall recommend that the annual conference provide, effective on and after

January 1, 2006, 100 percent vested pension benefits of at least three percent of compensation for lay personnel of the annual conference who work at least 1040 hours per year, are at least 21 years of age, and have at least one year of permanent service. The annual conference shall have authority to provide such pension benefits through either a denominational pension program administered by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits or another pension program administered by another pension provider.

14. To ~~cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration and with the General Board of Discipleship in promoting and standardizing the~~ provide a financial recording and reporting system in for the local churches of the conference.

15. ~~In cooperation with the General Council on Finance and Administration, related annual conference agencies and institutions, and local churches, to~~ To make recommendations to the annual conference regarding the development, promotion, and review of a broad general program of insurance protection, except for employee benefit programs.

16. To ~~cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration in order to~~ provide leadership, training, and encouragement in the areas of church business administration for individuals and organizations of The United Methodist Church by: (1) distributing information regarding certification as a church business administrator; and (2) listing in the council's report to the annual conference the names of persons certified as church business administrators ~~by the General Council on Finance and Administration~~ who are employed within the bounds of the annual conference.

17. To make recommendations to the annual conference for its action and determination regarding plans to initiate or cause to be organized a foundation or similar organization for the purpose of securing, conserving, or expending funds for the direct or indirect benefit or support of the annual conference, or of any conference agency, or any of its programs or work. The ~~Council~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall have opportunity to make its recommendations regarding such plans if the foundation or similar organization is: (1) proposed to be organized by the annual conference itself, whether acting alone or in concert with other annual conferences; (2) proposed to be organized by any conference council, board, commission, committee, or other agency; (3) to make use of the name United Methodist in its title or solicitation; or (4) proposed for the purpose of soliciting gifts primarily from the United Methodist constituency.

18. To perform such other administrative and fiscal functions and services as the annual conference may assign.

19. To ensure that no apportioned conference funds are expended for the use of alcoholic beverages.

20. To ensure that no annual conference board, agency, committee, commission, or council shall give United Methodist funds to any gay caucus or group, or otherwise use such funds to promote the acceptance of homosexuality or violate the expressed commitment of the UMC “not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends” (§ 161.F). The Council Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall have the right to stop such expenditures. This restriction shall not limit the Church’s ministry in response to the HIV epidemic, nor shall it preclude funding for dialogs or educational events where the Church’s official position is fairly and equally represented.

¶629 Conference Board of Church and Society –

1. The annual conference ~~shall~~ may organize a board of church and society or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry and maintain the connectional relationship between the ~~General Board of Church and Society~~ the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry and the conference, district....

2. . . . ~~and members of the General Board of Church and Society from the annual conference who shall serve within limits set by ¶¶610.6 and 710.5...~~

¶630 Conference Board of Discipleship. The annual conference ~~shall~~ may organize a board of discipleship or other equivalent structure to provide for those functions and maintain the connectional relationship between the ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry and the conference, district and local church,. . . ~~The person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Board of Discipleship shall be member(s) of the conference Board of discipleship and may be granted voting privileges.~~

¶634 Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. 1. There ~~shall~~ may be in each annual conference. . .

2. . . . shall provide for the connectional relationship between the ~~Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry and the conference, district and local church. ~~and shall provide for a ministry in higher education related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Division of Higher Education. A person serving as a member of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry from that annual conference shall, by virtue of his or her office, be~~

~~a member of the conference Board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure.~~

¶ 637. 4 The annual conference council on finance and administration shall make provision in its budget for the expenses of this committee.

82. See Judicial Council Decisions 711, 778.

¶ 641. 1. In each annual conference there ~~shall~~ may be a conference commission on archives and history. The number of members of the commission and their terms of office ~~shall~~ may be as the conference may determine and may include an ex officio representative of each United Methodist heritage landmark in its bounds. It ~~shall~~ may be the duty of the commission to collect, preserve, and make accessible the historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents; to encourage and assist the local churches in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage; to provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents (see ¶ 2548.3); to maintain a fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that obviously will have value for future history are properly preserved therein; to provide for the ownership of real property and to receive gifts and bequests; to nominate to the ~~General Commission on Archives and History~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic sites or heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions; to establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records under standards or guidelines developed by the ~~General Commission on Archives and History~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry; to cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional commissions on archives and history; and to engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

2. The commission may organize a conference historical society and encourage membership therein for the purpose of promoting interest in the study and preservation of the history of the conference and its antecedents. The officers of the conference commission on archives and history may be the officers of the con-

ference historical society. Membership in the historical society shall be established as the society may determine. Membership may include the payment of dues as the society may direct, and in return, members shall receive official publications and publicity materials issued by the commission and the society and other such benefits as may be deemed suitable.

~~¶643.1 There shall may be in each annual conference a conference commission on religion and race or other structure to provide for those functions and maintain the connectional relationships. It shall follow the general guidelines and structure of the General Commission on Religion and Race as outlined in ¶¶2002 and 2008, where applicable—established by the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.~~

¶644. There shall may be in each annual conference, including the central conferences a conference commission on the status and role of women or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships.

1. The responsibility of this commission shall be in harmony with ~~the responsibility of the general commission (see ¶2103)~~, the following objectives established as guidelines for adaptation to the needs of the respective annual conferences or guidelines provided by the Center on Connectional Mission and Ministry.

¶ 701. ~~Agencies and General Agencies~~ *Connectional Structures in the General Church* – 1. Connectionalism is an important part of our identity as United Methodists. It is a vital web of interactive relationships (¶131) that includes the agencies of the church as defined in ¶¶ 701.2 and 701.3, with the purpose of equipping local churches for ministry by providing a connection for ministry throughout the world, all to the glory of God. It provides us with wonderful opportunities to carry out our mission in unity and strength.

2. We experience this connection in many ways, including our systems of episcopacy, itinerancy, property, and mutual cooperation and support. Our connectional system performs at least three essential tasks: embracing God's mission for the Church as making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and ensuring that all components in the connection carry out their appropriate responsibilities in ways that enable the whole United Methodist Church to be faithful in its mission. The term agency, wherever it appears in the Book of Discipline, is a term used to describe the various councils, boards, commissions, committees, divisions, or other units constituted within the various levels of Church organization (general, jurisdictional, central, annual, district, and charge conferences) under authority granted by the Book of Discipline; the term does not and

is not meant to imply a master-servant or principal-agent relationship between these bodies and the conference or other body that creates them, except where the authority is specifically granted.

3. General agencies, in particular, are important to our common vision, mission and ministry. They provide essential services beyond the scope of individual local congregations and annual conferences through services and ministries that are highly focused, flexible and capable of rapid response. The general agencies of The United Methodist Church are the regularly established councils, boards, commissions, committees, or other units with ongoing responsibilities that have been constituted by the General Conference. Not included are such commissions and committees as are created by the General Conference to fulfill a special function within the ensuing quadrennium, ecumenical groups on which The United Methodist Church is represented, or committees related to the quadrennial sessions of the General Conference.

¶ 701.4. The connectional system will provide resources for organizing our whole Church to enable local congregations, the most significant arena through which disciple-making occurs, and the annual conferences (¶6 01), the basic body in the Church, (¶32)-faithfully and fruitfully to make disciples for Jesus Christ; and ensure that all components in the connection carry out their appropriate responsibilities in ways that enables the whole United Methodist Church to be faithful in its mission. General church structures are important to our common vision, mission, and ministry. They provide essential services beyond the scope of individual local congregations and annual conferences.

~~Delete ¶702 and move ¶ 702.5. to ¶716.2~~

~~Delete ¶703 and replace as follows:~~

¶703. *Definitions, Structures, and Titles –1. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight — An organization composed of 45 people who meet annually to review and evaluate the work of the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry. They shall elect members of the Board of Directors as specified in ¶¶ 705 and 906.*

2. The Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry — An organization including the staff of the global church governed by a 15-member Board of Directors elected by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight to perform defined responsibilities in order to aid annual conferences and local churches as they fulfill the mission of the United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The executive general secretary of the Center shall supervise all offices including those having

responsibilities previously assigned to the general boards and commissions as detailed in the 2008 Book of Discipline.

3. *Office*—A group of staff members assigned to functions and site(s) as established by an agency or Council.

4. *Commission*—An organization created by the General Conference for the fulfillment of a specific function for a specified or an indefinite period of time.

5. *Study Committee*—An organization created by the General Conference for a limited period of time for the purpose of making a study. The Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall provide for coordination with and among the study committees except where General Conference otherwise designates.

6. *Other Boards*— These include the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and the United Methodist Publishing House.

7. *Advisory Committee* — A designated representative group providing advice and counsel to agencies and/or the General Conference.

8. *Membership Organizations* — Governing bodies for United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women, agencies who raise at least 80 percent of their own funds based on membership dues or fees.

9. *Staffing* — The Center shall appoint an executive general secretary as the chief administrative officer of the Center. Each general agency may adopt appropriate staff positions and titles.

Delete ¶704 and replace as follows:

¶704. Connectional Structure Governance—1. All the general agencies, boards, membership organizations and the advisory committee of The United Methodist Church that have been constituted by the General Conference are amenable to the General Conference, except as otherwise provided. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall establish long-term strategies to be implemented under the direction of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry. The Center shall create and supervise the Office of Shared Services, the Office of Congregational Vitality, the Office of Leadership Excellence, the Office of Missional Engagement, the Office of Justice and Reconciliation, and other offices as it may deem necessary to carry out long-term strategies established by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and the Council of Bishops.

a) Following the initial election of the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry by the Connectional Table, in consultation with the Council of Bishops, the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall elect all future members of the

Center (See ¶907 for the initial election of members of the Board of Directors of the Center).

b). The 15-member Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall be divided into three classes; each class shall serve for four years (except five members of the initial Board shall serve for two years; five members of the initial Board shall serve for three years; and the remaining members of the initial Board shall serve for four years). The General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall fill any vacancies as they occur.

c). The Board of Directors of the Center shall select one lay member to serve as the chair at the pleasure of the Board.

d). The Council is responsible for measuring the effectiveness of the Center.

e). The Center shall supervise the Offices as they collectively seek to aid annual conferences and local churches to fulfill the mission of The United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

2. *Agency and board transparency* — Questions and concerns about programs, projects or decisions of any agency or board may be addressed to that agency or board. Agencies or boards shall acknowledge receipt of requests for information within ten days and provide information requested within the limitations of ¶ 721 within 30 days or as soon thereafter as it is available.

Move ¶ 702.5. to ¶ 716.2

¶ 705. General Agency and Connectional Table Membership—1. The people of God are called to faithful discipleship in the name of Jesus Christ. “The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-12). In response to God’s call, some are called forth from local congregations to fulfill the common mission of The United Methodist Church as an expression of the Church made visible in the world. This call includes the invitation to some to be in ministry with others who together seek to fulfill the vision for the Church as members of general agencies. Such persons come to this ministry as servants of the whole Church.

The following provisions shall govern the nomination and election of the voting membership of those general Church bodies to which the jurisdictional conferences elect and central conferences nominate members. All lay voting members of general agencies and boards ~~and the Connectional Table~~ shall be professing members of the United Methodist Church and active in local churches unless otherwise specified by the *Book*

of Discipline. All provisions pertaining to the nomination and election of ~~general agency and board members and Connectional Table members~~ shall take effect immediately upon the adjournment of the General Conference that enacts them. The secretary of the General Conference shall coordinate the processes pertaining to nominations and election of members of general agencies and boards. ~~and Connectional Table members.~~

2. *Nominations by Conferences*—*a)* Each annual and missionary conference in the United States, upon recommendation from a committee composed of the bishop and the general and jurisdictional conference delegation, and having allowed opportunity for nominations from the floor, shall elect persons to be submitted to a jurisdictional pool. The jurisdictional nominating committee shall select persons for election to the following general agencies: ~~Connectional Table the General Council for Strategy and Oversight; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; and the United Methodist Publishing House;~~ the General Board of Discipleship; ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; General Commission on Communication; General Commission on Religion and Race; and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.~~ Jurisdictional conferences may decide that persons elected by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States for inclusion in the jurisdictional pool shall not serve as members of the jurisdictional nominating committee.

b) Each annual and missionary conference in the United States shall nominate the persons most recently elected as delegates to the General Conference to the jurisdictional pool. In addition, it shall nominate at least fifteen and not more than forty-five persons to the jurisdictional pool, including, where available, at least two racial and ethnic persons from each of the ethnic groups Asian American, African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Pacific Islanders; and where available at least one and not more than five persons in each of the following seven categories: (1) clergy (including at least one woman), (2) laywomen, (3) laymen, (4) youth (¶ 710 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89)>.3), (5) young adults (¶ 710 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89)>.3), (6) older adults, and (7) persons with disabilities. Elected members of General and Jurisdictional Delegations, and others nom-

inated by their Annual Conference shall list all of the categories for which they qualify, i.e., nationality, age, gender, ethnic origin, etc., and shall be eligible to be nominated by the Jurisdictional Nominating Committee to a General Agency in any one of the categories for which a delegate is qualified.

~~*e)* Each central conference or a body authorized by it shall nominate to each general program Board membership at least one person from each of the following three categories: (1) clergy, (2) laymen, and (3) laywomen to form a pool from which each Board is to elect the additional members that are to come from the central conferences pursuant to ¶ 705 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89)>~~.4.e. These lists shall be sent to the Connectional Table for use by the general agencies in electing additional members.

d) All nominees shall list one to three preferences for agency membership. In addition all nominees shall prepare an up to one-hundred-word biographical statement listing experience, gifts, training, and other qualifications for general agency membership. Biographical statements for all persons in the central and jurisdictional conference pools shall be available to the nominating committee members in the meeting at which they make their nominations. Names and biographical data of all persons nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States or the central conferences, but not elected, shall be forwarded by the jurisdictional or central conference secretary to the Connectional Table secretary of the General Conference to be used by the general agencies as a pool from which additional members may be elected (§§ 5e, 6b).⁶

~~705.2. *Additional Nominations*—In addition to the foregoing provisions (¶ 705 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89)>~~.1), the Division on Ministries With Young People of the General Board of Discipleship shall nominate ten youth and ten young adults (¶ 710 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89)>.3) to each jurisdictional pool, inclusive of race, ethnicity, gender, size of church, and persons with disabilities.

3. Members of the general agencies ~~and the Connectional Table~~ shall be elected using the following provisions:

a) Each jurisdiction shall elect members of the general agencies ~~and the Connectional Table~~ as provided in ¶ 705.4 and ¶ 705.5. ~~Persons within any jurisdiction~~

electd by the Women's Division to serve as members of the General Board of Global Ministries (~~¶ 1325~~) shall be counted in, and not be additional to, the total number of members allocated to each jurisdiction for purposes of determining proportional distribution, but Women's Division members are additional to the membership prescribed in ~~¶ 1311.1~~. The secretary of the General Conference shall offer to each jurisdiction a suggested fair and equitable allocation of members to the annual and missionary conferences within each jurisdiction; however, each jurisdiction shall determine for itself how members will be allocated among the annual and missionary conferences of the jurisdiction.

~~Each general agency shall elect at least one, but not more than three, member(s) with vote and voice from among the member churches of the Commission on Pan Methodist Cooperation and Union. In addition, it is recommended that each general agency elect at least one member without vote from among the other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ. These members would be in addition to those otherwise specified in ¶ 705.3a above. The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious shall assist general agencies in their compliance with this provision.~~

Delete 705.3 (b)

~~e) b) It is recommended that the membership of general agencies include both youth (¶ 256 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85\\$St=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$P=>.3](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85$St=document-frame.htm$3.0$P=>.3)>.) and young adults. It is recommended that, wherever possible, at least 10 percent of the membership of each general agency be equally divided between youth and young adults. The youth and young adult membership of each general agency should be inclusive (consistent with ¶ 705 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89\\$St=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$P=>.3d](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89$St=document-frame.htm$3.0$P=>.3d)>).~~

~~d) c) It is recommended that the membership of each of the general agencies seeks to be inclusive based on gender, racial and ethnic persons, age, persons with disabilities, and size of church. In order to ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic persons (Asian American, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders), it is recommended that a jurisdiction's membership on each general agency be at least 30 percent racial and ethnic persons and incorporate one-third clergy, one-third laymen, and one-third laywomen (except as provided in ¶ 1105 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=47ff0eea707e637bd9cd06cfc89ac73d\\$St=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$P=>.3](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=47ff0eea707e637bd9cd06cfc89ac73d$St=document-frame.htm$3.0$P=>.3)>, ¶ 2303.3). The episcopal~~

members shall not be counted in the computation of the clergy membership.

~~e) d) The membership of the Board of General Commission on United Methodist Men shall be elected in accordance with ¶ 537 and ¶ 2303 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=fcf70f1e9d1a8fae98d538ef4737e6b0\\$St=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$P=>.3](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=fcf70f1e9d1a8fae98d538ef4737e6b0$St=document-frame.htm$3.0$P=>.3)>. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the Board Commission holding membership by virtue of office may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.~~

~~4. General Program Board Membership— a) Each general program Board shall have the number of members specified in ¶¶ 1006 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89\\$St=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$P=>.4e](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=1822e136e9ee254d67078abd2a47ddf$St=document-frame.htm$3.0$P=>.1105, 1311, and 1407, or as determined by the secretary of the General Conference (see ¶ 705 <).~~

~~705 4(b) 4. Jurisdictional Membership—~~Each jurisdiction shall elect the number of persons listed in the specific legislation for membership on the General Council for Strategy and Oversight ~~each of the four general program boards~~. In the jurisdictional nominating process for membership on ~~those boards~~ the General Council for Strategy and Oversight, special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth, young adults, older adults, people with disabilities, and persons from small membership churches. In order to ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic persons (Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders), it is recommended that at least 30 percent of a jurisdiction's membership ~~on each general program~~ the General Council for Strategy and Oversight be racial and ethnic persons. It is further recommended that the jurisdictional membership on each program board incorporate one-third clergy, one-third laymen, and one-third laywomen (except as provided in ¶¶ 1104 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=7f745b616ae900e1ff0fbce23d71a25a\\$St=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$P=>.1, 1311.2; see also ¶¶ 1311.6, 1407](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=7f745b616ae900e1ff0fbce23d71a25a$St=document-frame.htm$3.0$P=>.1, 1311.2; see also ¶¶ 1311.6, 1407)>). The episcopal members shall not be counted in the computation of the clergy membership.⁷

~~c) Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership on the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall be one member from each of the seven central conferences. in general agencies shall be 10 percent of the total membership of the general Agencies shall be allocated as follows: at least~~

~~one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa) three each on the General Council on Finance and Administration, the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Board of United Methodist Men, and the United Methodist Publishing House; five each on the General Board of Church and Society and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; and seven (one from each Central Conference) on the General Board of Discipleship and the General Board of Global Ministries. It is recommended that the central conference membership on each program board incorporate one-third clergy, one-third lay men, and one-third lay women. The remainder shall be allocated as determined by the Commission on Central Conferences. GCFA will provide the expenses for the additional central conference members.~~

Delete 705.4.(d)

705.4.(e) (d) Additional Membership—(1) Additional members shall be elected by each ~~general program~~ board in order to bring into the board persons with special knowledge or background that will aid in the work of the agency, to consider differing theological perspectives, and to perfect the representation of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§ 710.3), young adults (§ 710.3), older adults, women and men, people with disabilities, and persons from small-membership churches. After the election of central conference members as provided in § 705.4c, the remaining number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to ~~insure~~ ensure to the extent possible that membership of each Board reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible, the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions ~~insuring~~ ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b). ~~Each general program Board shall elect additional members as specified in general program Board membership paragraphs. Insofar as possible, no more than one person shall be elected from each episcopal area. It is recom-~~

~~mended that such additional membership shall maintain the one-third laymen, one-third laywomen, and one-third clergy balance.⁸~~

~~(2) Consultation Membership—It is recommended that each general program Board elect at least one member without vote from among the member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ, other than The United Methodist Church, as an additional member.~~

~~f) Liaison Representatives—The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (Iglesia Metodista Autonomo Afiliada de Puerto Rico) will have one liaison representative, at its own expense, to each of the general program agencies of the United Methodist Church.~~

705.5. Other General Boards —a) Each jurisdictional conference shall elect members from the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States (§ 705.1) in accordance with the specific membership provisions of those agencies as set forth in the Book of Discipline: General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (§ 1502.1a), The United Methodist Publishing House (§ 1602), ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (§ 1906), General Commission on Communication (§ 1807), General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (§ 2104), and General Commission on Religion and Race (§ 2003).~~ With the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (§ 1502.1) and The United Methodist Publishing House (§ 1602.1) the number of additional members to be elected shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each agency reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions ~~insuring~~ ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b).

b) Episcopal and additional members, if any, of the general agencies ~~listed in § 705.5a~~ shall be nominated and elected by the procedures specified in the paragraphs listed in §§ 705.1b, 705.1d, and 705.4e. The agencies shall consider names forwarded to them by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight Connectional Table as having been nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States

or in the central conferences, but not elected by these conferences to general agency membership. Additional names may be considered in order to perfect the representation as provided in ¶ 705.4e.

¶ 706. *Nomination of Additional Board Members*—

1. Giving due consideration to inclusiveness (see ¶¶ 124, 139), each jurisdiction shall designate one clergy, one laywoman, and one layman whom it has elected to a general program agency to nominate the additional members of that program agency (¶ 705.4). The members thus designated by the five jurisdictions in each general program agency shall constitute a committee to nominate additional members for that agency and shall be convened as provided in ¶ 706.2. The number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to ~~insure~~ ensure to the extent possible that membership of the program agency reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. In so far as possible, the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (¶ 705.4b)

2. A bishop designated by the president of the Council of Bishops shall convene the committee as soon as practical after jurisdictional elections have been completed. The committee shall, in so far as possible, use the names forwarded to it by the jurisdictions as having been nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States to their jurisdictional pool as well as names from caucuses and other appropriate groups. To aid the committee, biographical data submitted by the annual conferences (¶ 705.1d) shall be made available from the jurisdictional conference secretaries. In addition, general agencies shall submit to the committee names and biographical data of persons eligible for reelection who are willing to serve.

3. The committee shall complete its work prior to the organizational meeting (¶ 707) of any of the agencies listed in ¶ 703.5 and report by mail to the previously elected members of each of those agencies the names of persons nominated as additional members of that agency. All members shall be elected and seated before an agency proceeds to the election of officers or any other business.

~~¶ 707. *Meetings*— *Organization of agencies and boards* —1. In those years in which the General Conference holds its regular session, all general program agencies The General Council for Strategy and Oversight, the Advisory Committee on Ministries with Young People, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and the Board of the United Methodist Publishing House shall meet, organize, and conduct such business as may properly come before ~~the agency~~ them not later than ninety days after the close of the jurisdictional conferences. ~~Each organizational meeting shall be convened by a bishop designated by the president of the Council of Bishops.~~~~

2. All councils, boards, commissions, and committees established by a general, jurisdictional, central, annual, or other conference shall meet and organize as promptly as feasible following the selection of their members.

3. Unless otherwise specified in the *Discipline* or by the establishing conference, every council, board, commission, and committee shall continue in responsibility until its successor council, board, commission, or committee is organized.

Delete ¶ 708 and replace as follows:

¶ 708. *Organization*—1. Immediately following the 2012 session of General Conference, the Connectional Table as constituted in the 2009-12 quadrennium shall initiate a process and elect the 15 directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry no later than July 31, 2012.

2. The membership of the boards of directors from the 2009-2012 quadrennium of the General Council on Finance and Administration, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communications, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns shall be authorized to meet within 90 days of the adjournment of General Conference to transfer responsibility and property from the existing Board to the Board of directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

3. Terms of officers of boards, divisions, and departments, or other subunits shall be for the quadrennium or until their successors are elected, except in the case of the Board of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry (see Para. 704.2(b)).

4. No person shall serve as president or chairperson of more than one general agency or division, department, or the structural counterpart thereof.

5. Staff of boards shall not be eligible to serve as officers of corresponding General Conference legislative committees.

Delete ¶ 709

¶710 Membership Qualifications—1. Members of all ~~general agencies councils and boards~~ shall be professing members of The United Methodist Church, except as provided in ¶ 705 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=33f7bee07d39ee6848de43959bb3e89](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=33f7bee07d39ee6848de43959bb3e89)>\$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$=>.3h.~~

2. Members of all ~~general agencies councils and boards~~ shall be persons of genuine Christian character who love the Church, are morally disciplined and loyal to the ethical standards of The United Methodist Church as set forth in the Social Principles, and are otherwise competent to serve as members of general agencies.

3. All youth representatives (¶ 256 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85)>\$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$=>.3~~) elected to general agencies shall be at the time of organizational Board meetings twelve to sixteen years of age. All young adults (¶ 256 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85)>\$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$=>.3~~) elected to general agencies shall be at the time of organizational Board meetings seventeen to thirty years of age.

4. ~~With the exception of the Board of the United Methodist Publishing House and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, a voting member of a council or board general agency~~ shall be eligible for membership on that agency for no more than two consecutive four-year terms unless otherwise stipulated. The four-year term shall begin at the first organizational meeting of that agency following General Conference. Service of more than one year in fulfilling an unexpired or vacated position shall be considered as a full four-year term. To provide a continuing membership on these agencies, it is recommended that each nominating and electing body give special attention to continuing and effective membership on these agencies. If a general agency is merged with another agency, the years served by members prior to the merger shall be counted as part of the maximum specified above.

A person who has been a voting member of general agencies for four consecutive quadrennia shall be ineligible for election to a general agency in the succeeding quadrennium. The foregoing shall not apply to episcopal members.

5. No person shall serve at the same time on more than one general agency or Board, or any part thereof, except where the *Discipline* specifically provides for such interagency representation; provided, however, that if this limitation would deprive a jurisdiction of its full episcopal representation on an agency, it may be suspended to the extent necessary to permit such representation. (See ¶ 905.1 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=1b7d9e947bb65ab1752e43ce4ecb5bf2](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=1b7d9e947bb65ab1752e43ce4ecb5bf2)>\$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$=>.a.)~~

6. A voting member of a general agency, by virtue of such membership, shall become an ex officio (voting) member of the corresponding agency or its equivalent structure, if any, in the annual conference in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 610 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=b9ab869335e4191198c0a81935c98d9](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=b9ab869335e4191198c0a81935c98d9)>\$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$=>.6~~; unless such membership would conflict with ¶ 612 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=c05d4097ea85f9a43be66dd8eedf5fd](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=c05d4097ea85f9a43be66dd8eedf5fd)>\$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$=>.2c (2): Elected lay members of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry may serve as lay observers in their annual conference Board of ordained ministry~~ (¶ 634 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=c373153f45a6156c0290bfdfa27e4261](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=c373153f45a6156c0290bfdfa27e4261)>\$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$=>.1~~) if so nominated by the resident bishop. ~~Delete remainder of paragraph~~

7. No person who receives compensation for services rendered or commissions of any kind from an agency shall be eligible for voting membership on that agency.

8. No elected member, officer, or other employee shall vote on or take part in deliberations on significant matters directly or indirectly affecting his or her business, income, or employment, or the business, income, or employment of a member of his or her immediate family.

9 a) If any clergy member of a general or jurisdictional agency who was elected to represent a certain annual conference ceases to be a member of that annual conference, or if any lay member so elected changes permanent residence to a place outside the bounds of that annual conference, that member's place shall automatically become vacant.

b) If any clergy member of a general agency who was chosen to represent a certain jurisdiction ceases to be a member of an annual conference in that jurisdiction, or if any lay member so elected changes permanent residence to a place outside the bounds of that jurisdiction, that member's place shall automatically become vacant.

c) If any clergy member of a jurisdictional agency ceases to be a member of an annual conference in that jurisdiction, or if any lay member so elected changes permanent residence to a place outside the bounds of the jurisdiction, that member's place shall automatically become vacant.

10. If a member of a general agency is absent from two consecutive meetings of the agency without a reason acceptable to the agency, that person shall cease to be a member thereof. In that case the person shall be so notified, and that place shall be filled in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the *Discipline*.

11. When a bishop is unable to attend a meeting of an agency of which that bishop is a member, that bishop may name another bishop to attend that meeting with the privilege of vote. When an alternate to a central conference bishop must be named, that alternate shall be another central conference bishop.

¶ 711. *Dismissal of Members and Employees*—The councils, boards, committees, or commissions elected, authorized, or provided for by the General Conference shall have full power and authority to remove and dismiss at their discretion any member, officer, or employee thereof:

1. Who has become incapacitated so as to be unable to perform official duties.

2. Who is guilty of immoral conduct or breach of trust.

3. Who for any reason is unable to or who fails to perform the duties of the office or for other misconduct that any council, board, committee, or commission may deem sufficient to warrant such dismissal and removal.

In the event that any member, officer, or employee of such council, Board, committee, or commission, elected, authorized, or provided for by the General Conference, is found guilty of any crime involving moral turpitude by any federal, state, or county court or pleads guilty thereto, then the council, board, committee, or commission of which that person is a member, officer, or employee shall be and is hereby authorized to remove such member, officer, or employee so convicted; and the place so vacated shall be filled as provided in the *Discipline*.

¶ 712. *Vacancies*—Unless otherwise specified (i.e. see ¶702.4.2) vacancies on general agencies and boards occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled as follows: an episcopal vacancy shall be filled by the Council of Bishops; a vacancy in the jurisdictional or central conference membership shall be filled by the corresponding College of Bishops, with notice of the vacancy sent by the agency to the secretary of the Council of Bishops; a vacancy in the additional membership shall be filled by

the agency itself. When the vacancy has been filled, the secretary of the agency will immediately notify the new member's annual conference secretary.

~~¶ 713. *Election of General Secretaries of Program Agencies*—The general secretary of each general program agency that is accountable to the Connectional Table shall be elected annually by ballot of the board of the agency involved. Each general program agency shall elect annually by ballot its deputy and associate general secretary(ies) and may elect or appoint such other staff as may be necessary.¹²~~

¶ 714 *Provisions Pertaining to Staff*—1. The executive general secretary of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall not hold ~~No elected general program agency staff shall hold~~ the same position more than twelve years. ~~Years of service prior to January 1, 1989, are not counted. The agency responsible for the election of such staff may annually suspend this provision by a two thirds ballot vote.¹²~~

Note: ¶714.1 has been revised and moved to ¶904

2. Official travel of the staffs of agencies shall be interpreted to include all travel that is necessary in the performance of official duties directly related to the agency functions. No staff person shall accept honoraria for such official duties. A staff member may accept an engagement not related to the functions of the employing agency when such an engagement does not interfere with official duties; the staff member may accept an honorarium for services rendered in connection with such engagements.

3. Normal retirement for all general agency staff personnel shall be at age sixty-five or the completion of forty years of service to The United Methodist Church in an elective, appointive, or employed capacity. Mandatory retirement for elective and appointive staff shall be at age seventy. There shall be no mandatory retirement age for other employed staff. All general agency staff personnel may elect to retire from the employing general agency at any time in accordance with the policy in place at the general agency or, ~~if the general agency has a voting representative on the Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices of the General Council on Finance and Administration, with the policy established by the General Council on Finance and Administration upon recommendation of the Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices.~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

4. Provisions of the Staff Retirement Benefits Program, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Retirement ~~Security Program Plan~~ for General Agencies of The United Methodist Church, shall be reviewed, ~~with recommendations, by the~~

~~Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices by the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry. (§ 807 <[\\$t=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=590173da33580ad14a1d65d9594238d)>.13b).~~

a) Each general agency shall sponsor or participate in a group health care plan that covers the agency's full-time clergy and full-time lay employees in the United States. For the purpose of this paragraph, group health care plan shall mean a health insurance plan, group health care plan, or multiple-employer health care plan that provides benefits for major medical and hospitalization expenses. The sponsoring general agency may determine additional eligibility for the group health care plan in its discretion. In addition, general agencies shall develop and maintain health and wellness programs for their full-time clergy and full-time lay employees. Moreover, each general agency shall annually submit its health plan data, de-identified as necessary, including, but not limited to, financial soundness, claims experience and other cost drivers, plan designs and coverage, and eligibility to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

b) Each general agency shall respect the health and wholeness of its clergypersons and lay employees, who have retired in accordance with the general agency's retirement policy, and their spouses, by providing access to Medicare supplement plans and prescription drug coverage plans. Access for retirees and their spouses may include, but shall not be limited to, (i) sponsoring an employer retiree health care plan that supplements Medicare; (ii) participating in a multiple employer retiree health care plan that supplements Medicare; (iii) securing eligibility under group contracts with Medicare supplement plan providers; (iv) subsidizing the costs for retired clergypersons and lay employees and their spouses to enroll in Medicare Part D plans or Medicare Advantage plans; (v) providing subsidies toward and group relationships with providers of individual retiree policies; and (vi) providing fixed dollar retiree health benefits.

d) ~~On or before December 31, 2008, each~~ Each general agency must submit a biennial generally accepted financial valuation, such as in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 106, as amended, of its projected medical liabilities for its population covered by its employer retiree health care plan to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, ~~and must submit a similar report biennially thereafter. EX~~

5. All ~~general secretaries, deputy general secretaries, associate general secretaries, assistant general secretaries, and treasurers~~ executives of all general agencies shall be professing members of The United Methodist Church. This provision shall not apply to persons employed prior to the 2004 General Conference.⁴⁴ ~~This legislation shall take effect immediately upon adjournment of the 2004 General Conference.—~~

6. No member of the staff of a general agency shall be eligible for voting membership on any general or jurisdictional agency of The United Methodist Church, except where the *Discipline* specifically provides for such interagency representation.

7. ~~Elected~~ Executive staff shall be allowed voice, but not vote in the agency and its subunits.

8. All elected staff persons of general agencies shall be persons who model themselves after the servanthood of Jesus Christ. They shall be persons of genuine Christian character who love the Church and are committed to the oneness of the body of Christ, are morally disciplined and shall uphold the doctrinal and ethical standards of The United Methodist Church as set forth in the Doctrinal Standards (§ 103 <[\\$t=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=6b8dd5d4a91ac6507679934d1abb7de0)>) and Social Principles, and are competent to administer the affairs of a general agency.

9. Prior to any interviews of clergypersons for general Board or agency staff positions, the bishop of the clergyperson under consideration shall be consulted at the initiative of the Board or agency.

§ 715. *Nondiscrimination Policies*—1. It shall be the policy of The United Methodist Church that all agencies and institutions, including hospitals, homes, and educational institutions, shall: (a) recruit, employ, utilize, recompense, and promote their professional staff and other personnel in a manner consistent with the commitment of The United Methodist Church to women and men of all races and ethnic origins, including persons with disabilities; (b) fulfill their duties and responsibilities in a manner that does not involve segregation or discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, sex, or disability, including HIV status; and (c) provide for adequate representation by laity.

2. All agencies and institutions shall, insofar as reasonably possible, schedule and hold all events, including designated places of lodging and meals for the events, in accessible settings that adequately accommodate persons with disabilities.

If for any reason whatsoever any event is scheduled or held in a facility that does not so conform, all notices

of the meeting will include plainly stated advice to that effect, or alternatively may bear a logo consisting of the international symbol for access placed inside a slashed circle. The term *event* shall be given a broad interpretation and shall include, by way of example, scheduled conferences, seminars, and other meetings to which persons are invited or called to attend as representatives of the Church or its various institutions and agencies.

¶ **716** *Socially Responsible Investments*—1. It shall be the policy of The United Methodist Church that all general boards and agencies, including the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and all administrative agencies and institutions, including hospitals, homes, educational institutions, annual conferences, foundations, and local churches, shall, in the investment of money, make a conscious effort to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds whose practices are consistent with the goals outlined in the Social Principles; and shall endeavor to avoid investments that appear likely, directly or indirectly, to support racial discrimination, violation of human rights, sweatshop or forced labor, gambling, or the production of nuclear armaments, alcoholic beverages or tobacco, or companies dealing in pornography. The boards and agencies are to give careful consideration to shareholder advocacy, including advocacy of corporate disinvestment.

2. If any district, annual conference, or general agency initiates, joins, monitors, or terminates a boycott, the guidelines in the 2008 *Book of Resolutions* should be followed. The General Conference is the only body that can initiate, empower, or join a boycott in the name of The United Methodist Church.

¶ **717** *Record Maintenance*—Each general agency shall keep a continuous record of its advocacy roles, coalitions, and other organizations supported by membership or funds, and endorsement or opposition of federal or state legislation. Information concerning these activities shall be available to United Methodist churches upon written request. Organizations not officially related to the General Conference may take positions only in their own names and may not speak for a general agency or the denomination as a whole (¶ **509** <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=f69d6a99f65f8760a468388cc2737fad&document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$p=>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=f69d6a99f65f8760a468388cc2737fad&document-frame.htm3.0p=>); 1).

¶ **718** *Decisions for Program Expenditures*—All programs or general funds administered by any general agency of The United Methodist Church (¶ **701** <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89&document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$p=>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89&document-frame.htm3.0p=>)) that are proposed to be used within an annual conference shall be implemented or

disbursed only after consultation with the presiding bishop, the director of connectional ministries or equivalent, the Council on Ministries, and the appropriate district superintendent(s) of that annual conference. Consultation in matters of program implementation, funding, and relationships among various agencies, conferences, and other bodies of the Church requires communication, including written documentation, in which each party reveals plans and intents in such a way as to assure dialogue and mutual awareness, even if not agreement.¹⁵

¶ **719** *International and Ecumenical Settings*—~~The General Board of Global Ministries Council of Bishops shall facilitate and coordinate the program general church relationships of other program agencies of The United Methodist Church~~ with colleague churches and agencies in nations other than the United States. ~~The resources of the General Board of Global Ministries Center shall also be available to the Council of Bishops in the implementation of its responsibilities as defined in~~ ¶ **416** <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=cc8377fa653df623bfd573e808361000&document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$p=>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=cc8377fa653df623bfd573e808361000&document-frame.htm3.0p=>); 2, 3. Central conferences of The United Methodist Church may request program and other assistance through direct relationships with the ~~program agencies of The United Methodist Church~~ the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

¶ **720** *Program and Fiscal Year*—1. The program and fiscal year for The United Methodist Church shall be the calendar year.

2. Unless otherwise specified in the *Discipline* for a specific purpose, the term *quadrennium* shall be deemed to be the four-year period beginning January 1 following the adjournment of the regular session of the General Conference.

¶ **721**. *Restrictions on Closed Meetings*—In the spirit of openness and accountability, all meetings of councils, boards, agencies, commissions, and committees of the Church at all levels of the church, including subunit meetings and teleconferences, shall be open. Portions of a meeting may be closed for consideration of specific subjects if such a closed session is authorized by an affirmative public vote of at least three-fourths of the voting members present. The vote shall be taken in public session and recorded in the minutes. Documents distributed in open meetings shall be considered public.

Great restraint should be used in closing meetings; closed sessions should be used as seldom as possible. Subjects that may be considered in closed session are limited to real estate matters; negotiations, when general knowledge could be harmful to the negotiation process;

personnel matters;¹⁷ issues related to the accreditation or approval of institutions; discussions relating to pending or potential litigation or collective bargaining; communications with attorneys or accountants; deployment of security personnel or devices and negotiations involving confidential third-party information. Meetings of the committee on pastor-parish or staff-parish relations are to be closed meetings pursuant to ¶ 258.2e. While it is expected that the General Conference, the Judicial Council, and the Council of Bishops will live by the spirit of this paragraph, each of these constitutional bodies is governed by its own rules of procedure.

A report on the results of a closed session shall be made immediately upon its conclusion or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

17. See Judicial Council Decisions 751, 869.

¶ 722 *Translation of Church Name*—The name of The United Methodist Church may be translated by any central conference into languages other than English. The United Methodist Church in the Central and Southern Europe Central Conference and the Germany Central Conference may use the name *Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche*.

¶ 724 *Church Founding Date*—The United Methodist Church (¶ 139 <[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=d0268fbe28161955fe54471f0a777fe2\\$t=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=d0268fbe28161955fe54471f0a777fe2$t=document-frame.htm$3.0$>)) has become the successor to all rights, powers, and privileges of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church. The two churches, from their beginnings, have had a close relationship.

The Methodist Church, the first of the two churches to organize, dates from the Christmas Conference of 1784. Therefore, The United Methodist Church recognizes as its founding date the year 1784.

All General Conferences shall be designated not in numerical sequence from any particular date, but merely by the calendar years in which they are respectively held. An annual conference, local church, or other body within The United Methodist Church that is composed of uniting units with differing dates of origin shall use as the date of its founding the date of founding of the older or oldest of the uniting units while remaining sensitive to the recording of the entirety of the Church's history, including all information regarding the younger unit.

Delete ¶801-¶809 and replace as follows:

Section II. the General Council for Strategy and Oversight

¶801 *Purpose*—In consultation with the Council of Bishops, the General Council for Strategy and Oversight (the Council) shall discern and articulate a vision for the

church and develop long-term strategies to be implemented by the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

¶ 802. *Objectives*— 1. The essential functions of the Council are:

a). To provide strategic guidance to increase understanding and implementation of the vision, mission, and ministries of the global church as determined in consultation with the Council of Bishops and/or the actions of the General Conference.

b). To appoint members and set goals for the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

c). To review and report to General Conference on the missional effectiveness of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry as it seeks to aid annual conferences and local churches in their effort to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

d) To assess and report about the work of the General Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry to the General Conference.

¶ 803 *Organization of the Council*— 1. *Membership*—The voting members of the Council shall consist of 45 persons as follows:

a) Twenty-eight persons elected through jurisdictional and central conferences, one from each of the central conferences by their own nomination processes and 21 from the jurisdictional conferences elected by the jurisdictional nomination process. Jurisdictional membership shall include one person from each jurisdiction and the balance of the jurisdictional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to ensure to the extent possible that the members represent the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership.

(b) Five bishops appointed by the Council of Bishops, one of whom shall be appointed by the Council of Bishops to serve as the chair of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight.

(c) Five members from racial ethnic caucuses as selected by Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Methodists Associated to Represent Hispanic Americans, Native American International Caucus, National Federation of Asian American United Methodists, and Pacific Islanders National Caucus United Methodists.

(d) Three representatives from the Advisory Committee on Ministries with Young People.

(e) The chief executive officer of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the president and publisher of The United Methodist Publishing House,

the chief staff executives of the boards of United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women shall be members with voice and without vote. Their agencies shall cover the cost of their participation.

2 (a) Jurisdictional, central conferences, and other groups involved in the nominating and election of persons to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall ensure the diversity objectives of, insofar as possible, fifty percent clergy, fifty percent laity, fifty percent female, fifty percent male, not less than thirty percent members of racial/ethnic groups (excluding central conference members), and not less than ten percent youth and young adults, ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in ¶ 705 <[\(b\) Vacancies of members elected from central and jurisdictional conferences occurring between sessions of the general conference shall be filled by the College of Bishops where the vacancy occurred, in so far as possible from the same annual conference.](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89$t=document-frame.htm$3.0$p=>.5b.</p>
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(c) Members shall meet all the membership qualifications as expressed in ¶ 710 <[**¶804 Meetings** — The Council for Strategy and Oversight shall meet at least annually and at such other times as are necessary on call of the president or on written request of one-fifth of the members.—One more than half of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum.](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=33f7bee07d39ecf6848de43959bb3e89$t=document-frame.htm$3.0$p=>.</p>
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¶805. Officers — Officers other than the chair shall be elected by members of the Council and shall serve for a quadrennium or until their successors are duly elected.

¶806. Internal Structure — The Council shall determine its own internal structure and policies as it deems appropriate for the performance of its duties.

Replace ¶1609 as follows:

¶807 The Curriculum Resources Committee—
1. There may be a Curriculum Resources Committee, organized by the General Council on Strategy and Oversight, which shall be responsible for the construction of plans for curriculum and curriculum resources to be used in the Christian educational ministry of the Church and other study settings.

2. The Curriculum Resources Committee shall carefully review and act on the plans constructed and proposed by the staff of Church School Publications of the United Methodist Publishing House.

3. The plans for curriculum and curriculum resources shall be designed to help local churches carry out the Church's educational ministry with children,

youth, young adults, adults, and families and to meet the needs of various racial, ethnic, age, cultural, and language constituencies, as well as the needs of persons of various learning capacities, backgrounds, levels of psychological development, sight and hearing impairments, and Christian maturity. Plans for curriculum shall give particular attention to the characteristics and needs of small membership congregations. They shall be for use in a variety of settings, both formal and informal, including Sunday schools; fellowship groups; outdoor experiences; family life; leadership education; campus ministries; preparation with parent(s), guardian(s), and sponsor(s) or godparent(s) who are presenting children to be baptized; and classes preparing youth for their profession of faith and their confirmation.

4. The plans for curriculum and curriculum resources shall reflect a unity of purpose and a planned comprehensiveness of scope. They shall be designed to support the total life and work of the Church, shall teach Christian truth consistent with the Doctrinal Standards and General Rules of The United Methodist Church (¶ 103), and shall reflect the official positions of The United Methodist Church as authorized by the General Conference.

5. The curriculum resources shall meet the needs of pastors in local churches of various sizes, locations, and racial, ethnic and cultural constituencies.

6. All curriculum resources shall: a) be based on the Bible and reflect the universal gospel of the living Christ and b) use the traditional calendar year designations of B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini, or Year[s] of the Lord).

7. The United Methodist Publishing House shall at its discretion publish, manufacture, and distribute the curriculum resources prepared by its-editorial staff.

8. The work of the Curriculum Resources Committee shall be administered and financed by The United Methodist Publishing House and may be conducted in the most economical manner possible, including the use of web technology, conference calls, etc., as determined by The United Methodist Publishing House.

¶808. Membership of the Curriculum Resources Committee—1. The Curriculum Resources Committee shall consist of eight voting members elected quadrennially by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight as follows:

a) A bishop with experience in teaching and learning ministries, to be named by the Council of Bishops.

b) Seven members, nominated by the General Council who shall be selected for expertise in educational ministries and knowledge of the various concerns of congregations in teaching and learning ministries.

c) The president and publisher of the United Methodist Publishing House and an executive appointed by the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall be ex officio members of the Curriculum Resources committee with the privilege of voice but without vote.

Retain ¶817-823 changing the name of the General Council on Finance and Administration wherever it appears to the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry. Move these paragraphs to Paragraphs following 907.

Delete ¶901-¶907 and replace as follows:

Section III. The Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry

¶ 901. Name—1. There shall be a Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry (the Center) in The United Methodist Church which is responsible for the management of the offices under policies established by the General Council on Strategy and Oversight.

Effective July 31, 2012, the Center shall be assigned the primary responsibilities, previously assigned to the General Council on Finance and Administration, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministries, the General Board of Church and Society, the Commission on Archives and History, the Commission on Communications, the Commission on Religion and Race and the Commission on the Role and Status of Women.

¶ 901.2 Upon the adjournment of General Conference, the corporations and functions of all agencies receiving general church funds will continue under the direction of the Center as elected by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and will be reorganized into the offices as described in ¶¶ 1101-1105.

¶ 902. Membership – 1. Following initial election by the Connectional Table (see ¶ 907), future members of the 15-member Board of Directors of the Center shall be appointed by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight. The bishop who serves as chair of the Council for Strategy and Oversight shall be an ex officio member of the Center with voice, but without vote.

¶ 902.1 In addition to meeting all other disciplinary requirements for membership on United Methodist agencies, directors of the Center shall be members of the United Methodist Church with some combination of the following skills:

- a) Experience teaching, leading and serving at the local church and annual conference levels;
- b) A high level of writing and verbal skills;
- c) Experience in leading and/or governing large complex organizations;

d) Experience in implementing large-scale change in either non-profit or corporate settings;

e) Specific skill sets in at least one of the following: financial planning and management; human resources management; organizational change management; large organization operations management; information technology management; real estate management; consulting in organizational development; or long-range strategic planning;

f) Experience in working with measurable results along with high expectations, and a passion for excellence and sense of urgency.

¶ 902. Incorporation—The Center shall be incorporated in such state or states, as the Center shall determine. This corporation shall be the successor corporation and organization to the Connectional Table, the General Council on Finance and Administration, and the General Council on Ministries of The United Methodist Church, an Ohio corporation, and the Program Council of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 903. Amenability—The Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall report and be amenable to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight between sessions of the General Conference.

¶ 904. Staff — The Center shall elect an executive general secretary and, upon nomination by that executive, the Board of Directors shall name executives of each of the five offices. The executive general secretary shall be limited to a total of 12 years in the same office. This limitation may be extended annually by a two-thirds ballot vote of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight. The executive general secretary shall be ex officio on the Board of Directors of the Center with voice but without vote.

¶ 905 Responsibilities — The performance of all functions assigned by General Conference in ¶¶ 1001-1011; ¶¶ 1101-1127; ¶¶ 1201-1212; ¶¶ 1301-1317; ¶¶ 1327; ¶¶ 1401-1423; ¶¶ 1701-1712; ¶¶ 1801-1808; ¶¶ 2001-2008; ¶¶ 2101-2109 of the 2008 *Book of Discipline* shall be the responsibility of the Center.

In order to be accountable to The United Methodist Church through the General Council for Strategy and Oversight, The Board of Directors of the Center shall have the authority and responsibility in the following matters:

- 1. To protect the resources and assets of the denomination.
- 2. To enable the flow of information and communication among annual conferences, jurisdictions, central conferences, general agencies, and the Council of Bishops.

3. Consistent with actions of the General Conference to coordinate the program life of the church with the mandates of the gospel, the mission of the church, and the needs of the global community by listening to the expression of needs, addressing emerging issues, and determining the most effective, cooperative, and efficient way to provide optimum stewardship of ministries, personnel, and resources.

4. To recommend to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight for consideration by General Conference such changes and implementing legislation as may be appropriate to ensure effectiveness of the offices, departments, and general agencies.

5. To provide leadership in planning and research, assisting all levels of the church to evaluate needs and plan strategies to carry out the mission of the church.

6. To receive and administer new trusts and funds, and so far as may be legal be the successor in trust of: The General Council on Finance and Administration, The Board of Trustees of The United Methodist Church; The Board of Trustees of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Board of Trustees of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Board of Trustees of The Evangelical Church, an unincorporated body; The Board of Trustees of The Methodist Church, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Trustees of The Methodist Episcopal Church, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Board of Trustees of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, incorporated under the laws of Tennessee; and The Board of Trustees of The Methodist Protestant Church, incorporated under the laws of Maryland; and so far as may be legal, as such successor in trust, it is authorized to receive from any of its said predecessor corporations all trust funds and assets of every kind and character—real, personal, or mixed—held by them or any one of them, or to merge into itself any one or more of its said predecessor corporations. Any such trusts and funds coming to it as successor corporation, either by transfer or by merger, shall be administered in accordance with the conditions under which they have been previously received and administered by said predecessor corporations or unincorporated body. These funds shall not include funds held and managed by the United Methodist Publishing House and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

7. To appoint a Committee on Audit and Review, no members of which shall be officers or members of the Board of Directors. Not included are the audits of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and the United Methodist Publishing House. In any matter of

possible or potential financial impropriety reported to the committee by the auditors, the committee chair shall immediately inform the executive general secretary and the staff executive of the applicable office.

8. To review and approve special offerings and churchwide appeals upon consultation with the Council of Bishops and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight.

9. To evaluate spending across the seven general church funds in order to support the witness and ministry of the denomination in ways that are consistent with our Wesleyan heritage, theology, and United Methodist polity.

10. To administer all funds and institutions formerly related to general agencies including all foundations previously managed by general agencies on behalf of the United Methodist Church. These funds shall not include funds held and managed by the United Methodist Publishing House, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and the Board of United Methodist Women.

11. To lead the church in inviting, equipping, and supporting faithful and effective spiritual leaders from all cultural, ethnic, and racial backgrounds, who serve as ordained deacons and elders, licensed local pastors, diaconal ministers, certified persons in specialized ministries, and clergy endorsed for extension ministries.

12. To promote and maintain active and effective systems for youth and young adult ministry programming at the local church, district, conference, jurisdictional/central conference, and general church levels for the full involvement of young people in leadership and membership;

13. To develop and support three constituency networks: a Network for United Methodist Youth, a Network for United Methodist Young Adults, and a Network for United Methodist Workers With Young People.

14. To plan and carry out a quadrennial global young people's convocation and to provide program resources and support services for regional and national convocations;

15. To provide administrative oversight to the Youth Service Fund;

16. To supervise the use of the official United Methodist insignia and preserve the integrity of its design. Any commercial use of the design must be explicitly authorized in writing by an appropriate officer of the Center.

17. To identify the needs, concerns, and potential contributions of older adults and to plan of comprehensive ministry by, with, and for older adults in local

churches that includes spiritual growth, education, training, mission, service, and fellowship;

18. To develop and administer a program of financial grants for older adult ministries.

19. The Center may assign any of the above responsibilities to one or more of the five offices, and it shall continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the offices.

¶ **906 Fiscal Responsibilities**—1. All monies contributed by a local church to any of the general funds of the Church, as listed or defined in ¶ 810 <[2. The Center shall be accountable to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and General Conference in all matters relating to the receiving, disbursing, and reporting of such funds, and, with the exception of the Board of the United Methodist Publishing House and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, general agencies receiving such funds shall be fiscally accountable to the Center.](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=89677c3dc2b2836389cb11e3011ace4e3.0>1, and such other funds as may have been authorized by the General Conference shall be held in trust by the Center and distributed only in support of the ministries of the respective funds.</p>
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3. Titles to historic sites and heritage landmarks, and such historical properties as may be acquired in the future, shall be held by the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

4. Between the quadrennial sessions of the General Conference, proposed churchwide financial appeals shall require the approval of the Center, the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and Council of Bishops. In case of emergency, the executive committee of these bodies may act in such matter for the body itself, but only by a three-fourths vote.

5. The Center shall be responsible for ensuring that no board, agency, committee, commission, or council shall give United Methodist funds to any gay caucus or group, or otherwise use such funds to promote the acceptance of homosexuality or violate the expressed commitment of The United Methodist Church “not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends” (¶ 161.F). The ~~Council~~ Center shall have the right to stop such expenditures.¹⁹ It shall not limit the Church’s ministry in response to the HIV epidemic.

6. In the exercise of its fiscal accountability role, the Center shall have the authority and responsibility to perform the following functions:

a) It shall submit to each quadrennial session of the General Conference, for its action and determination, budgets of expense for each of the general funds of the Church, as listed or defined in ¶ 810 <[\[b\\) In consultation with the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and the Council of Bishops, the Center may reallocate available monies during the quadrennium among the various functions and offices within the World Service Fund and within the General Administration Fund.\]\(http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\$Id=89677c3dc2b2836389cb11e3011ace4e\$3.0\$>1, and such other general funds as the General Conference may establish. It shall also make recommendations regarding all other funding considerations to come before General Conference. Actual receipts for each fund for the quadrennium then ending shall be the basis for all budgeting procedures and comparisons for the coming quadrennium.</p>
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c) The Center and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall estimate the total dollar amount available for distribution from the World Service Fund.

d) In consultation with the Council of Bishops and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight, the Center will make recommendation regarding all funding considerations to come before the General Conference.

907. Organizational meeting— In consultation with the Council of Bishops, members of the Connectional Table from the 2009-2012 quadrennium shall select directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry at a meeting immediately following the 2012 General Conference; the newly chosen members of the Board of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall meet by July 31, 2012 to begin implementing the changes in the program structure of the United Methodist Church.

Delete 1001 to 1011 and replace as follows:

Section IV. Offices of the United Methodist Church

¶ **1001. The Office of Shared Services** 1. The Office of Shared Services provides the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry with financial counsel and services, administrative and technological support, churchwide communications and archival maintenance, and other services as determined by the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

2. *Staff* -The Office shall be led by an executive who reports to and is amenable to the executive general secretary.

Delete ¶¶ 1701-1709;

Retain 1710-1712

¶ **1002 The Office of Leadership Development** 1. There shall be an Office of Leadership Development to develop excellence in lay and clergy leaders of the United Methodist Church with special attention to institutions of higher education, campus ministries, the

education and ordination of clergy, and to carry out other functions as determined by the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

2. Staff- The Office shall be led by an executive who reports to and is amenable to the executive general secretary.

Delete ¶¶ 1401-1413, 1421

¶ 1003. Office of Congregational Vitality 1. There shall be an Office of Congregational Vitality to assist annual conferences, districts, and local churches in their efforts to win persons to Jesus Christ as his disciples, to help these persons grow in their understanding of God that they may live in the Spirit of God in every relationship, and to carry out other functions as determined by the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

2. Staff -The Office shall be led by an executive who reports to and is amenable to the executive general secretary.

Delete ¶¶ 1101-1127

¶ 1004 Office of Missional Engagement. 1. There shall be an Office of Missional Engagement to serve as a missional instrument of The United Methodist Church, its annual conferences, missionary conferences, and local congregations in the context of a global setting. The goal of the office is to embody and exemplify God's mission to reclaim, restore and redeem all creation. The office shall discern those places where the gospel has not been heard or heeded and to witness to its meaning throughout the world, inviting all persons to newness of life in Jesus Christ through a program of global ministries. The office shall engage in ministries to human need in emergency situations and in institutional and non-institutional settings. The office shall also perform other functions as determined by the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

2. The office shall be responsible for the United Methodist Committee on Relief and provide service as funds are available as requested by central conferences.

Delete references to the General Board of Global Ministries and substitute the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry in all paragraphs in ¶ 1327.2 and renumber as 1103.2

-3. Staff -The Office shall be led by an executive who reports to and is amenable to the executive general secretary.

Delete ¶¶ 1301-1327.1,

¶ 1005 Office of Justice and Reconciliation 1. There shall be an Office of Justice and Reconciliation to relate the gospel of Jesus Christ to the members of the Church with the persons and structures of the communities and world in which they live and to ensure that women and

members of ethnic and racial groups of The United Methodist Church will have equal opportunities for service, representation, and voice on every level of the Church's life and ministry and the world beyond the church. The office shall identify and address the root causes of poverty, and fulfill other functions as determined by the Board of Directors of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

2. Staff -The Office shall be led by an executive who reports to and is amenable to the executive general secretary.

Delete ¶¶ 1001-1011, 2001-2008, and 2301-2303.

Section V. The United Methodist Publishing House

~~¶¶ 1601.~~**1201. The United Methodist Publishing House—** Authorization and Establishment—The United Methodist Publishing House comprises the publishing interests of The United Methodist Church. It shall have responsibility for and supervision of the publishing and distribution for The United Methodist Church. The United Methodist Publishing House shall, through agencies or instrumentalities it deems necessary, achieve the objectives set forth in ¶ 1613. The United Methodist Publishing House shall provide publishing and distribution services for other agencies of The United Methodist Church and shall share with other agencies of The United Methodist Church in the total program of The United Methodist Church, as well as share in the total ecumenical program in the area of publishing for the advancement of the cause of Christ and his Kingdom as The United Methodist Publishing House shall determine to be appropriate. All matters related to the work of The United Methodist Publishing House shall be under the direction of the Board of The United Methodist Publishing House in accordance with the provisions of the 1996 Book of Discipline and the Restrictive Rules (¶ 22, section III, article VI, of the Constitution) until and unless the General Conference takes specific action amending these provisions. The effective date of this subparagraph shall be the close of 2000 General Conference.

Delete ¶ 1602 and replace as follows:

¶ 1202. The Board of the United Methodist Publishing House shall consist of up to thirty-five members as follows:

a. Episcopal members – Two bishops named by the Council of Bishops

b) Jurisdictional members – Twenty-five members elected by the jurisdictional conferences based on the following formula: North Central – 4; Northeastern – 4; South Central – 5; Southeastern - 6; and Western – 1.

c. Additional members – Up to eight additional

members may be elected by the Board with consideration given to special knowledge and background in publishing, marketing and related business fields, and representation of women and racial ethnic groups not elected by the jurisdictions.

d) The publisher of The United Methodist Church (§ 1614) shall be an ex officio member of the Board without vote.

Retain paragraphs §§1603 to 1642 renumber as §§1203 to 1242

Section VI. The Board of Pension and Health Benefits

~~§ 1501. Establishment—1. a) There shall be a General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church, hereinafter called the general Board, having the general supervision and administration of the support, relief, and assistance and pensioning of clergy of this denomination, lay workers of the various units of the Church, and their families.~~

§1301. The Board of Pension and Health Benefits
1. The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits is authorized and empowered to manage and administer the benefit funds, plans and programs of the denomination, and provide administrative support, trusts and investments to The United Methodist Church and its constituent boards, agencies, conferences, organizations and other institutions.

b) The general Board shall be the successor to the General Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church, the Board of Pensions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, and the General Board of Pensions of The Methodist Church.

2. The general Board shall have authority to establish, maintain, and discontinue the location of its headquarters office and such auxiliary offices as it shall deem proper and advisable.

3. The general Board shall report to and be amenable to the General Conference.

~~§ 1502. 1.Membership—~~a) ~~The membership of the general Board shall be composed of two bishops, elected by the Council of Bishops; sixteen members elected by the jurisdictional conferences from the annual conference nominations on a ratio providing for an equitable distribution among the various jurisdictions, based on the combined clergy and laity membership thereof, as determined by the secretary of the General Conference; six members, with not more than two from the same jurisdiction, elected by the General Conference on nomination of the Council of Bishops; and eight additional members for the purpose of bringing to the general Board special knowledge or background, not more than two from the same jurisdiction, nominated and elected~~

~~by the general Board in such manner as it shall provide in its bylaws.~~

§ 1302. Membership – a) The membership of the Board shall be composed of two bishops elected by the Council of Bishops; sixteen members elected by the jurisdictional conferences from the annual conference nominations on a ratio providing for an equitable distribution among the various jurisdictions based on the combined clergy and laity membership thereof, as determined by the secretary of the General Conference and eight additional members for the purpose of bringing to the Board special knowledge or background not more than two from the same jurisdiction, nominated and elected by the Board in such manner as it shall provide in its bylaws.

Retain §1502b and following paragraphs through §1509 Renumber as §§1302b to §1309

Section VII. Membership Organizations

~~§ 1318. The Women's Division 1400—~~The Board of United Methodist Women 1. The Board of United Methodist Women shall be actively engaged in fulfilling the mission of Christ and the Church and shall interpret the purpose of United Methodist Women. With continuing awareness of the concerns and responsibilities of the Church in today's world, the Women's Division Board of United Methodist Women shall be an advocate for the oppressed and dispossessed with special attention to the needs of women and children; shall work to build a supportive community among women; and shall engage in activities that foster growth in the Christian faith, mission education, and Christian social involvement throughout the organization.

~~§ 1319—~~§1402. Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the ~~Women's Division~~ General Board of United Methodist Women shall be:

1. To recommend program and policies to United Methodist Women.

2. To interpret the role and responsibility of the division in fulfilling the mission of Christ and the Church.

3. To provide resources and opportunities for women that enriches their spiritual life and increase their knowledge and understanding of the needs of the world and their responsibility in meeting those needs.

4. To secure funds through the channels of United Methodist Women for the support of the program of the Church through the General Board of Global Ministries, with special concern for the needs and responsibilities of women.

5. To project plans specially directed toward leadership development of women through appropriate planning with the other units of the board.

6. To strengthen the Church's challenge to women to enlist in the diaconate as missionaries and deaconesses.

7. To enlist women in activities that have a moral and religious significance for the public welfare and that contribute to the establishment of a just global society.

8. To work with the other agencies of the Church and community in areas of common concern and responsibility. A United Nations Office shall be conducted in cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society.

9. To give visible evidence of oneness in Christ by uniting in fellowship and service with other Christians, including the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, Church Women United, and other similar groups, thereby strengthening the ecumenical witness and program of the Church.

10. To formulate concepts of contemporary mission.

¶ ~~1320~~—¶**1403**. Authority—1. The ~~Women's Division Board of United Methodist Women~~ shall have the authority to make its bylaws and to regulate its proceedings in harmony with the charter of the board, and with its approval, to develop and carry out the functions of the board as described in ¶ 1302; to buy and sell property; to solicit and accept contributions, subject to annuity under the board's regulations; and to appropriate its funds.

2. The ~~division board~~ shall meet annually at the time of the meeting of the board and at such other times as it shall deem necessary.

3. The ~~Women's Division Board of United Methodist Women~~ shall include in its responsibilities:

a) Those formerly carried by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of The Methodist Church, and the Women's Society of World Service of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Women's Society of Christian Service of The United Methodist Church, and those other organizations of women of similar purposes that have operated in the churches forming the United Methodist tradition, including the Women's Missionary Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; the Woman's Missionary Society of The Evangelical Church; the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Service Guild, and the Ladies' Aid Societies of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Woman's Missionary Society, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Woman's Board of Home Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Council of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and the Woman's Convention of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Protestant Church. This list shall not be construed as exclusive.

b) All policy matters pertaining to the homes for retired workers owned by the Women's Division.

4. The ~~Women's Division Board of United Methodist Women~~ shall have the authority:

a) To organize jurisdictional, conference, district, and local church organizations of United Methodist Women, ~~which shall be auxiliary to the General Board of Global Ministries, through the Women's Division, of The United Methodist Church.~~

b) To recommend constitutions and make bylaws for United Methodist Women.

c) To appropriate funds received through United Methodist Women.

d) To serve as the national official policy-making body of United Methodist Women, with the officers of the ~~Women's Division Board of United Methodist Women~~ designated as the national officers.

¶ ~~1321~~—¶**1404**. Organization—The ~~Women's Division Board of United Methodist Women~~ shall elect an executive committee of nineteen members, which shall exercise the powers of the division ad interim. ~~The Women's Division board~~ shall name members of its executive committee to serve on the board executive committee. The number named shall be at least one-third of the board executive committee membership. Members of the ~~Women's Division board~~ executive committee shall be elected by the ~~Women's Division board~~ to serve on executive committees of board units and committees as defined in board bylaws. ~~The president, general secretary, and treasurer of the board (¶ 1307) and the deputy general secretary, treasurer, and assistant general secretaries of the Women's Division shall be members ex officio without vote.~~

¶ ~~1322~~—¶**1405**. Structure—The ~~Women's Division board~~ shall be organized into such sections as the division shall determine.

¶ ~~1323~~—¶**1406**. Assembly—There may be an assembly of United Methodist Women, including a delegated body termed the Assembly. The ~~Division board~~ shall determine the time and place of meeting and the purpose, composition, functions, and powers of the Assembly.

¶ ~~1324~~—¶**1407**. ~~Financial Relationship to the General Board of Global Ministries—The funds for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the Women's Division shall be derived from annual voluntary pledges, offerings, gifts, devises, bequests, annuities, or money received through special emphases and meetings held in the interest of the division. All funds, except those designated for local purposes, shall be forwarded through the channels of finance of United Methodist Women to the treasurer of the division. Undesignated funds~~

~~received by the Women's Division shall be allocated by the division, on recommendation of the appropriate section or committee, for the work of the several sections of the Women's Division and to such other units of the General Board of Global Ministries as the division shall determine for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the division. Funds appropriated for the work of the other units of the board may be given with specific designations and time limits, after which unspent funds are to be—~~

~~1325—~~¶1408. Membership—1. The ~~Women's Division board~~ shall be composed of fifty members as follows: forty shall be laywomen elected by the jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women at quadrennial meetings (¶ 536.4); five shall be the jurisdiction presidents of United Methodist Women; and five shall be elected by the ~~Women's Division board~~. The president, ~~general secretary~~, chief staff executive, and treasurer of the board shall be members ex officio.

2 Staff—The Board of United Methodist Women shall elect annually by ballot an executive, who shall provide executive, administrative, and programmatic leadership (¶ 713). The Board shall elect such other staff members as needs require within the General Conference mandates and the authority vested in the commission to develop policies and programs directed toward the realization of its purpose. The top executive of the board shall be an ex-officio member of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight with voice and without vote.

¶ ~~1326—~~¶1409. Constitution of United Methodist Women—For the Constitution of United Methodist Women in the jurisdiction, see ¶ 536; for the Constitution of United Methodist Women in the conference, see ¶ 647; for the Constitution of United Methodist Women in the district, see ¶ 669; for the Constitution of United Methodist Women in the local church, see ¶ 256.

1500 The Board of United Methodist Men

¶ ~~2301—~~¶1501. There shall be a General ~~Commission Board~~ of United Methodist Men in The United Methodist Church.

The ~~general commission board~~ shall be amenable to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. ~~Between sessions of the General Conference, the general commission shall be accountable to the Connectional Table by reporting and interpreting activities in its purpose—(¶¶ 2302—~~¶1502. Purpose—The General ~~Commission Board~~ of United Methodist Men shall have primary oversight for the coordination and resourcing of men's ministry within The United Methodist Church.

1. United Methodist Men exists to declare the centrality of Christ in every man's life. Men's ministry leads to the spiritual growth of men and effective discipleship. This purpose is served as men are called to model the servant leadership of Jesus Christ.

2. Individual and group strategies form the foundation of UMMen ministry:

a) enhance Evangelism, Mission, and Spiritual Life (EMS), as men become servant leaders.

b) advocate programs that train men within local churches to promote specific ministries, including prayer, missions, stewardship, and civic/youth serving ministries.

c) forge pastoral partnerships by men committed to the effective support and service of clergy and local congregations.

d) enhance organizational strength by effective leadership, resources, membership growth, and financial accountability.

e) assist men in their ever-changing relationships, roles and responsibilities in their family setting, workplace, and society.

f) cultivate leadership among men for a policy of no tolerance of sexual harassment in family, church, workplace and society

g) understand the organization, doctrines, and beliefs of The United Methodist Church.

h) fulfill the membership vows through commitment to prayer, presence, gifts, and service in congregational life.

i) fulfill the Great Commission with and through The United Methodist Church as one part of the body of Christ.

3. To provide support services to promote the ministry and growth of United Methodist Men:

a) provide specific and optional models for men in the local church, district, annual conference, and jurisdiction;

b) maintain effective communications and cooperation with the National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men and other national organizations representing the central conferences and other worldwide Methodist liaisons;

c) promote the annual certification of local church men's ministry and the chartering/annual renewal of local church men's units (¶ 256.6) with the General ~~Commission Board~~ of United Methodist Men.

4. To provide resources that assist men in their growing relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and his church:

a) programs of evangelism that are geared to men's needs in cooperation with all areas of the Church deal-

ing with the area of evangelism that model to men that witness is an integral part of daily life in the workplace, the community, the parish, and the home;

b) programs of mission in cooperation with all areas of the Church dealing with missional opportunities enabling men for outreach and service as an integral part of their Christian discipleship;

c) programs of spiritual life in cooperation with areas of faith development will assist men to realize that witness and outreach, with mission and ministry, become extensions of their faith development and their personal relationship to God through Jesus Christ;

d) programs of stewardship in cooperation with the area of stewardship that will lead men to an understanding of their responsibility as stewards of God's creation and personal stewardship of time, talent, money, and prayer;

e) programs that affirm the role of men in their family situations;

f) to advocate, research, and develop programs for The United Methodist Church to minister to and through men;

g) program partnership with The Upper Room in the Living Prayer Center ministry, including support for toll free telephone service and promotion. At all levels of the United Methodist Men's network there shall be prayer advocates;

h) United Methodist Men shall be in partnership with other general agencies and be a resource for men engaged in restorative justice and prison ministries.

5. The General ~~Commission Board~~ will provide resources and support for the office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting Ministries:

a) to provide training of local church, district, annual conference, and jurisdictional scouting coordinators;

b) to provide advocacy, cooperation, and relationship in partnership with the National (USA) Association of United Methodist Scouters, the General Board of Discipleship, the Council of Bishops, and the civic youth-serving agencies (Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, Camp Fire USA, 4-H, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and such appropriate organizations within the Central Conferences) for the promotion of youth-serving/scouting ministries within The United Methodist Church;

c) to coordinate, promote, and resource as needed annual conference Bishop's Dinners for Scouting.

¶ ~~2303~~ **1503** *Membership*—1. The ~~commission board~~ shall consist of ~~twenty-five (25)~~ twenty (20) voting members as defined in ¶ 705.3 in the General Provisions and ¶537. Other paragraphs in the *Discipline*

notwithstanding, members of the ~~Commission board~~ holding membership by office or organization, may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms. The membership shall be composed of: ...

a) three bishops, including at least one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops;

(b) the five (5) jurisdictional presidents of United Methodist Men and the national president

~~(c) six members elected by the National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men, including the national president and five members at large (including at least two members of the commission from the previous quadrennium, for continuity) chosen for expertise and jurisdictional balance if possible;~~

d) two central conference members named by the Council of Bishops;

e) the president of the United Methodist Men Foundation;

~~f) the president of the National Association of United Methodist Scouters;~~

(g) six-eight members at large elected by the commission for inclusiveness, expertise and balance, which should include at least one young person under age 30 and at least two members of the commission from the previous quadrennium.

~~(h) one representative from a men's ministry from a Pan-Methodist church.~~

2. *Vacancies*—Vacancies in the general ~~commission board~~ membership shall be filled by procedures defined in ¶ 712 of the General Provisions.

3. *Officers*—The General ~~Commission Board~~ of United Methodist Men shall elect as its officers a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and other such officers as it shall deem necessary. In addition, the president of the National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men shall also be considered an officer.

4. *Staff*—The General ~~Commission Board~~ of United Methodist Men shall elect annually by ballot its general secretary, who shall provide executive, administrative, and programmatic leadership (¶ 713). The ~~Commission board~~ shall elect such other staff members as needs require within the General Conference mandates and the authority vested in the commission to develop policies and programs directed toward the realization of its purpose. The top executive of the board shall be an ex officio member of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight with voice and without vote.

5. *Meetings*—The ~~Commission board~~ shall meet annually, with such additional meetings as needs demand.

6. *Funding*—~~The General Council on Finance and Administration Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall make provision for the necessary support of the work of the commission by providing World Service Funds to complement the direct revenue and contributions from United Methodist Men. This shall include meeting and related expenses for the central conference representative.~~

Section VIII. Other organizations

Delete §§1201-1207 and replace as follows:

¶ 1601. —*The Advisory Committee on Ministries with Young People* – The committee shall be a forum for the flow of information and communication among annual conferences, jurisdictions, central conferences, general agencies and the Council of Bishops in order to empower young people as world-changing disciples of Jesus Christ, to nurture faith development, and to equip young leaders.

¶ 1602. *Purpose*—The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to empower young people as world-changing disciples of Jesus Christ, to nurture faith development, and to equip young leaders by

¶ 1603. *Authority and Accountability*—The Advisory Committee on Ministries With Young People shall be accountable to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and the Council of Bishops. 1

¶ 1604. *Structure*—The Advisory Committee on Ministries With Young People shall be organized around three basic units: United Methodist Youth, United Methodist Young Adults, and United Methodist Workers With Young People.

¶ 1605. *Membership*—The membership of the committee shall be inclusive with respect to gender, race/ethnicity, lay/clergy, and vocation.

1. Membership shall be as follows:

a) *Twenty-two youth*—One youth elected by the youth organization of each central conference (according to the age definition of each central conference, but not to exceed the age of 24); 2 youth from each jurisdiction elected by the jurisdictional youth convocation (¶ 533) who are 16 or younger at the time of appointment; one youth appointed by each racial/ethnic caucus who is 16 or younger at the time of appointment;

b) *Seventeen young adults*—one young adult elected by the young adult organization of each central conference (according to the age definition of each central conference, but not to exceed the age of 35); two young adults from each jurisdiction (as follows): one young adult elected by the jurisdictional conference, and one undergraduate student from each jurisdiction elected at the United Methodist Student Movement's

Student Forum (¶ 1412.2g). Jurisdictional and UMSM representatives shall be 28 or younger at the time of election, with attention given to the diverse audiences of young adults.

c) One adult from each central conference region (Africa, Asia, and Europe), appointed by the central conference nominating committee;

d) One adult from each jurisdiction, elected by the jurisdictional conference;

e) *Additional Members:*

1) Two members of the United Methodist Student Movement steering committee (¶ 1412.2g);

2) Up to five additional members as determined by the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

¶ 1606. The committee shall name three of its members to be members of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight with voice and vote.

Retain §§1208-10 and renumber as ¶1607 - ¶1609

¶ 1414—¶1607. *University Senate*.—1. The University Senate is an elected body of professionals in higher education created by the General Conference to determine which schools, colleges, universities, and theological schools meet the criteria for listing as institutions affiliated with The United Methodist Church.

Retain all paragraphs from 1414 to 1418 and renumber as 1606- – 1611

Delete ¶1121 and replace the following:

¶ 1608. *Committee on Older Adult Ministries*—1. There may be a Committee on Older Adult Ministries, which shall be administratively related to the Office of Connectional Mission and Ministry.

2. *Purpose*—The committee will provide a forum for information sharing, cooperative planning, and joint program endeavors as determined in accordance with the responsibilities and objectives of the participating agencies. The committee shall serve as an advocate for older adult concerns and issues and shall serve to support ministries by, with, and for older adults throughout The United Methodist Church and its affiliated agencies and in the larger society.

3. *Membership*—The committee shall be composed of members established by the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

4. *Meetings*—The committee shall meet at least once a year.

Delete ¶ 1122 to ¶1127, and replace the following Amend and renumber §§1422-1423

¶ 1422. 1609. *Schools of Theology of the United Methodist Church Goals*—1. United Methodist schools of theology share a common mission of preparing persons for leadership in the ministry of The United Methodist Church; of leading in the ongoing reflection

on Wesleyan theology; and of assisting the church in fulfilling its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. They contribute to the life of the global United Methodist connection through theological education for the sake of the worldwide mission of the church. These schools of theology are maintained for the education of ordained and lay leadership, for the interpretation of the Christian faith and United Methodist tradition through biblical and theological research, and for prophetic leadership. ~~The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry provides leadership and support in this common mission and in the development of relationships among the schools of theology in the U.S.A. and the central conferences and the various agencies of the General Church.

2. All candidates for ordination as deacon or elder in The United Methodist Church are strongly encouraged to attend United Methodist schools of theology since these schools ~~share with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the conference Boards of Ordained Ministry in the work of preparing~~ are especially equipped and certified to prepare persons for ordination and leadership in The United Methodist Church.

3. Schools of Theology of The United Methodist Church Located in the U.S.A.—a) Schools of theology of The United Methodist Church located in the U.S.A. exist to serve The United Methodist Church, primarily in the United States, but with concern for the witness of the church around the world. In addition to their commitment to United Methodism, they also serve students of other denominations in witness to United Methodism's ecumenical relationships. As denominational schools, they have a historic relationship to the denomination and are officially related to The United Methodist Church through ~~the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and~~ the approval of the University Senate. The following schools comprise this network of United Methodist schools of theology in the U.S.A.: Boston University School of Theology, Claremont School of Theology, Duke Divinity School, Candler School of Theology, the Theological School-Drew University, Gammon Theological Seminary (ITC), Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Iliff School of Theology, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Perkins School of Theology, Saint Paul School of Theology, United Theological Seminary (Dayton, Ohio), and Wesley Theological Seminary. They are accountable to the church through ~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and~~ the University Senate and the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry or a unit appointed

by the center and assigned to an office. ~~Therefore, agencies of the church seeking to monitor the use of the schools will do so in cooperation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry.~~

b) These schools of theology shall receive financial support for the current operating expenses from the annual conferences in the USA through the Ministerial Education Fund, administered by the ~~Division of Ordained Ministry, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry, or a unit appointed by the center and assigned to an office. (See ¶ 816.2.) The Ministerial Education Fund shall be regarded by the annual conferences in the USA as a priority to be met before any additional benevolence, grants, or funds are allocated to other theological schools or schools of religion.³³

c) In fulfilling their task of preparing persons for effective service for Christ and the church, The United Methodist schools of theology located in the USA shall acquaint students with the current polity, theology and programs of The United Methodist Church and shall offer practical experience in administration, evangelism, stewardship, and other areas which will prepare them for effective Christian ministry in a multicultural society. Each school of theology, ~~in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry,~~ shall provide the courses in United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity specified in ¶ 335.(3) and seek to form persons for ministry in the Wesleyan tradition.

d) Any institution seeking affiliation with The United Methodist Church for the preparation of candidates for ordination must first present its plan to the ~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry for approval and recommendation to the University Senate, which alone can grant affiliation and listing as a United Methodist school of theology. A select number of non-United Methodist schools of theology may be granted approval for the preparation of candidates for ordination under the criteria of the University Senate.

4. Schools of Theology of The United Methodist Church Located in the central conferences—a) In order to meet the needs for theological education and clergy training in their regions, the central conferences establish schools of theology to serve the United Methodists in their distinct cultural, social, and linguistic context. Schools of theology and programs of clergy training are also established by the ~~General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Higher Education~~

~~and Ministry Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry~~ to serve the needs of the central conferences. These schools may be supported through the central conference and/or the ~~General Board of Global Ministries and/or the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry and are accountable to the appropriate bodies for their program and their relationship to the denomination.

b) Additional schools of theology and pastoral training may be established by the central conference, ~~General Conference, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, or the General Board of Global Ministries~~ and accountability depends on the founding documents of the institutions.

5. The United Methodist Church also shares in global theological education through ecumenical schools of theology where The United Methodist Church is a partner. Though not United Methodist-related, these institutions serve on behalf of United Methodists in those regions and may relate to the ~~General Board of Global Ministries and/or General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~, Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry in accordance with their charter and mission.

33. See Judicial Council Decision 545.

¶ 1423. **1609.6.** Education of Ordination Candidates—The United Methodist schools of theology share with the conference boards of ordained ministry the responsibility for the education and formation of candidates for admission to the annual conferences.

¶ 1423. **1610.** *Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges*—1. There shall be an organization known as the Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges. It shall be composed of all the presidents of the United Methodist institutions historically related to the education of African Americans and with a current relationship to The United Methodist Church.

2. Purposes and Objectives—The purpose of the council shall be to:

a) Help identify and clarify the roles of these colleges in higher education and in The United Methodist Church.

b) Promote fundraising efforts through the Church.

c) Study, review, and discuss programs of member institutions.

The council shall have a minimum of two regular meetings in each calendar year ~~and shall be amenable to the Division of Higher Education in the implementation of its responsibilities.~~

¶ 1907. **1611.** ¶ *Committee on Faith and Order*

1. There shall be a Committee on Faith and Order that,

while functioning with the authority of an independent committee (~~¶ 701.2, 2004 Book of Discipline~~), shall, for purposes of staffing, budgeting, and financial affairs, reside under the auspices of the ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ Council of Bishops.

¶ 1908. **1611.2** Purpose—The Committee on Faith and Order shall give leadership to The United Methodist Church in reflecting upon, discerning and living out matters of faith, doctrinal teaching, order, and discipline in the midst of mission and ministry in the church and the world. The committee shall be a visible expression of the commitment of The United Methodist Church to carry on informed theological reflection for the current time in dynamic continuity with the historic Christian faith, our common heritage as Christians grounded in the apostolic witness, and our distinctive Wesleyan heritage. The committee shall be charged with three broad responsibilities:

1. To lead and coordinate studies commissioned by the General Conference in matters related to the faith, doctrine, order and discipline of the church.

2. To support and provide resources upon request to the Council of Bishops in their responsibility to “guard, transmit, teach and proclaim, corporately and individually the apostolic faith as it is expressed in Scripture and tradition, and as they are led and endowed by the Spirit, to interpret that faith evangelically and prophetically.”

3. To prepare and provide resources and study materials to the General Church upon request from the General Conference ~~or the Council of Bishops, or~~ Connectional Table.

¶ 1909. **1611.3** ¶. Responsibilities—

Retain paragraph

¶ 1910. **1611.4.** Authorities and Powers—The Committee on Faith and Order shall have the authority and power to fulfill all the responsibilities noted in ¶¶ 1908 and 1909. The Committee on Faith and Order shall be amenable to the General Conference of the United Methodist Church. Between sessions of the General Conference, the Committee shall be accountable to the ~~Connectional Table~~ Council of Bishops by reporting and interpreting activities designed to fulfill the purpose of the Committee. ~~and by cooperating with the Connectional Table in fulfillment of its legislated responsibilities.~~

¶ 1911. **1611.5.** Membership—The Committee on Faith and Order shall be organized each quadrennium and shall be composed of twenty-four persons chosen as follows:

a). Six bishops shall serve as members, including

the ecumenical officer of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church and five other bishops assigned by the Council of Bishops.

b). Six members shall be nominated by the Association of United Methodist Theological Schools chosen from the faculties of seminaries affiliated with The United Methodist Church. The Association of United Methodist Theological Schools shall rotate nominations from among the seminaries on a basis established by itself.

c). Twelve members who are not bishops shall be chosen by the Council of Bishops upon nomination by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns and The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ Six of the twelve chosen by the Council of Bishops shall come from the nominations of the ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, and six shall be chosen from those nominated by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry. Three of the members ~~nominated by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ shall be nominated from the faculties of seminaries affiliated with The United Methodist Church in the central conferences. Funding for this will be provided ~~within the regular budgets for the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight.

d). All twenty-four members of the committee shall be approved and elected by the Council of Bishops at its fall meeting following the General Conference each quadrennium.

e). At least three (3) of the members of the committee shall be clergy actively serving full-time in the local church and three (3) shall be laity. One third of the membership shall be persons of minority racial/ethnic identity.

f). In its capacity of providing spiritual and doctrinal leadership, the Council of Bishops shall exercise oversight in the nomination and election of members with regard to central conference inclusion, geographic diversity, and age representation; it shall also ensure that the committee models effective representation of the theological diversity of The United Methodist Church.

g). Membership on the board of directors of any other general agency does not make one ineligible to serve as a member of this committee, ¶¶ 710.5 and 714.6 to the contrary notwithstanding.

¶ 1912. **1611.6.** Organization—The Committee on Faith and Order shall be organized as follows:

1. The committee shall elect from its episcopal membership a chairperson and from its total membership other officers as it may determine.

2. There shall be an executive committee of the committee with powers as determined by the committee.

3. The initial election of members for the Committee on Faith and Order shall include twelve persons elected for four years and twelve persons elected for eight years. Thereafter, all persons elected to the Committee on Faith and Order shall be elected to eight year terms.

4. The committee shall meet for organizational purposes each quadrennium prior to the end of the year in which the General Conference is held.

5. The committee shall meet at least annually and at such other times as it shall deem necessary. A majority of members of the committee shall constitute a quorum. The committee may conduct meetings by telephone conference or video conference, or make decisions by mail ballot or other method, provided that notification of all members is ensured and the provision of quorum is met.

¶ 2201. **1612** *Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters* 1. The General Conference recognizes the differences in conditions that exist in various areas of the world and the changes taking place in those areas. There shall be a Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters serving as an independent coordinating body. ~~The General Board of Global Ministries.~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry or a group named by the center shall be the facilitating agency to the standing committee. The standing committee shall serve as the coordinating body to study the structure and supervision of The United Methodist Church in its work outside the United States and its territories and its relationships to other Church bodies.

2. The standing committee shall meet twice within the quadrennium in order to review, consider, and develop resolutions and petitions related to central conferences and may be called into session during General Conference as needed. It shall review and prepare such recommendations as it considers necessary for presentation directly to the General Conference. The committee shall submit its report and recommendations in accordance with the timelines governing general agencies for submission of petitions and resolutions. All resolutions and petitions related to central conferences presented to the General Conference shall be referred to the committee for consideration, and the committee shall report its recommendations directly to the General Conference. On matters dealing with the determination of episcopal areas (¶ 404.1), affiliation and autonomy (¶ 572), and

joining The United Methodist Church (§ 575), the committee shall report directly to the General Conference.

3. The standing committee shall be composed of one bishop, one ordained minister, and one layperson from each jurisdiction who are delegates to the General Conference and named by the Council of Bishops; one bishop, one ordained minister, and one layperson from each central conference who are delegates to the General Conference and named by the Council of Bishops; one bishop, one ordained minister, and one layperson who are elected members of the ~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ General Council for Strategy and Oversight and named by the Council of Bishops. The central conference bishop assigned to the ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ Council for Strategy and Oversight shall also be a member of this committee. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women, lay, clergy, youth and young adults. ~~The chairperson of the standing committee shall be a central conference bishop, and shall also serve as a member of the Connectional Table.~~

4. The ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry shall recommend to the General Conference for its action and determination a provision in the budget of an appropriate general Church fund for the expenses incurred by the standing committee.

¶ ~~2406.~~ **1613 JUSTPEACE** *Center for Mediation and Conflict Transformation* — 1. Mission—JUSTPEACE Center for Mediation and Conflict Transformation is a mission of The United Methodist Church to engage conflict constructively in ways that strive for justice, reconciliation, resource preservation and restoration of community in and through The United Methodist Church and with the Church universal to the world in which we live.

2. Relationship with the Church—JUSTPEACE shall be an incorporated resource of The United Methodist Church. It shall be accountable to the General Conference and in order to fulfill its mission be authorized to seek and create relationships with the agencies and organizations of The United Methodist Church and other organizations, while preserving its role as an impartial entity. JUSTPEACE shall be proactive in its efforts to transform conflict by accepting invitations to intervene in conflicts, train church leaders and members of annual conference conflict transformation teams in conflict transformation, connect and nurture a community of practitioners, and develop resources.

3. Financial Support—Either on behalf of its total work or on behalf of a specific program, JUSTPEACE may charge fees, solicit and create special funds or

endowments, receive gifts and bequests, hold properties and securities in trust, and administer all its financial affairs in accordance with its own rules and relevant provisions of The Book of Discipline.

¶ **1700 Associations**— 1. There are a number of professional associations related to the United Methodist Church. These include, but are not limited to: The National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators, the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries, the National Association of Commission on Equitable Compensation of the United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Information Technology Association, United Method in Music and Worship Art, The Order of St. Luke, United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries, United Methodist Association of Communicators, United Methodist Campus Ministry Association, Association of Annual Conference Lay leaders, and Fellowship of Local Pastors. There are also a number of racial/ethnic caucuses, and advocacy caucuses or organizations.

2. While the United Methodist Church recognizes the presence of such associations and appreciates the contributions they make to the church at all levels, the groups have no financial claim upon denominational funds.

3. Associations seeking voluntary relationships with any United Methodist agency shall seek the counsel of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry.

Financial Implications for Proposed Changes in Connectional Table Petition

Potential Meeting Costs for The Center for Connectional Ministry and Mission (15 members)

3 meetings in 2012 after General Conference
\$92,500

4 meetings per year for 2013-2016 quadrennium
\$535,000

Potential Meeting Costs for the General Council for Strategy and Oversight (45 members)

1 meeting in 2012 after General Conference
\$92,500

1 meeting per year for 2013-2016 quadrennium
\$402,500

Potential Meeting Cost Savings from Dissolution of the Boards of 10 General Agencies (Entities) Receiving General Church Funds

(Connectional Table, General Council on Finance and Administration, General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, General Commission on

Archives and History, General Commission on Communication, General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and the General Commission on Religion and Race)

2 meetings per year for the 2013-2016 quadrennium
\$ 9,000,000

Please note that no cost factors are included for potential changes to the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns and the General Commission on United Methodist Men since these two agencies will continue in a modified structure in the future with the timing and nature of the changes in their structure not specified at this time.

Potential Legal Costs To Dissolve the Current 10 General Agencies (Entities) Receiving General Church Funds and Create the New Boards and Agencies

\$ 2,000,000 to \$ 3,000,000 depending on the complexity of the legal issues encountered, including title issues on owned properties.

Potential Costs for Executive General Secretary and Administrative Assistant

4th quarter of 2012

\$ 80,000

2013-2016 quadrennium

\$ 1,350,000

Rationale:

To implement Call to Action recommendations endorsed by the Connectional Table and Council of Bishops that reorder general church resources, governance and structures giving increased focus, flexibility and efficiency for work supporting annual conferences to increase and sustain the number of vital United Methodist congregations.

¶263.

Petition Number: 20977-GA-¶263.4-G; Kulah, Jerry - Monrovia, Liberia for Liberia Annual Conference.

UM Student Day for Africa

Amend ¶¶ 263.4 and 823.3 with the proposed additional language:

Historically, United Methodist Student Day has been celebrated with an offering on the last Sunday in November. Congregations are encouraged to observe United Methodist Student Day on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. The offering shall support United Methodist scholarships and the United Methodist Student loan Fund. A portion of the funds

raised on that Sunday should be allocated to Central Conferences in Africa for the development of African students of the UMC studying in Africa. The percentage to be allocated shall be worked out by the General Council on Finance and Administration. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. In connection with United Methodist Student Day, the General Commission on Communication shall conduct a church wide appeal. The treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration shall allocate net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses. Funds shall be administered by the agency under which approved programs are lodged.

Rationale:

Over the years, the United Methodist Student Day fund has contributed significantly to the educational needs of students. However, efforts toward ensuring that a portion of this fund filters down to Central Conferences in Africa to support scholarship efforts of students studying in Africa will demonstrate our inclusiveness, and fulfill...

¶265.

Petition Number: 20463-GA-¶265-G; West, Paulette S. - Birmingham, AL, USA for Jurisdictional UMVIM Coordinators.

Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday

Insert ¶265.5 under Approved Sundays for Annual Conference Observance.

Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday –Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) Awareness Sunday shall be observed annually on a date to be determined by the annual conference. UMVIM Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate those who have served in short-term mission and the work of UMVIM throughout the world. If the annual conference so directs, an offering may be received and used by the annual conference volunteer in mission program. The observance of UMVIM Awareness Sunday shall be under the general supervision of General Board of Global Ministries Mission Volunteers.

Rationale:

The 2004 General Conference ruled that each annual conference may set aside a Sunday to be declared Volunteer in Mission Awareness Day. As indicated in resolution #3111 Volunteers in Mission, 2008 Book of Resolution, the UMVIM movement is one of the most

dynamic mission outreach programs of the denomination with...

¶511.

Petition Number: 20319-GA-¶511.1-G; Miller, Randall - Oakland, CA, USA for Commission on the General Conference.

Commission on the General Conference

Amend Paragraph 511.1.a) and 511.1.b)

1. *Membership – a)* The voting members of the commission shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference and shall consist of nineteen ~~twenty-five~~ members as follows: two persons from each jurisdiction, one person from each of the seven central conferences ~~the central conferences of each continent of Africa, Asia, and Europe~~, one young adult, and the chairperson of the host committee, ~~and ten additional members. The additional members shall be allocated to reflect the proportionate jurisdictional membership based upon combined clergy and lay membership of the church.~~

b) Members shall be nominated from the elected delegates to the General Conference by the Council of Bishops at its fall meeting preceding General Conference and elected by the General Conference for a term of eight years. The commission shall reflect a balance of clergy-men and clergywomen, laywomen and laymen, and the diverse character of The United Methodist Church. ~~The commission shall be equally divided between clergy and lay membership to the extent possible with consideration of the membership qualifications specified in ¶710.~~ Approximately half of the commission shall be elected by the General Conference each quadrennium.

Rationale:

This reduces the overall size of the Commission on the General Conference and expands the representation from Central Conferences.

¶533.

Petition Number: 20243-GA-¶533; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Membership on the Division on Ministries with Young People

Amend ¶ 533, third paragraph, as follows:

A responsibility of the jurisdictional youth ministry organization convocation shall be to elect ~~two~~ one youth members to the Division on Ministries With Young People of the General Board of Discipleship for a four-year terms. ~~At least one of the youth shall be a racial and ethnic youth.~~ In cooperation with the jurisdictional election of a young adult to the division, the jurisdictional youth ministry organization should ensure that either the youth or young adult representative will be a racial/ethnic young person. Youth elected to membership of the Division on Ministries with Young People shall be age sixteen or younger at the time of appointment. ~~At least one youth shall be fifteen or younger.~~ Nominations shall come from annual conference councils on youth ministry or equivalent structure.

Rationale:

This legislation is submitted to ensure equitable representation of jurisdictional and central conference youth, young adults, and young adult workers, as well as to create an efficient, focus driven division with the capability to offer creative and efficient young people's ministry.

¶700.

Petition Number: 20771-GA-¶700-G; Suter, Rebecca M. - Martinsville, IN, USA.

Agency Members Approval for External Relationships

ADD a new ¶ after Discipline ¶721 and re-number subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

¶722. External Relationships—No general agency of The United Methodist Church shall be have the formal status of being a member or affiliate of any external organization or coalition unless the agency was specifically instructed to do so by General Conference action or by a majority of the agency's members present and voting at a regular meeting. In the latter case, the agency's relationship with the external group shall expire by the close of the second regularly scheduled agency members meeting in the subsequent quadrennium, unless the General Conference or the agency's members shall vote to renew this relationship at that meeting. A vote by the agency's members to make the agency a formal member or affiliate of an external organization shall only take effect if such membership or affiliation does not violate any provision of the Book of Discipline or any General Conference directive.

Rationale:

This ensures closer coordination between agency staff and members about the agency's ongoing work and external relationships, and provides for a regular review of formalized external relationships with non-Methodist entities. The last sentence makes it clear that no such general agency vote can automatically override the General Conference's authority.

¶701.

Petition Number: 20404-GA-¶701-G; Jones, Scott J. - Wichita, KS, USA for Study Committee on the Worldwide Nature of the UMC.

General Agencies' Worldwide Responsibility

Amend ¶701 as follows:

Insert the following after "capable of rapid response" and renumber the remaining text as a new number 4

¶701.3

. . . through services and ministries that are highly focused, flexible, and capable of rapid response. They contribute to the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church both in the United States and in other parts of the world through a collaborative systemic and holistic approach. They build up and empower ministry through sustainable programs and infrastructure which enable local and regional units to increase ownership and responsibility.

4. The general agencies of The United Methodist Church are the regularly . . .

Rationale:

General Agencies should work to empower and build up sustainable, holistic systems in each region of the world.

¶701.

Petition Number: 21091-GA-¶701-G; Clunn, Steve C. - Washington, DC, USA for Methodist Federation for Social Action.

New UM Administrative Order

Delete all disciplinary references to the Connectional Table and replace with the Coordinating Council except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Delete all references in the Discipline to the General Council on Finance and Administration and replace with the Center for Resourcing and Operations except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Delete all references to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and replace with the Center for Resourcing and Operations except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Delete all references to the General Commission on Communication and replace with the Center for Resourcing and Operations except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Delete all references to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Delete all references to the General Board of Discipleship and replace with the Center for Congregational Development except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Delete all references to the General Board of Global Ministry and replace with the Center for Global Mission except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Delete all references to the General Board of Church and Society and replace with the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness except when referring to its role or position in historical record or otherwise specified.

Amend ¶505 by adding a sub-point 505.1 as follows:

1. Staff of general agencies shall not be eligible to serve as chairs of legislative sections for the agencies at which they are employed.

Amend ¶¶ 701.1 and 701.2 as follows:

Section I. General Provisions

¶701. Agencies and General Agencies Connectional Structures in the General Church—1. Connectionalism is an important part of our identity as United Methodists. It is a vital web of interactive relationships (¶131) that includes the agencies of the church as defined in ¶¶ 701.2 and 701.3, with the purpose of equipping local churches for ministry by providing a connection for ministry throughout the world, all to the glory of God. It provides us with wonderful opportunities to carry out our mission in unity and strength.

2. We experience this connection in many ways, including our systems of episcopacy, itinerancy, prop-

erty, and mutual cooperation and support. Our connectional system performs at least three essential tasks: embracing God's mission for the Church as making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and ensuring that all components in the connection carry out their appropriate responsibilities in ways that enable the whole United Methodist Church to be faithful in its mission. The term *agency*, wherever it appears in the *Book of Discipline*, is a term used to describe the various centers, councils, boards, commissions, committees, divisions, or other unites constituted within the various levels of Church organization (general, jurisdictional, central, annual, district, and charge conferences) under authority granted by the *Book of Discipline*; the term does not and is not meant to imply a master-servant or principal-agent relationship between these bodies and the conference or other body that creates them except where the authority is specifically granted.

3. ...The general agencies of The United Methodist Church are the regularly established centers, councils, boards, commissions, committees, or other units with ongoing responsibilities that have been constituted by the General Conference...

Amend ¶701 by adding at new sub-point following ¶ 701.3 as follows:

4. The connectional system will provide resourcing for organizing our whole Church to enable it, faithfully and fruitfully, to make disciples for Jesus Christ; and ensure that all components in the connection carry out their appropriate responsibilities in ways that enables the whole United Methodist Church to be faithful in its mission. General church structures are important to our common vision, mission, and ministry. They provide essential services beyond the scope of individual local congregations and annual conferences.

Delete ¶ 702.5 and move to ¶ 716.2., Amend ¶ 702 as follows:

¶ 702. Amenability and Program Accountability—...2. Between sessions of the General Conference, the following general agencies are accountable to the Coordinating Council for those functions that are outlined in the ~~900 800 ¶ ¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the Center for Congregational Development, the Center for Global Mission, the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Commission on~~

Archives and History, United Methodist Women, Inc., the General Commission on United Methodist Men, and the ~~General Commission on Communication Center for Resourcing and Operations~~ in matters pertaining to their program responsibilities.

3. The ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~ shall review and evaluate the effectiveness of the general program-related agencies and connectional structures of the church as they collectively seek to aid annual conferences and local churches as they fulfill the mission of The United Methodist Church to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

4. Questions and concerns about programs, projects or decisions of a particular agency may be addressed to that agency, with copies to the ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~. Agencies shall acknowledge receipt of requests for information within ten days and provide information requested within thirty days or as soon thereafter as it is available.

Amend ¶703.2 as follows:

2. ~~General Board Center~~—A continuing body of the Church created by the General Conference to carry out assigned functions of program, administration, and/or service shall be designated as a ~~general board center~~.

Amend ¶ ¶ 703.5 and 703.6 as follows:

5. Program-Related General Agencies—The general boards and commissions that have program and/or advocacy functions shall be designated as program-related general agencies. These agencies are amenable to the General Conference, and between sessions of the General Conference are accountable to the ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~ for those functions outlined in the ~~900 800 ¶ ¶s: The General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the Center for Congregational Development, the Center for Global Mission, the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness, the General Commission on Religion and Race, United Methodist Women, Inc., the General Commission on United Methodist Men, and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. In all matters of accountability, episcopal oversight as provided in ¶ 427 is assumed.~~

6. Administrative General Agencies—The general boards and commissions that have primarily administrative and service functions shall be designated as administrative general agencies. These agencies are the Center

for Resourcing and Operations, ~~General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~, the United Methodist Publishing House, and the General Commission on Archives and History, ~~General Commission on Communication~~, the last ~~two~~ of which also ~~carry~~ carries program-related responsibilities for which ~~they are~~ it is accountable to the ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~.

Amend ¶ 703.11 as follows:

11. Program—A program is an on-going or special activity designed and implemented to fulfill a basic disciplinary responsibility of a general agency accountable to the ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~.

Amend ¶ 704 as follows:

¶ 704. Financial Accountability of the General Agencies—All general agencies receiving general church funds (see ¶ 910.2) shall account for receipts and expenditures of funds in a format designed by the ~~General Council on Finance and Administration Center for Resourcing and Operations~~. A quadrennial report of such accounting shall be included in the report of ~~General Council on Finance and Administration Center for Resourcing and Operations~~ to the General Conference...

Amend ¶ 705 as follows:

705. General Agency and ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~ Membership—The people of God are called to faithful discipleship in the name of Jesus Christ...

...Such persons come to this ministry as servants of the whole church, entrusted with caring for the missions and legal and fiduciary responsibilities of the agencies.

The basic responsibilities of the boards of the general agencies include the following:

- a) Determine mission and purpose.
- b) Select the general secretary.
- c) Support and evaluate the general secretary.
- d) Ensure effective planning.
- e) Monitor and strengthen programs and services.
- f) Ensure adequate financial resources.
- g) Protect assets and provide proper financial oversight.

h) Ensure legal and ethical integrity.

i) Enhance the agency's public standing.

The following provisions shall govern the nomination and election of the voting membership of those general Church bodies to which the jurisdictional and central conferences nominate and elect ~~and central conferences nominate~~ members. All lay voting members of general agencies and the ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~ shall be professing members of The United Methodist Church and active in local

churches unless otherwise specified by the *Book of Discipline*. All provisions pertaining to the nomination and election of general agency and ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~ members shall take effect immediately upon the adjournment of the General Conference that enacts them. The secretary of the General Conference shall coordinate the process pertaining to nominations and elections of general agency and ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~ members.

1. *Nominations by Conferences*—a) ~~Each annual and missionary conference in the United States, upon recommendation from a committee composed of the bishop and the general and jurisdictional conference delegation, and having allowed opportunity for nominations from the floor, shall elect persons to be submitted to a jurisdictional pool.~~ Each annual and missionary conference shall form a committee composed of the bishop and the general and jurisdictional conference or central conference delegation for the purpose of submitting people to a jurisdictional or central conference pool. The jurisdictional or central conference nominating committee shall select persons for election to the following general church bodies: ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; Center for Congregational Development; Center for Global Mission; Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness; Center for Resourcing and Operations; The United Methodist Publishing House; General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; General Commission on Communication; General Commission on Religion and Race; and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women; and the General Commission on Archives and History.~~ Jurisdictional conferences and central conferences may decide that persons elected submitted by the annual and missionary conferences' committees in the United States for inclusion in the jurisdictional and central conference pools shall not serve as members of the jurisdictional or central conference nominating committee.

b) Each annual and missionary conference committee in the United States shall nominate submit the names of the persons most recently elected as delegates to the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences to the jurisdictional or central conference pool. In addition, it shall nominate at least fifteen and not more than forty-five persons submit additional names to the jurisdictional or central conference pool, including, according to the following provisions:

In the U.S. jurisdictions, this shall include, where available, at least ~~two~~-three racial and ethnic persons from each of the ethnic groups Asian American, African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Pacific Islanders; and.

In addition, the annual and missionary conference committees, where available, shall submit the names of at least one and not more than five persons in each of the following seven categories: (1) clergy (including at least one woman), (2) laywomen, (3) laymen, (4) youth (§ 710.3), (5) young adults (§ 710.3), (6) older adults, and (7) persons with disabilities. ~~Elected members of general and jurisdictional delegations, and others nominated by their annual conferences~~ All persons whose names are submitted shall list all of the categories for which they qualify, i.e., nationality, age gender, ethnic origin, etc., and shall be eligible to be nominated by the jurisdictional nominating committee to a general church body in any one of the categories for which a delegate is qualified.

~~c) Each central conference or a body authorized by it shall nominate to each general program board membership at least one person from each of the following three categories: (1) clergy, (2) laymen, and (3) laywomen to form a pool from which each board is to elect the additional members that are to come from the central conferences pursuant to the Connectional Table for use by the general agencies in electing additional members.~~

~~c) Names and biographical data of all persons nominated submitted by the annual and missionary conferences committees in the United States or the central conferences but not elected, shall be forwarded by the jurisdictional or central conference secretary to the Connectional Table General Conference Secretary to be used by the general agencies as a pool from which additional members may be elected.~~

2. Additional Nominations—In addition to the foregoing provisions (§ 705.1), the Division on Ministries With Young People of the ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ Center for Congregational Development shall nominate ten youth and ten young adults (§ 710.3) to each jurisdictional pool, inclusive of race, ethnicity, gender, size of church, and persons with disabilities.

3. Members of the general agencies and the ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council (exclusive of the General Commission on United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women, Inc.)~~ shall be elected using the following provisions:

a) Each jurisdiction and central conference shall elect members of the general agencies and the ~~Connectional Table Coordinating Council~~ as provided in §§ 705.4, 705.5, and 806.1. ~~Persons within any jurisdic-~~

~~tion elected by the Women's Division to the General Board of Global Ministries (§ 1325) shall be counted in, and not be additional to, the total number of members allocated to each jurisdiction for the purposes of determining proportional distribution, but Women's Division members are additional to the membership prescribed in § 1311.1. The secretary of the General Conference shall offer to each jurisdiction a suggested fair and equitable allocation of members to the annual and missionary conferences within each jurisdiction; however, each jurisdiction shall determine for itself how members will be allocated among the annual and missionary conferences of the jurisdiction.~~

~~b) Each general agency shall elect at least one, but not more than three, member(s) with vote and voice from among the member churches of the Commission on Pan Methodist Cooperation and Union. In addition, it is recommended that each general agency may elect at least one member without vote from among the other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ. These members would be in addition to those otherwise specified in § 705.3a above. The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns shall assist general agencies in their compliance with this provision.~~

~~b)e) It is recommended that to the extent permitted by the state laws applicable to the general agencies, at least 20 percent of the voting membership of each general agencies agency include both youth (§ 256.3) and young adults (§ 256.3), and that the number of youth be equal to the number of young adults. In any state in which youth and young adults are not permitted to serve as voting members of a general agency incorporated in that state, It is recommended that, wherever possible, at least 10 percent of the membership of each general agency be equally divided between youth and young adults who are elected shall serve as non-director representatives with voice, but not vote, until they reach the legal age to serve as voting members, at which time they shall become voting members. The youth and young adult membership of each general agency should be inclusive (consistent with § 705.3d).~~

~~c) It is recommended that the membership of each of the general agencies be inclusive based on gender, racial and ethnic persons, age, persons with disabilities, and size of church. In order to ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic persons (Asian American, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders), it is recommended that a jurisdiction's membership on each general agency be at least ~~30~~ 40 percent racial and ethnic persons and incorporate one-third clergy, one-third laymen, and one-third laywomen (except as provided in § 1105~~

~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=47ff0eea707e637bd9ed06efc89ae73d&st=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$sp=>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=47ff0eea707e637bd9ed06efc89ae73d&st=document-frame.htm3.0sp=>), ¶ 2303.3). The episcopal members shall not be counted in the computation of the clergy membership.~~

e) ~~The membership of the General Commission of United Methodist Men shall be elected in accordance with ¶ 537 and ¶ 2303~~ ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=fef70f1e9d1a8fae98d538ef4737e6b0&st=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$sp=>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=fef70f1e9d1a8fae98d538ef4737e6b0&st=document-frame.htm3.0sp=>)~~.3. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the Commission holding membership by virtue of office may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

4. General Program Board Agency Membership—

a) Each general program board agency shall have the number of members specified in ¶¶ 100, 1105, 1311, and 1407 ~~33 members.~~

b) Jurisdictional Membership—~~Each jurisdiction shall elect the number of persons listed in the specific legislation for membership on each of the four general program boards. The jurisdictions shall elect twelve (12) members to each general agency. Each jurisdiction shall have no fewer than two (2) members. The distribution of membership shall be as follows: Northeast—2; North Central—2; Southeast—3; South Central—3; Western—2. In the jurisdictional nominating process for membership on those boards, special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth~~ (~~¶ 256~~ ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85&st=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$sp=>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=cb6b350cf63dcbffc268fb7cc87c0b85&st=document-frame.htm3.0sp=>)~~.3), young adults, older adults, people with disabilities, and persons from small membership churches. In order to ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic persons (Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders), it is recommended that at least ~~30~~ 40 percent of a jurisdiction's membership on each general program board agency be racial and ethnic persons. It is further recommended that the jurisdictional membership on each program board general agency incorporate one-third clergy, one-third laymen, and one-third laywomen ~~(except as provided in ¶¶ 1104~~ ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$Id=7f745b616ae900e1ff0fbee23d71a25a&st=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$sp=>](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$Id=7f745b616ae900e1ff0fbee23d71a25a&st=document-frame.htm3.0sp=>)~~.1, 1311.2; *see also* ¶¶ 1311.6, 1407). The episcopal members shall not be counted in the computation of the clergy membership. Total jurisdictional membership across all general agencies shall be considered in seeking to achieve these recommendations.

c) Central Conference Membership—~~The total central conferences membership in shall elect 14 members~~

~~to each general agency agencies shall be 10 percent of the total membership of the general Agencies allocated as follows: at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa), three each on the General Council on Finance and Administration, the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Board of United Methodist Men, and The United Methodist Publishing House; five each on the General Board of Church and Society and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; and seven (one from each Central Conference) on the General Board of Discipleship and the General Board of Global Ministries. It is recommended that the central conference membership on each program Board incorporate one third clergy, one third lay men, and one third lay women. The remainder shall be allocated as determined by the Commission on Central Conferences. GCFA will provide the expenses for the additional central conference members. Each central conference shall elect two members.~~

d) Episcopal Membership—~~The episcopal membership of the general program boards agencies shall consist of two members on each agency—one from the U.S. and one from the central conferences outside the U.S.—and shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference (see exception ¶ 1311.6). At least one of the episcopal members of each general agency, with the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, shall be a central conference bishop and, in the case of the General Board of Global Ministries, three central conference bishops (one from each region: Africa, Europe, Philippines).~~

e) Additional Membership—(1) Additional members shall be elected by each general program board agency in order to bring into the board persons with special knowledge or background that will aid in the work of the agency, to consider differing theological perspectives, and to perfect the representation of racial and ethnic persons, youth (¶ 710.3), young adults (¶ 710.3), older adults, women and men, people with disabilities, and persons from small-membership churches. ~~After the election of central conference members as provided in ¶ 705.4e, the remaining number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each Board reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal~~

members. In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible, the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional and central conference nominating pools for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions ~~insuring~~ ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b). ~~Each general program Board shall elect additional members as specified in general program Board membership paragraphs.~~ Insofar as possible, no more than one person shall be elected from each episcopal area. It is recommended that such additional membership shall maintain the one-third laymen, one-third laywomen, and one-third clergy balance.

f) Liaison Representatives –The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (Iglesia Metodista Autonomía Afiliada de Puerto Rico) ~~will~~ may have one liaison representative, at its own expense, to each of the general program agencies of The United Methodist Church.

(2) *Consultation Membership*— ~~It is recommended that each general program Board elect at least one member without vote from among the member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ, other than The United Methodist Church, as an additional member.~~ Each general agency is permitted to elect at least one, but not more than three, member(s) with vote and voice from among the member churches of the Commission on Pan Methodist Cooperation and Union. In addition, it is permitted that each general agency may elect at least one member without vote from among the other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ. These members would be in addition to those otherwise specified in § 705.4 The Council of Bishops shall assist general agencies with selecting these members.

Delete § 705.5

Amend § 706 as follows:

§ 706. Nomination of Additional Board Members—
1. Giving due consideration to inclusiveness (see §§ 124, 139), each jurisdiction and the college of bishops for each central conference region shall designate one clergy, one laywoman, and one layman whom it has elected to a general ~~program~~ agency to nominate the additional members of that ~~program~~ agency (§ 705.4). The members thus designated by the five jurisdictions and central conference regions in each general ~~program~~ agency shall constitute a committee to nominate additional members for that agency and shall be convened as provided in § 706.2. ~~The number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General~~

~~Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of the program agency reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members.~~ In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. In so far as possible, the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional and central conference nominating pools for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions ~~insuring~~ ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in *The Book of Discipline* (§ 705.4b)

2. ~~A bishop designated by the president of the Council of Bishops~~ The outgoing chair of the agency shall convene the committee as soon as practical after jurisdictional and central conference elections have been completed. The committee shall, in so far as possible, use the names forwarded to it by the jurisdictions and central conferences as having been nominated by the annual and missionary conferences ~~in the United States~~ to their jurisdictional and central conference pools as well as names from caucuses and other appropriate groups. To aid the committee, biographical data submitted by the annual conferences (§ 705.1d) shall be made available from the jurisdictional and central conference secretaries. In addition, general agencies shall submit to the committee names and biographical data of persons eligible for reelection who are willing to serve...

Amend § 707 as follows:

§ 707. ~~Meetings~~ — Organization of agencies and boards —1. In those years in which the General Conference holds its regular session, all general ~~program~~ agencies shall meet, organize, and conduct such business as may properly come before ~~the agency~~ them not later than ninety days after the close of the jurisdictional conferences. Each organizational meeting shall be convened by ~~a bishop designated by the president of the Council of Bishops.~~ the out-going president until a new president can be elected.

Amend § 708.1 as follows:

§ 708. Organization—1. Each ~~program~~ board shall elect a president and one or more vice presidents from the voting membership of the board, and a secretary, treasurer, and other such officers as it deems appropriate, giving consideration to inclusiveness (§§ 124, 139), provided that all officers shall be members of The United Methodist Church. Presidents are not required to be episcopal members and the office of president may be held by any voting member.

Amend ¶710.3 as follows:**¶710. Membership Qualifications—**

3. All youth representatives (¶ 256.3) elected to general agencies shall be at the time of organizational board meetings twelve to sixteen years of age. All young adults (¶ 256.3) elected to general agencies shall be at the time of organizational board meetings seventeen to twenty-eight years of age. If the laws of the state of incorporation of any general agency do not permit a youth representative or young adult representative to serve as a director of that general agency, the disqualified person shall serve as a non-director representative to the board of directors with the right to speak at meetings of the general agency but without the right to vote. All older-adult representatives (¶ 705.1.b(6)) shall be at the time of organizational board meetings at least sixty-five years of age.

Delete the last sentence of ¶ 710.4 as follows:

... A person who has been a voting member of general agencies for four consecutive quadrennia shall be ineligible for election to a general agency in the succeeding quadrennium. ~~The foregoing shall not apply to episcopal members.~~

Amend ¶710.6 as follows:

6. A voting member of a general agency, by virtue of such membership, shall become an ex officio (voting) member of the corresponding agency or its equivalent structure, if any, in the annual conference in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 610 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=b9ab869335e4191198c0aa81935c98d9](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=b9ab869335e4191198c0aa81935c98d9)>~~ \$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$sp=>.6; unless such membership would conflict with ¶ 612 ~~<[http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id\\$id=c05d4097ea85f9a43be66dd8eedf5fd](http://www.cokesburylibraries.com/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id$id=c05d4097ea85f9a43be66dd8eedf5fd)>~~ \$t=document-frame.htm\$3.0\$sp=>.2c (2): ~~Elected lay members of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry may serve as ex officio members on both corresponding boards of their annual conference: the Board of Ordained Ministry and the board of higher education. They shall be voting members, however, only on the conference board of higher education unless nominated by their resident bishop to be a voting member of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry pursuant to ¶ 635.1a.~~

Delete ¶710.11.**Amend ¶714.3 as follows:**

Normal retirement for all general agency staff personnel shall be at age sixty-five or the completion of forty years of service to The United Methodist Church in an elective, appointive, or employed capacity. Mandatory retirement for elective and appointive staff shall be at age seventy. There shall be no mandatory

retirement age for other employed staff. All general agency staff personnel may elect to retire from the employing general agency at any time in accordance with the policy in place at the general agency or, ~~if the general agency has a voting representative on the Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices of the General Council on Finance and Administration, with the policy established by the General Council on Finance and Administration upon recommendation of the Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices~~ Center for Resourcing and Operations.

Amend ¶714.4a as follows:

a) Each general agency shall sponsor or participate in a group health care plan that covers the agency's full-time clergy and full-time lay employees in the United States. For the purpose of this paragraph, group health care plan shall mean a health insurance plan, group health care plan, or multiple-employer health care plan that provides benefits for major medical and hospitalization expenses. The sponsoring general agency may determine additional eligibility for the group health care plan in its discretion. In addition, general agencies shall develop and maintain health and wellness programs for their full-time clergy and full-time lay employees. Moreover, each general agency shall annually submit its health plan data, de-identified as necessary, including, but not limited to, financial soundness, claims experience and other cost drivers, plan designs and coverage, and eligibility to the ~~General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ Center for Resourcing and Operations.

Delete ¶¶ 901-907. Insert new ¶¶ renumbered beginning with ¶ 801 as follows:

Section II. Coordinating Council

¶ 801. Name—There shall be a Coordinating Council in The United Methodist Church.

¶ 802. Incorporation—The Coordinating Council shall be incorporated in such state or states as the Coordinating Council shall determine. This corporation shall be the successor corporation and organization to the Connectional Table, the General Council on Ministries of The United Methodist Church, an Ohio corporation, and the Program Council of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 803. Amenability—The Coordinating Council shall report to and be amenable to the General Conference.

¶ 804. Purpose—The purpose of the Coordinating Council (CC) shall be to serve as a forum for coordination of the mission, ministries and resources of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 805. Responsibilities—The essential functions of the Coordinating Council are:

1. To provide a forum for the understanding and implementation of the vision, mission, and ministries of the global church as determined by the actions of the General Conference and in consultation with the Council of Bishops.

2. To provide a forum for inter-agency conversation.

3. To enable the flow of information and communication among annual conferences, jurisdictions, central conferences, general agencies, and the Council of Bishops.

4. To review and evaluate the missional effectiveness of general agencies and connectional structures of the church, in collaboration with their respective oversight boards and boards of directors, as they collectively seek to aid annual conferences and local churches as they fulfill the mission of The United Methodist Church.

5. To recommend to the General Conference such changes and implementing legislation as may be appropriate to ensure effectiveness of the general agencies.

6. To provide leadership in planning and research, including through the commissioning of studies, assisting all levels of the church to evaluate needs and plan strategies to carry out the mission of the church.

7. In order to be accountable, along with the Center for Resourcing and Operations, to The United Methodist Church through the General Conference, the Coordinating Council shall have authority and responsibility in the following matters:

a) To collaborate with the Center for Resourcing and Operations in the preparation of budgets for the apportioned funds as provided in ¶¶ 906.1 and 910.1 and relate the budget requests of the program agencies to one another in such a way as to implement the program and mission of the church.

b) To receive from the Center for Resourcing and Operations and approve all general agency budget reviews.

c) To review and approve special offerings and church-wide appeals.

¶ 806. Organization of the Coordinating Council—
1. Membership—The members of the Coordinating Council shall consist of 43 voting members and 24 non-voting members as follows:

a) 33 persons selected through the procedures described in ¶ 705. It is recommended that 50% of the lay members be persons not employed through The United Methodist Church at any level.

b) Three members from each of the centers—the general secretary, a deputy general secretary or treasurer and the president of the board—for a total of 12 people (4 voting). Only the board presidents will have vote; the staff will be non-voting members.

c) Two members from each of the remaining general agencies and commissions—the general secretary and president of the board—for a total of 12 people (6 voting). Only the board presidents will have vote; the staff will be non-voting members.

d) One member, without vote, from each of the racial ethnic caucuses as appointed from Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Methodists Associated to Represent Hispanic Americans, Native American International Caucus, National Federation of Asian American United Methodists and Pacific Islanders National Caucus United Methodist.

e) One member, without vote, as appointed from each of the following caucuses: the Confessing Movement Within The United Methodist Church, Forum for Scriptural Christianity Within The United Methodist Church (Good News), the Methodist Federation for Social Action, Reconciling Ministries Network, and the United Methodist Rural Fellowship.

f) Vacancies of members elected from central and jurisdictional conferences occurring between sessions of the general conference shall be filled by the College of Bishops where the vacancy occurred, in so far as possible from the same annual conference.

2. Meetings—The Coordinating Council shall meet at least semi-annually and at such other times as are necessary on the call of the president or on written request of one-fifth of the members. Fifty percent plus one of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

3. Officers—The officers of the Coordinating Council, including the chair, shall be elected from the Coordinating Council and shall serve for a quadrennium or until their successors are duly elected.

4. Internal Structure—The Coordinating Council shall determine its own internal structure as it deems appropriate for the performance of its duties.

5. Staff—The Coordinating Council shall determine the support staff that it deems appropriate to facilitate its work.

¶ 807. Effective Date—The organizational plan for the Coordinating Council shall be effective January 1, 2013.

Renumber ¶¶ 801-823, 1501-1509, 1801-1809 to ¶¶ 901-938 and edit as follows:

Section III. Center for Resourcing and Operations

¶ 901¶ ~~801~~. The work of the Church requires the support of our people at all stages of life and ministry. Participation through service and gifts is a Christian duty, a means of grace, and an expression of our love to God. In order that all members of The United Methodist Church may share in its manifold ministries at home and abroad and that the work committed to us may prosper,

the Center for Resourcing and Operations is established, hereafter referred to as the CRO, the purpose of which is to provide leadership, stewardship and guidance in the administration and use of the resources of the United Methodist Church; particularly in the areas of finances, pensions, health benefits and communications. ~~the following financial plan has been duly approved and adopted.~~

~~¶ 902¶802.~~ Responsibilities—All the responsibilities assigned to the units and divisions within the CRO shall be considered to be the responsibilities of the CRO.

~~¶ 903¶803.~~ Incorporation—The ~~CRO Council~~ shall be incorporated in such state or states as the council shall determine. This corporation shall be the successor corporation and organization to the General Council on Finance and Administration of The United Methodist Church, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church, the General Commission on Communication, the Council on World Service and Finance (including the Council on World Service and Finance of The United Methodist Church, an Illinois corporation;...

~~¶ 904¶804.~~ Amenability—The ~~CRO Council~~ shall report to and be amenable to the General Conference, and it shall cooperate with the ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~Connectional Table~~ in the compilation of budgets for program agencies participating in World Service Funds, as defined in ~~¶ 907.1¶806.1.~~

~~¶ 905¶805.~~ Organization—1. There shall be a CRO Oversight Board which shall provide such bylaws as necessary to facilitate the work of the CRO, which shall not violate any provisions of the Discipline and which may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting thereon at a regular or special meeting; provided that written notice to such amendment has been given to the members and the vote thereon shall be delayed at least one day. The CRO Oversight Board shall have the power and right to do any and all things that shall be authorized by its charter(s) and by The Book of Discipline. It shall have authority to develop and carry out its responsibilities, to buy, acquire, or receive by gift, devise, or bequest property—real, personal, and mixed; to hold, mortgage, sell, and dispose of property; to sue and be sued; to borrow money in case of necessity in a manner harmonious with ~~¶¶ 907;~~ to develop and maintain ecumenical relations to carry out its responsibilities; and to administer its affairs through the CRO and its various units, divisions and committees.

2. The CRO shall have thirty-three members, constituted in accordance with ~~¶ 705.4,~~ and shall be organized as specified in its bylaws and in accordance with ~~¶¶ 702-710~~ of the General Provisions.

3. The CRO Oversight Board may elect an executive committee and establish such rules as necessary for the carrying out of its duties.

4. The CRO Oversight Board shall determine and establish the appropriate organization of the CRO and its staff, and it may create or discontinue as deemed necessary units, divisions, sections, committees, task forces, and consultations in order to carry out the regular or special duties of the CRO.

5. Adequate provisions shall be made in its organizational structure for all responsibilities assigned to the CRO. All organizational units or divisions shall be amenable to and report regularly to the CRO Oversight Board and its executive committee.

6. Meetings of the CRO Oversight Board will be carried out in the most effective and efficient manner possible. While recognizing that the growing worldwide nature of our denomination makes face-to-face meetings more financially problematic, we also recognize that the bonds of our connectional nature and fellowship also flourish best when we are together in time and location. Therefore, the CRO Oversight Board in consultation with the Center for Resourcing and Operations will think creatively to ensure that we hold at least one face-to-face meeting annually and utilize our creativity and the latest in technology and communications resources to meet in ways and at times that are caring and inclusive toward all of its members.

7. Staff—The CRO shall elect a general secretary as provided in § 4 above. On nomination of the general secretary, the CRO may elect deputy and/or associate general secretaries, who shall work under the direction of the general secretary. The general secretary shall be the chief administrative officer of the CRO.

8. Committees—The CRO shall elect or appoint any such committees and task forces as needed for the performance of its duties.

9. Financial Support—a) Financial support from general church funds for the work of the CRO shall be from the following sources: (1) an on-ratio allocation from the General Administration Fund, in an amount determined by the General Conference; (2) fixed charges against the World Service Fund, the Episcopal Fund, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, and such other general funds as the General Conference may authorize, on recommendation of the CRO. Fixed charges shall be in proportion to the funds' receipts.

Division on Finance and Administration

~~¶ 906¶806.~~ There shall be a Division on Finance and Administration of the Center for Resourcing and Operations to help with the work of the following standing committees and tasks:

1. Committee on Audit and Review—The CRO shall appoint a Committee on Audit and Review, no members of which shall serve on the executive committee of the CRO, and at least half of whom shall not be members of the CRO, whose duty it shall be to review audits of all treasuries receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2) in accordance with all established auditing standards, including the funds of the CRO, related policies with financial implications, and the utilization of financial assets in achieving the stated mission of the entity as defined by the General Conference, the governing board, and donor designations. Not included are the audits of The United Methodist Publishing House. In any matter of possible or potential financial impropriety reported to the committee by the auditors, the committee chair shall immediately inform the president and general secretary of the Center for Resourcing and Operations and the president and general secretary of the applicable center, agency or commission. The committee shall report its findings to the annual meeting of the CRO.

2. Committee on Official Forms and Records—The CRO shall maintain and supervise under the direction of its general secretary a Committee on Official Forms and Records, which shall have the duty of preparing and editing all official statistical forms, record forms, and record books for use in the Church. Through these forms, the CRO shall collect statistical and financial information from all annual conferences of The United Methodist Church. The committee shall consist of one bishop elected by the Council of Bishops and nine persons elected by the CRO, as follows: five members of the CRO, one conference secretary, one conference treasurer, one conference statistician, and one district superintendent. At least one member shall represent the central conferences. The members shall be from the qualifying area or serving in the qualifying position at the time of their election. The following persons shall be consultants to this committee ex officio, without vote: two staff representatives of the CRO, a representative of The United Methodist Publishing House, and representatives of other general centers, agencies and commissions when their programs are directly involved. All official record forms, record books, and certificates designed by the committee for use in The United Methodist Church and available for sale shall be printed and published through The United Methodist Publishing House.

3. Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices—The CRO shall organize a committee consisting of three representatives from the Center for Resourcing and Operations, one of whom shall serve as

chairperson, and one representative of each of the following centers, commissions and groups: Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness; Center for Global Mission; Center for Congregational Development; General Commission on Archives and History, General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men. Each of the aforementioned representatives shall be selected by the CRO, center, commission, or group represented from its membership. The committee shall have duties and responsibilities as defined in ¶ 907.13b.

4. Committee on Legal Responsibilities—The CRO shall organize a committee composed of six persons, three of whom shall be members of the CRO. The committee shall be amenable to the CRO and shall make recommendations to the council regarding the fulfillment of the responsibilities defined in ¶ 907.9.

5. Quadrennial Budget Preparations—The Division on Finance and Administration of the CRO shall prepare for submission to each quadrennial session of the General Conference budgets of estimated income and expense for the four years of the ensuing quadrennium. Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the CRO shall approve a budget for its operation for the following year. In the event of unanticipated circumstances, the CRO may, by a two-thirds vote, amend a budget it had previously approved for its own operation.

6. Financial Reporting to General Conference—The CRO, with guidance from the Division on Finance and Administration shall report to each quadrennial session of the General Conference the amounts of its actual income and expenditures for the four preceding years.

~~¶ 907~~ ~~¶ 807~~. Fiscal Responsibilities—All monies contributed by a local church to any of the general funds of the Church, as listed or defined in ¶ 910.1, and such other funds as may have been authorized by the General Conference shall be held in trust by the CRO and distributed only in support of the ministries of the respective funds. The CRO shall be accountable to The United Methodist Church through the General Conference and in collaboration with the Coordinating Council in all matters relating to the receiving, disbursing, and reporting of such funds, and agencies receiving such funds shall be fiscally accountable to the CRO. In the exercise of its fiscal accountability role, the CRO shall have the authority and responsibility to perform the following functions:

1. It shall submit to each quadrennial session of the General Conference, for its action and determination, budgets of expense for each of the general funds of the Church, as listed or defined in ¶ 910.1, and such other

general funds as the General Conference may establish. It shall also make recommendations regarding all other funding considerations to come before General Conference. Actual receipts for each fund for the quadrennium then ending shall be the basis for all budgeting procedures and comparisons for the coming quadrennium.

a) The CRO, with the guidance of Division on Finance and Administration, shall make recommendations to the General Conference as to the amount and distribution of the Episcopal Fund and General Administration Fund, and, in consultation with the Coordinating Council, other apportioned general funds.

b) In the case of the World Service Fund, the CRO, with guidance from the Division on Finance and Administration, and the Coordinating Council shall proceed in the following manner in developing budget recommendations as they relate to allocations to the general program agencies of the Church:

(1) The Coordinating Council shall, in consultation with the Division on Finance and Administration, develop recommendations to the CRO on needs of the general program centers, agencies and commissions for the programs, missional priorities, and special programs.

(2) The CRO shall then establish the estimated amount available for distribution from the World Service Fund among the general program agencies.

(3) The Coordinating Council in consultation with the Division on Finance and Administration, will review both the program priorities and the estimated amount available to the general program centers, agencies and commissions, and then establish the amounts to be distributed to those bodies from the annual World Service allocation.

(4) Only when the Division on Finance and Administration and the Coordinating Council agree on the allocations to the several general program agencies and on the total sum of the World Service Fund budget will these allocations and total sum be included in the World Service budget to be recommended to the General Conference by the CRO.

c) In the case of the Ministerial Education Fund, Black College Fund, Africa University Fund, and Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, the Division on Finance and Administration and the Coordinating Council shall proceed in the following manner to develop funding level recommendations.

(1) The Coordinating Council shall, in consultation with the Division on Finance and Administration, develop funding level recommendations to the CRO for these funds.

(2) The Division on Finance and Administration shall then establish the estimated amount available for distribution through those funds.

(3) The Coordinating Council, in consultation with the Division on Finance and Administration, will review both the funding priorities and the estimated amount available to the funds and then establish the amounts to be distributed to each.

(4) Only when the Division on Finance and Administration and the Coordinating Council agree on the funding levels for each fund will these be recommended to the General Conference by the CRO.

d) It shall recommend the formulas by which all apportionments to the annual conferences shall be determined, subject to the approval of the General Conference.

e) Before the beginning of each year, the CRO, with the guidance of its Division on Finance and Administration, shall estimate and communicate to the Coordinating Council the sum available at that time from World Service contingency funds to meet requests for additional funding from the general program agencies. The Coordinating Council shall be authorized to approve allocations to the general program agencies for additional program funding up to the limit so established. No money shall be allocated by the Coordinating Council from this source for general administrative costs, fixed charges, or capital outlay without approval by the CRO.

f) The Coordinating Council shall receive from the CRO copies of the proposed annual budgets of the general program agencies, in order that it may review such budgets in relation to the program proposals made by those agencies in their quadrennial budget requests.

2. It shall receive and disburse in accordance with budgets and/or directives approved by the General Conference all funds raised throughout the Church for any of the general funds of the Church, as listed or defined in ¶ 910.1, and for any other fund or funds, as directed by the proper authority.

3. Accounting and Reporting—It shall require all agencies receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2) to follow uniform accounting classifications and procedures for reporting. It shall include in its quadrennial report to the General Conference a fiscal report for each such agency receiving general Church funds.

4. General Agency Budget Review—It shall require annually one month in advance of its annual meeting, or as is deemed necessary, and in such form as the CRO may require, statements of proposed budgets of all treasuries or agencies receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2). It shall review the budget of each agency

receiving general Church funds in accordance with guidelines that it shall establish and communicate to the agencies, including the relationship between administration, service, and promotion. In the interest of sound fiscal management, the CRO will ensure that expenditures of agencies receiving general Church funds do not exceed receipts and available reserves, and this within a budget approved by the CRO.

5. General Agency Audits—It shall require an annual audit of all treasuries receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2), following such auditing procedures as it may specify. It shall select the auditing firm for these annual audits based on a recommendation by the Committee on Audit and Review.

6. Internal Audit Functions—It shall establish and conduct the internal auditing functions for all agencies receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2).

7. It shall establish policy governing the functions of banking, payroll, accounting, budget control, and internal auditing for all agencies receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2). The CRO may, upon mutual consent of the agencies involved, perform the functions of banking, check preparation, and payroll on behalf of an agency in order to maximize efficiency of operation.

8. It shall review for approval plans for financing all international or national conferences and convocations to be held under the auspices of any general agency receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2).

9. It shall be responsible for ensuring that no center, agency, committee, commission, or council shall give United Methodist funds to any group, or otherwise use such funds in a manner that violates the expressed commitments of The United Methodist Church in its Social Principles of the Book of Discipline.

10. It shall develop general investment policies and guidelines for all centers, agencies and commissions receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2), following consultation with those groups. The CRO, in its oversight capacity, shall review those organizations' compliance with the general investment policies and guidelines. Upon their review, the CRO may recommend that a center, agency or commission take certain actions to conform with these policies and guidelines. These guidelines are recommended for all Church organizations. If requested by an agency, the CRO shall provide consultation and assistance on the development of specific investment policies and the selection of investment counselors and managers. The CRO shall review, on at least an annual basis, the performance of all invested funds of all agencies receiving general Church funds. The CRO shall have complete authority to manage any portfolio of less than \$5,000,000 and may, upon request

by the center, agency or commission, manage larger portfolios. The CRO and general centers, agencies or commissions are encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds that make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church (¶¶ 160-166).

11. The Committee on Audit and Review (¶ 906.1), on behalf of the CRO, shall monitor the compliance of agencies, centers and commissions receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2) with the fiscal accountability policies and practices set forth in ¶ 906, the personnel policies and procedures set forth in ¶ 907.13j, and the general policies set forth in ¶¶ 911.1-3, .6, 918, and with recommendations made by the independent and/or internal auditors under ¶ 906.1, with respect to matters of possible or potential financial impropriety or violation of policies and procedures. The CRO shall have authority to implement actions which it may approve based on recommendations from the committee.

a) If the committee finds that there are violations of such policies, practices, or recommendations, it shall first notify the president and general secretary of the agency, center or commission involved and the president and general secretary of the COR of its findings, in writing. It shall also request from the agency, center or commission, within a specified timeline, a written response to the committee's findings, with the written response to include additional information and/or proposed corrective action.

b) After receiving the organization's response, the committee may take one or more of the following actions:

(1) It may determine that the response and any additional information supplied by the agency, center or commission is sufficient to explain the issue or situation that occasioned the initial finding, and that no further action is needed.

(2) It may determine that the corrective action proposed by the agency, center or commission is sufficiently responsive to the issue or situation, and that, when implemented, no further action will be needed.

(3) It may determine that the organization's response is insufficient to address the issue or situation. In that case, it may recommend to the agency, center or commission, for the agency's consideration, the type of corrective actions that it believes necessary to address the issue or situation adequately, along with a timeline for reporting corrective action taken.

(4) It may prepare an informational report on the matter for those members of the CRO who have been

assigned responsibility for reviewing the annual budget of the agency, center or commission in question.

c) It may recommend to the CRO for its action, with notice of the recommendation given to the president and general secretary of the agency, center or commission involved, one or more of the following steps:

(1) Continuing monitoring by the CRO's internal audit department, at the expense of the agency, center or commission involved, until the committee finds that the issue has been satisfactorily resolved.

(2) Withholding of an appropriate amount of funding from general fund receipts that would otherwise be payable to the agency, center or commission, until the CRO, on recommendation of the committee, finds that the issue has been satisfactorily resolved.

(3) Reporting of any unresolved issues to the next session of the General Conference, along with recommendations for General Conference action.

12. Other Fiscal Responsibilities—The Division on Finance and Administration of the Center for Resourcing and Operations shall have the following additional fiscal responsibilities:

a). To receive, collect, and hold in trust for the benefit of The United Methodist Church, its general funds, or its general agencies any and all donations, bequests, and devises of any kind, real or personal, that may be given, devised, bequeathed, or conveyed to The United Methodist Church as such or to any general fund, agency, center, or commission of The United Methodist Church for any benevolent, charitable, or religious purposes, and to administer the same and the income therefrom in accordance with the directions of the donor, trustor, or testator.

b) To take such action, in cooperation with the other agencies, centers and commissions of the church, as is necessary to encourage United Methodists to provide for their continued participation in World Service, in one or more of the World Service agencies, or in other general Church benevolence funds or interests, through current and planned giving, including wills and trusts.

c) When the use to be made of any such donation, bequest, or devise is not otherwise designated, the same shall be added to and become a part of the "Permanent Fund" of The United Methodist Church. This fund shall be held and administered by the CRO, as the General Conference shall direct.

d) Where annual conferences, individually or in groups, have established United Methodist foundations, the Division on Finance and Administration of the CRO may provide staff leadership on request to advise in matters of financial management, to the end that foundation assets shall be wisely managed on behalf of the Church.

e) To make recommendations to the General Conference, in consultation with the Coordinating Council and the Council of Bishops, regarding any offerings to be received in connection with special days observed on a churchwide basis. These recommendations shall include the number and timing of such special days with offerings, the amount, if any, to be established as a goal for each such offering, the causes to be benefited by each, the method by which the receipts on each such offering shall be distributed among the causes benefiting from it, and the method by which such receipts shall be remitted and reported by local churches. All such recommendations are subject to the approval of the General Conference.

f) To establish general policy governing the ownership, sale, rental, renovation, or purchase of property by a general agency, center or commission. The CRO shall consider the plans of any general agency, center or commission proposing to acquire or sell real estate or erect a building or enter into a lease and determine whether the proposed action is in the best interest of The United Methodist Church. In the case of such proposed action by a general program agency, center or commission, it shall solicit and consider the recommendation of the Coordinating Council. If either the CRO or the Coordinating Council disapproves, the agency, center or commission shall delay the project until it can be considered by the next General Conference. Nothing in the foregoing shall include the operational requirements of The United Methodist Publishing House.

g) To act in concert with the Coordinating Council to establish a procedure for making a quadrennial review, initiating proposals and/or responding to proposals by the general agencies regarding the location of headquarters and staff and reporting the same to the General Conference.

h) To exercise on behalf of the General Conference a property reporting function by receiving reports annually from general agencies of the Church concerning property titles, values, debts, general maintenance, lease or rental costs, space usage, and such other information as the CRO may deem relevant. The CRO may consult and advise with the general agencies, centers or commissions concerning any property problems that may arise. A summary of the property data shall be reported to each quadrennial General Conference. This provision shall apply to headquarters buildings but not to properties that are part of the program responsibilities of the Center for Global Mission or to any of the properties of The United Methodist Publishing House. Titles to historic sites and heritage landmarks, and such historical properties as may be acquired in the future, shall be held

by the CRO on behalf of the General Commission on Archives and History.

i) To take all necessary legal steps to safeguard and protect the interests and rights of the denomination; to maintain a file of legal briefs related to cases involving the denominational interests of The United Methodist Church, and to make provisions for legal counsel where necessary to protect the interests and rights of the denomination. The CRO, with guidance from the Division on Finance and Administration, shall recommend to each general agency, center and commission (and unit thereof) and to each annual conference council on finance and administration a uniform procedure to be followed by the aforesaid agencies and, where applicable, local churches, relative to the certification and payment of ordained ministers' housing allowances in accordance with provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States. The CRO shall have the authority to pursue policies and procedures necessary to preserve the tax-exempt status of the denomination and its affiliated organizations {See Judicial Council Decision 458}.

j) The CRO shall: (1) require each general agency, center and commission as listed in ¶ 905.4d, including itself, to follow uniform policies and practices in the employment and remuneration of personnel, recognizing differences in local employment conditions (these policies and practices shall be consistent with the Social Principles and resolutions of The United Methodist Church); and (2) be authorized to gather from all general agencies, at such intervals and in such format as it may determine, information regarding salary remuneration and pay equity and the number of agency employees and staff. Information related to the remuneration of specific employees may be released only by the employing agency or employee.

k) The Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices (¶ 906.3) shall: (1) prepare quadrennially, review annually, and recommend to the CRO an appropriate salary schedule, based upon responsibilities, for personnel of the councils, boards, and commissions represented on the committee; (2) develop and recommend to the council a schedule of benefits for an employee benefit program for personnel of agencies represented on the committee and any changes required thereto from time to time; (3) receive from agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 910.2) statements regarding their compliance with the policy stated in ¶ 911.1; and (4) receive from all general agencies information necessary to evaluate pay equity. Based on these statements, and in consultation with and upon the advice of the General Commission on Religion and Race and

the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the committee shall prepare for the CRO reports and recommendations deemed appropriate by the committee. (5) In the event it is determined by the CRO that an agency, center, commission or institution receiving general Church funds is not in compliance with the equal employment opportunity policies and the salary and employee benefit schedules established by the committee, the CRO shall notify in writing the organization so named and suspend, after a three-month period of grace, an appropriate amount of future funding until the agency, center, commission or institution complies.

l) To maintain a consultative service to assist general agencies in planning and making arrangements for national meetings, conferences, and convocations.

m) To maintain an accurate record of the mail addresses of all bishops; ordained and consecrated ministers in effective relation; local pastors, including retired ordained ministers serving charges; charges, local churches, parishes, fellowships, and new church starts; and such lists of general, jurisdictional, and conference boards, commissions, and committees, and officers of same, and of such other officers as the CRO may determine necessary. No one other than authorized bodies or officers of the Church shall be permitted to use these records.

n) To collect, prepare and analyze the important statistics relating to The United Methodist Church for the General Minutes or such other publications and releases as may be approved by the CRO. It shall provide for the distribution of statistical information to annual conferences, the general planning and research agencies of the Church, and other interested parties. The CRO may establish an appropriate schedule of fees and charges to defray the cost of such information distribution services.

o) To assist and advise the central conferences, jurisdictions, annual conferences, districts, and local churches in all matters relating to the work of the CRO. These matters shall include, but shall not be limited to, business administration, investment and property management, information technology, and auditing. Matters related to resourcing the development and implementation of financial programs within the local church committee on finance shall be the responsibility of the Center for Congregational Development. The CRO may perform certain functions for the central conferences, jurisdictions, annual conferences, districts, or local churches if the particular organization so elects and a suitable plan of operation can be determined.

p) To provide guidance and consultation in the area of local church business administration, including estab-

lishment of professional standards, a training program, certification of church business administrators and associate church business administrators; and to provide assistance to the United Methodist Association of Church Business Administrators.

q) To provide guidance and consultation for continuing education of church secretaries, including establishment of training and certification programs, and to provide assistance to the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries.

r) To provide guidance and consultation to the National Association of Commissions on Equitable Compensation of The United Methodist Church. The association shall provide guidance and counsel to annual conference commissions on equitable compensation in their areas of responsibility (§ 625) by means of consultations, workshops, development of educational materials and informational resources, and other appropriate means. The CRO may provide such staff and in-kind services to the association as it deems appropriate.

s) To institute, manage, and maintain an insurance program available, where approved by regulatory agencies, to all United Methodist local churches in the United States and, where acceptable on an underwriting basis, to all United Methodist annual conferences, agencies, and institutions in the United States .

t) To designate a staff member who, in cooperation with the general secretary, will fulfill such responsibilities as may be needed to assist the Commission on the General Conference with preparation for sessions of the General Conference. In fulfilling this role, the staff member will function as the commission's business manager and shall be related operationally to the Commission.

§ 908~~808~~. Conference Payments of Apportioned Funds—1. The treasurer of the Center for Resourcing and Operations—General Council on Finance and Administration shall, not less than ninety days prior to the session of each annual conference or as soon thereafter as practical, transmit to the presiding bishop thereof, to the president of the conference council on finance and administration, and to the conference treasurer a statement of the apportionments to the conference for the World Service Fund, the General Administration Fund, the Episcopal Fund, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, the Ministerial Education Fund, the Black College Fund, the Africa University Fund, and such other funds as may have been apportioned by the General Conference.

2. The treasurer shall keep an account of all amounts remitted by the conference treasurers and from other sources intended for the funds listed in § 910.1

~~§ 810.1~~ and any other fund so directed by the proper authority, and shall disburse the same as authorized by the General Conference and directed by the CRO~~council~~. A separate account shall be kept of each such fund, and none of them shall be drawn on for the benefit of another fund.

3. If more than the amount approved by the General Conference for a fund total, or for a line item within a fund total, is received in any given year, the excess funds shall be held in trust by the CRO~~council~~ in an apportionment stabilization fund. All monies placed in such a fund shall be considered as fund balances restricted by the General Conference to the fund(s) or line item(s) in which the surplus occurred. They shall be held by the CRO~~council~~ until such time as shortfalls in such receipts occur during the same quadrennium, at which time they shall be released to compensate for the shortfalls. If undistributed funds remain in an apportionment stabilization fund at the end of the quadrennium, the CRO~~council~~ shall recommend, for action by the next General Conference, the disposition of any remaining fund balances, provided that those recommendations shall be consistent with the purposes for which the funds were raised.

~~§ 909~~~~809~~. Annual Reports by the General Treasurer to the Annual Conferences of All General Church Expenditures—The treasurer shall report annually to the CRO~~council~~ and to the respective conference councils as to all amounts received and disbursed during the year. The treasurer shall also make to each quadrennial session of the General Conference a full report of the financial transactions of the CRO~~council~~ for the previous four fiscal years. The treasurer shall be bonded for such an amount as may be determined by the CRO~~council~~. The books of the treasurer shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant selected by the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ upon recommendation by the Committee on Audit and Review (§ 905.4b ~~§ 805.4b~~).

§ 910~~810~~. Definition of General Funds—1. ...They are restricted assets and are not funds of local churches, annual or jurisdictional conferences, or other units of the denomination. Such general funds are to be disbursed for the purpose or purposes set forth in §§ 912-923~~§§ 812-823~~ and budgets or similar directives adopted for the respective funds by the General Conference. The Center for Resourcing and Operations—General Council on Finance and Administration, in the fulfillment of its fiscal responsibilities pursuant to § 907~~806~~, shall only have authority to disburse monies contributed to any of these funds in a manner specifically authorized by the Book of Discipline or for a purpose set forth in the

budget or directives adopted by the preceding General Conference for that particular fund.

2. The terms agency(ies), center(s) and commission(s) receiving general Church funds and treasury(ies) receiving general Church funds, as used in ¶¶ 701-823 of the Book of Discipline, refer to agencies, centers and commissions whose operational or administrative budgets are directly supported, in whole or in part, by allocations from one or more general Church funds. For the purposes of ¶¶ 701-9823, ~~the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ and The United Methodist Publishing House shall be deemed not to be agencies or treasuries whose operational or administrative budgets are directly supported, in whole or in part, by allocations from one or more general Church funds.

¶ 911~~¶ 811~~. General Policies—1. The Center for Resourcing and Operations~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ is authorized to withhold approval of a portion or all of the budget of any agency, center or commission or any Church-related institution receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 9810.2) until such agency or Church-related institution certifies to the council in writing that it has established and complied with a policy of:...

...(c) insofar as possible, purchasing goods and services from vendors who are in compliance with such policies as are described in sections (a) and (b) of this paragraph. In the fulfillment of this directive, the ~~CORE~~council shall take the following steps to ensure that concerns of the General Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women are represented:...

...2. It may withhold approval of any item or items in the budget or budgets receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 9810.2) that in its judgment represent unnecessary duplication of administrative function; in cooperation with and on recommendation of the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~, it may withhold approval of any such item that represents unnecessary duplication of program within an agency or between two or more agencies. If the ~~CRO~~council finds that there is such duplication in existing activities, it shall promptly direct the attention of the agencies, centers or commissions involved to the situation and shall cooperate with them in correcting the same, and it may decline to supply from general fund receipts money to continue activities that have been held to duplicate each other unnecessarily or plainly violate the principle of correlation as applied to the total benevolence program of the Church.

3. An agency, center or commission of The United Methodist Church receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 9810.2) proposing to borrow funds for a period in

excess of twelve months or in an amount in excess of 25 percent of its annual budget or five hundred thousand dollars, whichever amount is smaller, whether for building or current expense purposes, shall submit such proposal, accompanied by a plan for amortization, to the ~~CRO~~council for approval. If the ~~CRO~~council disapproves, the agency shall delay such borrowing until it can be considered by the next General Conference...

...5. Individual donors or local churches may make contributions to the support of any cause or project that is a part of the work of any general Church agency, center or commission. Such miscellaneous gifts shall be sent to the Center for Resourcing and Operations~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, which shall then forward the gift to the agency for which it is intended. Agencies, centers or commissions receiving miscellaneous gifts shall acknowledge receipt of the gift to the donor. No agency, center or commission shall solicit or cultivate gifts for any cause or project that has not been approved for support through World Service Special Gifts (¶ 9819), general Advance Special Gifts (¶ 9821), or a special appeal (¶ 9818).

6. No general council, ~~center~~board, commission, or committee receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 9810.2) shall initiate or cause to be organized without approval of the ~~CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration a foundation, endowment fund, or similar organization for the purpose of securing, conserving, or expending funds for the direct or indirect benefit or support of any general agency, center, commission or any of its programs or work. Foundations, endowment funds, and similar organizations related directly or indirectly to any general Church agency, center or commission receiving general Church funds shall report annually to the ~~CRO~~council in a manner determined by the ~~CRO~~council.

¶ 912~~¶ 812~~. The World Service Fund—The World Service Fund is basic in the financial program of The United Methodist Church. World Service on apportionment represents the minimum needs of the general agencies, centers and commissions of the Church. Payment in full of these apportionments by local churches and annual conferences is the first benevolent responsibility of the Church.

1. The ~~CRO~~council shall recommend to each quadrennial session of the General Conference the amount of the annual World Service budget for the ensuing quadrennium and the method by which it shall be apportioned to the annual conferences. In cooperation with the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~, it shall prepare and recommend a plan of distribution of World Service receipts among the World Service agencies, in

accordance with the procedures described in ¶ 9806.1b. In the planning of the World Service budget, it shall be the role of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ to facilitate sound fiscal and administrative policies and practices within and among the general agencies, centers and commissions of the Church. It shall be the role of the ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~Connectional Table~~ to relate the budget requests of the program agencies, centers and commissions to one another in such a way as to implement the program and mission of the Church.

2. The general secretary or other duly authorized representative of each agency, center or commission of The United Methodist Church seeking support from the World Service Fund and the authorized representative of any other agency for which requests are authorized by the General Conference shall have the right to appear before the ~~CRO council~~ at a designated time and place to represent the cause for which each is responsible, provided such representation has been previously made to the ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~Connectional Table~~.

3. The World Service agencies, centers or commissions shall not solicit additional or special gifts from individual donors or special groups, other than foundations, unless approval for such solicitation is first secured from the ~~CRO council~~.

4. The ~~Division on Communication of the CRO General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ shall promote the World Service Fund.

¶ 913¶ 813. General Administration Fund—1. The General Administration Fund shall provide for the expenses of the sessions of the General Conference, the Judicial Council, special commissions and committees constituted by the General Conference, and other administrative agencies and activities recommended for inclusion in the general administration budget by the ~~Center for Resourcing and Operations—General Council on Finance and Administration~~ and approved by the General Conference. Any agency or institution requiring or desiring support from the General Administration Fund shall present its case to the council at a time and place indicated by ~~CRO council~~ officers. The ~~CRO council~~, having heard such requests, shall report the same to the General Conference with recommendations for its action and determination.

2. The treasurer of the ~~CRO council~~ shall disburse the General Administration Fund as authorized by the General Conference and as directed by the ~~CRO council~~. Where the General Conference has not allocated definite sums to agencies receiving money from the General Administration Fund, the ~~CRO council~~ or its executive

committee shall have authority to determine the amount to be allocated to each.

3. The expenses of the Judicial Council shall be paid from the General Administration Fund, within a budget submitted annually by the Judicial Council to the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ for its approval and subject to the requirement of ¶ 9813.4.

4. The General Administration Fund, and all payments made from this fund, shall be subject to the financial, accounting, and auditing requirements of ¶ 9806.

5. The ~~Division on Communication of the CRO General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ shall promote the General Administration Fund.

¶ 914¶ 814. Interdenominational Cooperation Fund—1. This fund shall provide United Methodist support of the basic budgets of those organizations that relate to the ecumenical responsibilities of the Council of Bishops and of the ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~. Those organizations are described in Section XVIII—Ecumenical Organizations in ¶¶ 2401-2406.

2. The ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~, in consultation with, upon recommendation of the Council of Bishops, shall recommend to the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ the amounts of the several annual allocations from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget. The ~~CRO council~~ shall recommend to the General Conference the amounts to be included in the annual Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget.

3. The ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ shall determine annually, upon recommendation of in consultation with the Council of Bishops, the designations of all funds for ecumenical agencies to be paid from the following year's Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget that have not been specifically designated by the prior General Conference. The ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ shall communicate such designations to the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ prior to the beginning of the fiscal year made the subject of such designations. The ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall then disburse funds to each recipient in accordance with such designations during that fiscal year to the extent funds are available.

4. The fund shall also provide for the expenses of representatives chosen by the Council of Bishops or by the ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ to attend

meetings and committees of such ecumenical agencies. The ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall reimburse such expenses from vouchers approved by persons designated by the ~~Coordinating Council~~ general secretary of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns or by the general secretary of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~.

5. Disbursement of Funds to Ecumenical Organizations—a) The ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall remit monthly to each organization included in the approved Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget an on-ratio share of the fund's net receipts, after the payment of any fixed charges.

b) In the interim between sessions of the General Conference, exceptions to this directive may occur under one of the following circumstances:

(1) If the organization is unable to fulfill, or ceases to fulfill, the purpose or purposes which were the basis for the ~~Coordinating Council and Council of Bishops~~ General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns' original recommendation for funding.

(2) If the organization ceases to exist.

c) If the ~~Coordinating Council~~ Commission, in consultation with the Council of Bishops, determines that such circumstances warrant, it may recommend to the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ that funding for the organization be suspended or reduced, either indefinitely or for a specified period of time. The ~~CRO Council~~ shall then reduce or suspend remittance of fund receipts to the organization until such time as the ~~Coordinating Council~~ Commission, in consultation with the Council of Bishops, determines that the circumstances which led to reduction or suspension of payments no longer exist. The ~~Coordinating Council~~ Commission shall then recommend to the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ whether remittances to the organization are to be resumed in amounts based on current Interdenominational Cooperation Fund receipts only, or whether amounts previously withheld should be disbursed along with the amounts payable from current receipts.

d) If funding to an organization is reduced or suspended, the funds which otherwise would have been disbursed shall be held by the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ until the ~~Coordinating Council~~ Commission, in consultation with the Council of Bishops, recommends that they be restored to the organization or used to support a similar ecumenical organiza-

tion. If the funds are not expended prior to the next session of the General Conference, the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~, after consultation with the ~~Coordinating Council~~ Commission, shall report to the General Conference the amount of funds being held and may recommend, for General Conference action, the disposition of the funds.

6. Before the beginning of each calendar year, the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall determine and communicate to the ~~Coordinating Council~~ General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns the sum available from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund Contingency Reserve to be allocated by the commission to meet emerging needs of ecumenical agencies.

7. The ~~Division on Communication of the CRO General Commission on Communication~~ shall promote the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.

¶ ~~915~~ 815. Black College Fund—The ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall recommend to the General Conference the sum that the Church shall undertake for the Black colleges and the method by which it shall be apportioned to the annual conferences. The purpose of the fund is to provide financial support for current operating budgets and capital improvements of the Black colleges related administratively to the Church.

1. The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall remit monthly receipts for this fund to the ~~Center for Global Mission~~ General Board of Higher Education and Ministry for distribution to those Black colleges whose eligibility under adopted guidelines of management, educational quality, and measurement by announced objectives shall be the precondition of participation. These guidelines and a formula for distribution shall be revised and administered by the ~~Center for Global Mission~~ Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, in consultation with the Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges...

...b) One-sixth of the fund receipts shall be set aside for capital improvements, to be distributed by the ~~Center for Global Mission~~ General Board of Higher Education and Ministry on the basis of need and matching funds.

2. In the interim between sessions of the General Conference, the guidelines for support and formula for distribution may be changed as necessary upon recommendation of the Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges and the ~~Center for Global Mission~~ General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and with the consent of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~.

3. Promotion of the Black College Fund shall be by the Center for Global Mission~~Division of Higher Education~~ and in consultation with the Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges, in cooperation with and with the assistance of the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~, the cost being a charge against the Black College Fund receipts and within a budget approved by the Center for Global Mission~~Division of Higher Education~~ and the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~.

4. An annual conference may make direct and/or designated gifts for current expense or capital funds purposes to one or more of these colleges, but only after it has met its full Black College Fund apportionment. There may be reasonable exceptions to this restriction, but such exceptions shall be negotiated with the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ prior to implementation.

¶ 916¶ 816. The Ministerial Education Fund—The CRO~~council~~ shall recommend to the General Conference the sum that the Church shall undertake for the Ministerial Education Fund and the method by which it shall be apportioned to the annual conferences, in accordance with the provisions adopted by the 1968 General Conference in establishing the Ministerial Education Fund...

...2. Of the total money raised in each annual conference for the Ministerial Education Fund, 75 percent shall be remitted by the conference treasurer to the treasurer of the CRO~~council~~ for distribution to the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ for support of ministerial education and shall be administered by that board. It shall be distributed as follows:

a) At least 75 percent of the amount received by the divisions shall be distributed to the theological schools of The United Methodist Church on a formula established by the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ after consultation with the theological schools. All money allocated to the theological schools shall be used for current operations, not for physical expansion. Ministerial Education funds allocated to United Methodist theological schools for current operations shall only be used for:

—United Methodist student scholarships

—Faculty and staff salaries and benefits for those who prepare United Methodist students (implementing the curriculum required in ¶ 324.4) for ordained ministry or service as local pastors through the Course of Study program.

All United Methodist theological schools receiving Ministerial Education Fund allocations shall submit

annual reports to the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ detailing how the Ministerial Education Fund allocations were spent.

b) The remaining portion of the amount received shall be used for supplemental distributions to the theological schools and for board use in its program of ministerial enlistment and development. The Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ will recommend to the general secretary of the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ appropriate funding for divisional programs of ministerial enlistment and development.

c) Beginning in the 2009-2012 quadrennium, the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ shall facilitate the ~~creation of~~ United Methodist Ministerial Education Funds in the central conferences, including the development and provision of funds for this new initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to improve and strengthen the existing indigenous structures for theological education in order to create a sustainable system of education for central conference clergy.

3. Annual conferences shall regard this fund as a priority to be met before any additional benevolences, grants, or funds are allocated to a theological school or school of religion.

4. The Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall promote the Ministerial Education Fund.

THE EPISCOPAL FUND

¶ 917¶ 817. Purpose—1. The Episcopal Fund, raised in accordance with ¶ 917.3¶ 817.3, shall provide for the salary and expenses of effective bishops {See Judicial Council Decision 781} from the date of their consecration and for the support of retired bishops and surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops. Subject to the approval of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, the treasurer shall have authority to borrow for the benefit of the Episcopal Fund such amounts as may be necessary for the proper execution of the orders of the General Conference. The Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall promote the Episcopal Fund.

2. Requirements—The CRO~~council~~ shall recommend to each quadrennial session of the General Conference for its action and determination...

...(6) provisions for allowance for the surviving spouses and for the support of minor children of deceased bishops. From the facts in hand, the CRO~~council~~ shall estimate the approximate total amount required annually during the ensuing quadrennium to

provide for the items of episcopal support mentioned above and shall report the same to the General Conference. This amount as finally determined shall be the estimated episcopal budget. The administration of the Episcopal Fund budget as determined by the General Conference shall be under the direction and authority of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~, including annual fiscal statements and audits. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude the annual conference or conferences of an episcopal area from including in their budgets amounts for an area expense fund...

...4. Bishops' Salaries—The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall remit monthly to each effective bishop one-twelfth of the annual salary as determined by the General Conference, less such deductions or reductions from the salary as each bishop may authorize. Allowances for retired bishops and for the surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops shall be paid in equal monthly installments.

5. Housing Expenses—The ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall provide an annual grant from the Episcopal Fund to share in the costs of providing an episcopal residence, the amount of such grant to be approved by the General Conference on recommendation of the council. The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall remit the annual grant to the office designated by the episcopal residence committee to receive such housing payments. The treasurer shall also remit periodic installments of the amount approved by the ~~CRO Council~~ as office expenses to each bishop, or to the office designated by the bishop to receive such payments.

6. Episcopal Expense Reimbursement and Honoraria Policies—The treasurer of the ~~CRO Council~~ shall pay monthly the claim for the official travel of each bishop upon presentation of an itemized voucher with such supporting data as may be required by the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~...

...7. Audit of Episcopal Area Offices—Fiscal reporting and audit procedures of each area office shall be determined according to a schedule as set forth by the ~~CRO Council~~ upon recommendation of the Committee on Episcopal Services.

8. Episcopal Pensions—The pensions for the support of retired bishops elected by general, jurisdictional, or central conferences and the surviving spouses and minor dependent children of such deceased bishops shall be administered by the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration with guidance from in consultation with~~ the ~~Division on General Board of Pension~~

and Health Benefits of the CRO and in accordance with such program and procedures as may from time to time be determined by the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ with the approval of the General Conference. For service years beginning January 1, 1982, and thereafter, the pensions for the support of bishops elected by jurisdictional conferences and those of their surviving spouses and dependent children shall include the benefits provided by the Ministerial Pension Plan, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Clergy Retirement Security Program, and the Comprehensive Protection Plan of the Division on General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the CRO...

...9. Episcopal Group Health Care Plan—~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall sponsor or participate in a group health care plan that covers bishops elected by jurisdictional conferences, in the United States. For the purpose of this paragraph, group health care plan shall mean a health insurance plan, group health care plan, or multiple-employer health care plan that provides benefits for major medical and hospitalization expenses. The ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ may recommend additional eligibility for the group health care plan in its discretion. In addition, the Council of Bishops shall develop and maintain health and wellness programs for bishops. Moreover, annually, the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall ensure that ~~submit~~ Episcopal health plan data is submitted, de-identified as necessary, including, but not limited to, financial soundness, claims experience and other cost drivers, plan designs and coverage, and eligibility criteria to the Division on General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the CRO.

10. Episcopal Retiree Health Care Access—The ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall respect the health and wholeness of retired bishops in the United States and their spouses by facilitating access to Medicare supplement plans and prescription drug coverage plans. Access for retirees and their spouses may include, but shall not be limited to...

...(vi) providing fixed dollar retiree health benefits. On or before December 31, 2008, the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ must file ~~submit~~ a generally accepted financial valuation, such as in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 106, as amended, of its projected medical liabilities for the retired population covered by the Episcopal Group Health Care Plan with ~~to~~ the Division on General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the CRO, and must submit a similar report biennially there-

after. ~~CRO must have on file On or before December 31, 2010, the General Council on Finance and Administration must create~~ a plan to address the funding requirements of its projected future medical liabilities for the population covered by the Episcopal Group Health Care Plan. ~~CRO must also have on record documentation of On or before December 31, 2008, the General Council on Finance and Administration shall document in writing~~ its policy regarding the portability of retiree health care eligibility, coverage, cost-sharing, and benefits and communicate the policy to new and current bishops in the United States...

...11. Bishops Whose Service Is Interrupted—...

... Beginning ninety days after such notification, the said bishop shall receive at least the minimum regular pension allowance of a retired bishop; the amount of such benefit for which the Episcopal Fund is responsible shall be reduced by the amount of any disability benefit payable from the Comprehensive Protection Plan of the Division on General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the CRO. Such pension allowance shall continue until the regular duties of an effective bishop are resumed or until the bishop's status shall have been determined by the jurisdictional conference...

FINANCIAL APPEALS BEYOND THE GENERAL FUNDS

¶ ~~918~~ ~~818~~. Special Churchwide Financial Appeals—...

...2. Any general center, commission, cause, agency, or institution or any organization, group, officer, or individual of The United Methodist Church or to which The United Methodist Church contributes financial support desiring or proposing to make a special churchwide financial appeal during the quadrennium shall present a request for authorization to make such appeal to the Center for Resourcing and Operations~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ at the time budgets for the ensuing quadrennium are being considered. All such appeals shall be reviewed by the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~, and its actions shall be reported to the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~. The CRO~~council~~ shall then report such request to the General Conference with a recommendation for its action thereon.

3. In the interim between the quadrennial sessions of the General Conference, such proposed churchwide financial appeal shall require the approval of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~ and the Council of Bishops. In case of emergency, the executive committee of these bodies may act in such matter for the body itself, but only by a three-fourths vote...

...5. Any individual or agency authorized to make a churchwide appeal for funds shall channel all gifts through the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~.

6. The CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ may withhold payment of the allocation from any general fund to any agency or institution that it finds to be in violation of the provisions of this paragraph.

¶ ~~919~~ ~~819~~. World Service Specials—1. World Service Specials are official programs within The United Methodist Church through which support may be designated for projects approved by the General Conference and in the interim by the Center for Resourcing and Operations~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ and the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~.

2. A World Service Special donation is a designated financial contribution made by an individual, local church, organization, district, or annual conference to a project authorized as a World Service Special project. All general agencies, centers~~boards~~ and commissions (see ¶ ~~910.2~~ ~~810.2~~) except those units of the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ authorized to receive general Advance Specials are authorized to recommend World Service Special projects for approval, provided the project is specifically related to one or more of the Disciplinary functions of the recommending agency.

3. General guidelines governing the types of projects that may be recommended as World Service Special projects shall be approved by the General Conference on recommendation of the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~ and the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~.

4. The World Service Specials program shall be under the administrative supervision of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, and programmatic supervision of the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~, which jointly shall...

...6. Local church treasurers shall remit World Service Special donations in full to annual conference treasurers, who shall remit each month to the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ the total amounts received during the month as World Service Specials. The CRO~~council~~ shall remit such funds in full to the administering agencies, which shall acknowledge the receipt of every donation to the donor or the local church.

7. General promotion of this program, for purposes of name identification and visibility, shall be the respon-

sibility of the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~.

8. Specific cultivation of approved projects shall be done by the administering agencies to specific audiences that have demonstrated their interest and concern for the ministry contained in the approved project. Expenses for specific cultivation shall be borne by the administering agencies. No promotional or cultivation expenses shall be paid from World Service Special receipts. Such expenses shall not exceed amounts approved by the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ under guidelines approved by the General Conference.

¶ ~~920~~ 820 General Directives, World Service Specials, and One Great Hour of Sharing—...

...2. The treasurer of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall be treasurer of World Service Specials and One Great Hour of Sharing.

3. Promotional expenses for World Service Specials shall be borne by the respective participating agencies in proportion to the amount received by each in World Service Specials. The causes of World Service Specials shall be coordinated with other financial appeals and shall be promoted by the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~.

4. The appeals for World Service Specials shall be channeled through bishops, district superintendents, and pastors. Details of the procedure shall be determined by the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~ in consultation with representatives of the recipient agencies or entities.

5. In each annual conference, World Service Specials and One Great Hour of Sharing shall be promoted by the appropriate conference agency with the appropriate general agency and the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~.

6. Should a clear emergency arise or an appropriate outreach opportunity emerge requiring urgent response between sessions of the General Conference, any feature of the structure and administration of World Service Specials may be altered on the approval of a majority of the Council of Bishops and of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ in consultation with the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~. The executive committee of each of these bodies may act in such matter for the body itself, but only by a three-fourths vote.

¶ ~~921~~ 821. The Advance—...

...2.c) Rather than being given to a specific project, an Advance Special Gift will~~may~~ be given to the following designated program units of the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries: Evangelization and Church Growth Program~~

~~Area, Community and Institutional Ministries Program Area, Mission Contexts and Relationships Program Area, Mission Personnel Program Area, and United Methodist Committee on Relief...~~

...3.b) Funds shall be solicited or received only for authorized projects. Programs and institutions having general Advance Special projects shall promote only the projects approved and shall ask that gifts be remitted in the manner described in ¶ ~~921.4~~ 821.4 below...

...4. Receipts for general Advance Specials shall be remitted by the local church treasurer to the conference treasurer, who shall make remittance each month to the participating agencies in a manner determined by the treasurer of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~. Individuals may remit directly to respective program units in a manner determined by the treasurer of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, with these remittances reported to the annual conference treasurer by the respective program units.

¶ ~~922~~ 822. General Directives, Advance Specials—...

...2. The treasurer of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall be treasurer of the Advance. The treasury function for the Advance is performed by the treasurer of the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ on behalf of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~.

3. Promotional expenses for Advance Specials shall be borne by the respective participating units in proportion to the amount received by each in Advance Specials. The causes of the Advance shall be coordinated with other financial appeals and shall be promoted by the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~.

4. The appeal for Advance Specials shall be channeled through bishops, district superintendents, and pastors. Details of the procedure shall be determined by the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~ in consultation with the designated unit of the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ and the Advance Committee.

5. In each annual conference the conference board of global ministries (if any; see ¶ 633), in cooperation with the Center for General Board of Global Mission~~Ministries~~, shall promote Advance Specials through conference and district secretaries of global ministries, conference and district mission events, and other effective means as it may determine.

6. Should a clear emergency arise, any feature of the structure and administration of the Advance may be

altered on the approval of a majority of the Council of Bishops and of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ in consultation with the Advance Committee.

~~¶ 923~~ ~~823~~ General Church Special Sunday Offerings—...

...1. Human Relations Day— ...The observance shall be under the general supervision of the Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ and the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness ~~General Board of Church and Society~~. In connection with Human Relations Day, the Division on Communication of the CRO ~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall allocate net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses (see ¶ 263.1). Funds shall be administered by the agencies under which approved programs are lodged.

2. One Great Hour of Sharing— ...The observance shall be under the general supervision of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ (¶ 1327.2), in accordance with the following directives:

a) All local churches shall be fully informed and encouraged to receive a freewill offering in behalf of the relief program.

b) Insofar as possible, planning and promotion of One Great Hour of Sharing shall be done cooperatively with other denominations through the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Offering receipts shall be administered by The United Methodist Church. In connection with One Great Hour of Sharing, the Division on Communication of the CRO ~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall allocate net receipts after payment of promotional expenses. Funds shall be administered by the agency under which approved programs are lodged.

3. United Methodist Student Day— ... The observance shall be under the general supervision of the Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~. In connection with United Methodist Student Day, the Division on Communication of the CRO ~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall allocate net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses. Funds shall be administered by the agency under which approved programs are lodged.

4. World Communion Sunday— ... In connection with World Communion Sunday, the Division on Communication of the CRO ~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal according to the following directives:

a) Each local church shall be requested to remit as provided in ~~¶ 923.8~~ ~~823.8~~ all of the communion offering received on World Communion Sunday and such portion of the communion offering received at other observances of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper as the local church may designate.

b) The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall allocate net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, to be divided as follows: 50 percent Crusade Scholarships; 35 percent Ethnic Scholarship Program, and 15 percent Ethnic In-Service Training Program. Funds shall be administered by the Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~, in consultation with various ethnic groups (¶ 263.3).

5. Peace with Justice Sunday— ...The observance shall be under the general supervision of the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness ~~General Board of Church and Society~~. In connection with Peace with Justice Sunday, the Division on Communication of the CRO ~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal...

...b) The annual conference treasurer shall remit the remaining 50 percent of the monies to the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~.

c) The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall allocate net receipts, after payment of the promotional expenses, to the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness ~~General Board of Church and Society~~ under which approved programs are lodged.

6. Native American Ministries Sunday— ...The purpose shall be to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in the annual conferences and in target cities of the Native American Urban Initiative of the Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Global Ministries~~, and to provide scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist schools of theology (¶ 263.6). The observance shall be under the general supervision of the Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~. In connection with Native American Ministries Sunday, the Division on Communication of the CRO ~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The treasurer of the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~

shall allocate net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses. Funds shall be administered by the agencies under which approved projects are lodged.

7. The Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~ shall promote all authorized churchwide special Sundays with offerings in consultation with participating agencies, centers and commissions. Promotional expenses for each offering shall be a prior claim against the receipts of the offering promoted. In each case, such expenses shall be within a budget approved by the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ upon recommendation of the Division on Communication of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~ after consultation with participating agencies. In the promotion of these offerings, the spiritual implications of Christian stewardship shall be emphasized.

8. Receipts from all authorized churchwide special Sunday offerings shall be remitted promptly by the local church treasurer to the annual conference treasurer, who shall remit monthly to the treasurer of the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~. A special-gift voucher for contributions to the offerings will be issued when appropriate. Local churches shall report the amount of the offerings in the manner indicated on the annual conference report form.

Division on Pension and Health Benefits

¶ 924¶~~1504~~. Establishment—1. a) There shall be a Division of General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of the Center for Resourcing and Operations of The United Methodist Church, hereinafter called the general board, having the general supervision and administration of the support, relief, and assistance and pensioning of clergy of this denomination, lay workers of the various units of the Church, and their families.

b) The Division of Pension and Health Benefits~~general board~~ shall be the successor to the General Board of Pensions and the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church, the Board of Pensions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, and the General Board of Pensions of The Methodist Church.

2. The Division of Pension and Health Benefits~~general board~~ shall report to the CRO, which has the ~~have~~ authority to establish, maintain, and discontinue the location of its headquarters office and such auxiliary offices as it shall deem proper and advisable.

3. All issues related to pension and health benefits~~The general board~~ shall report by the CRO and be amenable to the General Conference.

¶ 925¶~~1502~~¶ The Division on Pension and Health Benefits of the Center for Resourcing and Operations

shall provide the facilitate the goals and responsibilities of the CRO through the work of the following committees:

Delete ¶ 1502.1-1502.4a and edit as follows:

a)~~b)~~ Committee on Audit and Review—A committee on audit and review shall be elected by the CRO~~general board~~. At least one half of the members of this committee shall not be members of the CRO~~general board~~. The committee on audit and review shall be responsible for reviewing the financial audits and related policies of the CRO~~general board~~ and its constituent legal entities.

b)~~e)~~ Committee on Appeals—A committee on appeals shall be elected by the CRO~~general board~~. The committee on appeals shall hear appeals from participants in the funds, plans, and programs administered by the CRO~~general board~~. Decisions of the committee on appeals shall be final and not reviewed by the full CRO~~general board~~.

c)~~d)~~ Other Committees—The CRO~~general board~~ shall have the authority to establish, from time to time, such other standing committees or special committees as provided in its bylaws.

d)~~e)~~ Committee Membership—The CRO~~general board~~ shall elect the membership of its standing committees in accordance with its bylaws. The membership of any special committees shall be selected in accordance with the resolution establishing such special committee.

f)~~Committee Members at Large~~ The general board shall have the authority to elect additional members to its committees, not to exceed one half of the committee membership, for the purpose of bringing to those committees special knowledge or background. ~~These committee members at large shall have full voice and vote on the committee, but they shall have voice, but not voting privileges, on the general board.~~

¶ 926¶~~1503~~. Legal Entities—1. Subject to the continuing control and direction of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church as set forth from time to time in the Discipline and the CRO, the Division on Pension and Health Benefits of the Center for Resourcing and Operations~~general board~~ is authorized and empowered to cause the operations of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits to be carried on and the general authorizations defined in ¶ 927¶~~1504~~ to be achieved in such manner, through or by means of such agencies or instrumentalities, and by use of such procedures as the CRO~~general board~~ may from time to time determine to be necessary, advisable, or appropriate, with full power and authority in the premises to take all such action and to do all such other acts and things as

may be required or found to be advisable. In particular, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the general board is authorized and empowered, for the purposes of this paragraph:

a) Upon permission of the CRO and on its behalf, ~~to~~ use, manage, operate, and otherwise utilize all property and assets of every kind, character, and description of any corporation(s) created by the general board pursuant to ¶ 926.2¶1503.2 below, as well as all income from such property and assets and the avails thereof, all with liability or obligation to account for such property and assets, the use thereof, the income there from, and avails thereof only to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church.

b) To cause a corporation(s) created by the ~~CRO general board~~ pursuant to ¶ 926.2¶1503.2 to take all such action and to do all such things as the ~~CRO general board~~ may deem necessary or advisable to carry out the intent and purposes of this paragraph. The governing body of said corporation(s) from time to time shall take all action that the ~~CRO general board~~ deems necessary or advisable to carry out the intent and purpose of this paragraph, unless local law would require such governing bodies to make independent decisions with respect to particular actions.

2. The ~~CRO general board~~ is authorized and empowered in its discretion at any time it may deem such action to be desirable or convenient to create corporations or other legal entities through which it shall fulfill its responsibilities described hereunder.

a) The ~~CRO general board~~ is authorized and empowered in its discretion to cause its general operations regarding pension and health benefits to be conducted through The Division of Pensions and Health Benefits ~~a corporation, the name of which shall be the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Illinois.~~

b) ~~The general board is authorized and empowered in its discretion to cause its general trust operations to be conducted through a corporation, the name of which shall be the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Missouri.~~

b)e) If the ~~CRO general board~~ creates and directs more than one legal entity to do the work of meeting its fiduciary responsibilities in relation to pension and health benefits of the United Methodist Church, it is authorized and empowered at its discretion at any time it may deem such action desirable or convenient to take action in the name of said legal entities to surrender the charter or charters of one or several or all of said legal entities or to merge, consolidate, or affiliate such corpo-

rations, or any of them, in compliance with appropriate state or federal laws.

c)d) The governing bodies of such legal entities shall be determined by the ~~CRO general board~~ in conformance with applicable local law. A majority of the members of the governing bodies shall be elected from the membership of the general board.

d)e) The legal entities created under this paragraph are agencies or instrumentalities through which the denomination known as The United Methodist Church provides benefits, investment services, and other services outlined in ¶ 927¶1504 below in the name of the Division on General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

¶ 927¶1504. Authorizations—The Division on Pension and Health Benefits of the Center for Resourcing and Operations ~~General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ is authorized and empowered, on the CRO's behalf, to provide administrative, trust, and investment support to The United Methodist Church and its constituent ~~boards,~~ agencies, centers, commissions, conferences, organizations, and other institutions in their efforts to provide support, relief, and assistance, and pension, welfare, and other benefits for clergy of this denomination, lay workers of the various units of the Church, and their families. Subject to the provisions of ¶ 2506 herein the ~~CRO general board~~ shall perform its duties and responsibilities in the spirit of the Church's mandate for inclusiveness and racial and social justice. In particular, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the ~~CRO general board~~, directly or through any entity created by it, is authorized and empowered:

1. ...b) the Staff Retirement Benefits Program, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Retirement Security Program for General Agencies, Centers and Commissions of The United Methodist Church; and (c) the Comprehensive Protection Plan. The provisions of these mandatory benefit programs shall be incorporated by reference into the Discipline and shall have the full force of law as if printed in the Discipline. No proposal shall be made to the General Conference that changes a benefit presently in effect without first securing through the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ an actuarial opinion concerning the cost and other related aspects of the proposed change.

2. To create, amend, operate, manage, administer, and terminate nonmandatory relief, assistance, and benefit funds, plans, products, and programs for interested members, conferences, local churches, ~~boards,~~ agencies, centers, commissions, institutions, and other affiliated units of The United Methodist Church...

...8.b) The ~~CRO general board~~ shall have authority to determine the pension responsibility of each annual

conference, in accordance with the principle of divided annuity responsibility, and to collect from each annual conference, as determined on the basis of their respective pension programs, the amount required by the clearinghouse to provide the pension benefits related thereto...

c) The ~~CROgeneral board~~ is authorized and empowered to make all the rules concerning details that may be necessary for the operation of the clearinghouse...

9. ...The ~~CROgeneral board~~ shall report annually the details of transactions under this provision. The ~~CROgeneral board~~ shall be entitled to recover the cost of performing such services...

...11. To order and direct that the income from the General Endowment Fund for Conference Claimants (formerly known as the General Endowment Fund for Superannuates of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South) held by the ~~CROGeneral Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Missouri, shall be distributed on account of service of conference claimants rendered in an annual conference of The United Methodist Church; provided, however, that such distribution shall be restricted to annual conferences that, directly or through their predecessor annual conferences, participated in raising this fund, in proportion to the number of approved years of annuity responsibility of each annual conference as shall be determined by the ~~CROGeneral Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~...

...15. To receive, hold, manage, merge, consolidate, administer, invest, and reinvest all connectional relief, support, and benefit funds. The ~~CROgeneral board~~ is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds that make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of the Church, subject to other provisions of the Discipline, and with due regard to any and all special contracts, agreements, and laws applicable thereto...

...16. ...The ~~CROgeneral board~~ is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds that make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of the Church; provided, however, that at no time shall any part of the principal of the endowment funds be appropriated by the general board for any other purpose...

...18. To collect, receive, and administer such gifts, devises, and bequests, and other funds as may be specifically designated for the ~~CROgeneral board~~ or any constituent corporation of the ~~CROgeneral board~~ by donors, subject to the rules, regulations, and policies of the ~~CROgeneral board~~ with respect thereto. All undesig-

nated gifts, devises, bequests, and donations shall be collected, received, and administered under the direction of the ~~CROgeneral board~~.

19. To charge the various trusts, funds, plans, and programs for which it is responsible an administrative fee for its general services and to charge reasonable and appropriate transactional fees for specific services provided to a unit of the Church or to a participant or beneficiary. The ~~CROgeneral board~~ shall not use for operational or administrative purposes moneys allocated from any of the general Church funds of The United Methodist Church...

...21. To support the health as wholeness of the clergy and lay workers of the denomination, and thereby mitigate the frequency and duration of disability and incapacity, by collecting, analyzing, and disseminating the group health care plan data and health and wellness program information submitted by annual conferences, the General Council on Finance and Administration for bishops, and general agencies, centers and commissions. The ~~CROGeneral Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ shall use the collected group health care plan data and health and wellness program information to (a) establish denomination-wide benchmarks and standards;...

...(f) recommend health and wellness strategies and guidelines for annual conferences, the ~~CROGeneral Council on Finance and Administration~~ for bishops in the United States, and general agencies, centers and commissions.

22. To cause its operations to be carried on and the objectives defined above to be achieved in such manner by use of such procedures as the ~~CROgeneral board~~ may from time to time determine to be necessary, advisable, or appropriate, with full power and authority in the premises to take all such action and to do all such other acts and things as may be required or found to be advisable.

¶ ~~928¶ 1505~~. General Agency, Center and Commission Pension Credit—Pension for service approved for pension credit by an agency of The United Methodist Church receiving financial support from the general Church funds shall be provided by the employing agency, center or commission in uniformity with that provided by other agencies under one of the pension funds, plans, or programs administered by the ~~CROGeneral Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ of The United Methodist Church; provided, however, that where service has been rendered in two or more agencies, the total pension benefit shall be calculated as if all such service had been with one agency, and the final agency shall provide any additional pension benefits necessary to accomplish this; furthermore...

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION

~~¶ 929~~~~¶ 1506~~. Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities of Annual Conferences—

...3. a) (3) under appointment beyond the local church to an institution, organization, or agency that in the judgment of the annual conference rendered to it some form of service, direct or indirect, sufficient to warrant pension credit, or to a community church, or as a conference-approved evangelist; provided, however, that such institution, organization, agency, community church, or evangelist accepts and pays such apportionments as the conference may require, with the recommendation that this apportionment shall be not less than twelve times the annuity rate of the conference; and provided further, that pension related to such service may be arranged through one of the pension funds or plans administered by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~;...

...4. a) (2) That this person not be attending school as a regular student except as provided in ~~¶ 929.3a~~ ~~¶ 1506.3a(4)~~;...

...4. i) (2) one-half percent per month for each month of difference between the assumed date at which forty years of service under appointment would have been completed and the actual date the actuarially reduced pension or annuity rate increase is to commence under ¶ 358.2b. Effective at the close of the 1988 General Conference, if retirement is granted in accordance with ¶ 358.2e, the actuarially reduced pension shall be calculated from the deferred retirement date. Such actuarially reduced pension shall be calculated by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ and allocated pro rata to the annual conference or conferences that are charged with the pension responsibility. {See Judicial Council Decision 428.}...

...7. The annual conference shall review annually the annuity rate for service rendered in the annual conference prior to January 1, 1982, for the purpose of adjusting the rate as appropriate, taking into account changes in economic conditions. Such annuity rate may remain the same or be increased without restriction. It is recommended that such rate be not less than 1 percent of the average compensation of the conference as computed by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~. However, for plan years beginning after December 31, 1998, in no case may the annuity rate be less than eight-tenths of one percent of the average compensation of the conference. The annuity rate for approved service of local pastors shall also be determined by the conference each year and shall be the same as the rate for service of clergy members in full connection, provisional members, and associate members...

...8. b) be approved annually by the annual conference, following the receipt and inclusion of a written opinion from the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~, and

c) be published along with the written opinion of the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ in the journal of the annual conference. In addition, the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ shall present a quadrennial report to General Conference concerning the long-term pension and retiree medical liability of the denomination. In order to assist the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ in the preparation of this report, each annual conference shall provide to the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ information periodically requested by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ concerning the long-term pension and retiree medical obligations of the particular annual conference.

9. Persons who have served full-time appointments beyond the local church under endorsement by the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries are eligible for pension support for those years of service so served for which no other pension is provided. Such pension support shall be in accordance with the Chaplains Supplemental Pension Grant Fund or the Ministerial Pension Plan, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Clergy Retirement Security Program, under arrangements agreed to by the ~~Center for Global Mission~~ ~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~ through its Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries and the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~...

...11. Pension for service approved for pension credit by an annual conference shall be provided by the annual conference under one of the pension funds, plans, or programs administered by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ of The United Methodist Church...

...13. c) It shall not be permissible for any conference or permanent fund organization thereof to deprive its beneficiaries who are beneficiaries in other conferences of the privilege of sharing in the distribution of the earned income of such funds through the clearinghouse administered by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~...

...d) (2) If a clergyperson is participating in one of the pension funds, plans, or programs administered by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~, that individual shall not be required by the conference or by an organization thereof related to the support of beneficiaries to make any other contribution for pension purposes...

...15. a) ... If pension begins prior to the age at which retirement under ¶ 358.2c could have occurred, then the provisions of ~~¶ 929.4i~~~~¶ 1506.4i~~ shall apply.

b) ...If pension begins prior to the age at which retirement under ¶ 356.2c could have occurred, then the provisions of ~~¶ 929.4i~~~~¶ 1506.4i~~ shall apply...

...d) ...If pension begins prior to the age at which retirement under ¶ 356.2c could have occurred, then the provisions of ~~¶ 929.4i~~~~¶ 1506.4i~~ shall apply.

16. The responsibility for providing pension on account of service rendered prior to January 1, 1982, in a missionary conference, provisional annual conference, or former mission within the United States or Puerto Rico that has been approved for pension credit shall rest jointly with: (a) the missionary conference, provisional annual conference, or former mission concerned, (b) ~~the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ with funds provided by the ~~CRO General Council on Finance and Administration~~, and (c) the ~~Center for Global Mission~~~~General Board of Global Ministries~~. The revenue for pension purposes covering such service shall be provided by the aforesaid parties in accordance with such plan or plans as may be mutually agreed to by them.

17. A clergyperson who has been granted the retired relation in a central conference or an affiliated autonomous church shall be entitled to a pension from a conference or conferences in the United States or Puerto Rico for the years of approved service rendered therein upon attainment of the required age or the completion of the required years of approved service. Such clergyperson shall notify the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ upon his or her retirement. The ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ shall certify the years of approved service to each annual conference concerned. Payments due thereunder shall be collected from the conference concerned and forwarded to the claimant by the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ in such manner as it may deem most expedient and economical.

18. ... Nothing in this paragraph shall be understood as preventing an annual, missionary, or provisional conference from raising part or all of the annual contributions for the pension program of its pastors or the Comprehensive Protection Plan by an apportionment to the churches of the conference and remitting payments to the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~ on behalf of all the pastors covered; there is no time limit on this provision...

...21. The annual conference board of pensions, in consultation with the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~, shall have the responsibility to enroll

clergy of the annual conference in the Ministerial Pension Plan and the Comprehensive Protection Plan in accordance with the provisions of such plans...

...23. Each annual conference's board of pensions or other agency authorized by the annual conference shall submit, annually, its group health care plan data, de-identified as necessary, including, but not limited to, financial soundness, claims experience and other cost drivers, plan designs and coverage, and eligibility criteria to the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~.

24. On or before December 31, 2008, each annual conference's board of pensions or other agency authorized by the annual conference must submit a generally accepted financial valuation, such as in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 106, as amended, of its projected medical liabilities for its population covered by its employer retiree health care plan to the ~~CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits~~, and must submit a similar report biennially thereafter...

...26. On or before December 31, 2008, each annual conference shall document in writing its policy regarding the portability of retiree health care eligibility, coverage, cost-sharing, and benefits and communicate the policy to its clergy and lay employees and incoming clergy and lay employees from other annual conferences, ~~or general agencies, centers or commissions~~...

~~¶ 930~~~~¶ 1507~~. Financing Pension and Benefit Programs—...

...1. The conference board of pensions shall compute the amount to be apportioned annually to meet the requirements of the pension and benefit programs of the conference.

2. After consultation with the conference board of pensions, the conference council on finance and administration shall report to the annual conference the amounts computed by the conference board of pensions that are required to meet the needs of the pension, benefit, and relief programs of the conference...

...4. The conference board of pensions may accumulate a fund from the income for pension purposes in order to stabilize the pension program of the conference. {See Judicial Council Decision 50.}

~~¶ 931~~~~¶ 1508~~. Policies Related to Conflict of Interest and Investment Management—...

...1. A member of the conference board of pensions connected or interested in any way with the securities, real estate, or other forms of investment sold to or purchased from such funds, or with an insurance program or a contract under consideration by the conference board of pensions, shall be ineligible to participate in the

deliberation of the investment committee or of the conference board of pensions or to vote in connection therewith.

2. ...No investment shall be purchased from or sold to any member of the conference board of pensions or any member of the family of a member of the conference board of pensions...

...6. An annual conference agency handling such funds shall not offer higher rates of annuity than those listed in the annuity schedule approved by the CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits...

...9. b) The conference board of pensions, through the conference council on finance and administration, shall provide a fidelity bond in suitable amount for all persons handling its funds.

¶ 932¶1509. Joint Distributing Committees—
1. Authorizations—Whenever two or more annual or provisional annual conferences are to be merged... such distribution to be made within twelve months of the date of the dissolution of the committee as provided in ¶ 932.3d ¶1509.3d; (c) to the extent not otherwise previously provided for by the conference or conferences involved, to apportion or distribute equitably any other assets or property and any other liabilities or obligations...

...2. Organization—The committee shall be convened by the general secretary of the CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, or by some other officer of the CRO at board designated by the general secretary in writing, and shall elect from its membership a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a secretary.

3. Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities— ...b) The committee shall keep complete minutes of its transactions, and a copy thereof shall be filed with the secretary of each annual conference involved and with the CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits...

...d) The committee, having completed its work in connection with the merger or mergers for which it was organized and having filed copies of its findings and actions with the secretaries of the conferences involved for publication in the respective conference journals, and with the CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, shall be dissolved; subject, however, to recall by the general secretary of the CRO General Board of Pension and Health Benefits in the event of the discovery and presentation to the CRO general board of data substantially at variance with those previously submitted, for the purpose of reviewing such data and possible revision of its previous actions.

4. Whenever a single annual conference or provisional annual conference is to be divided into two or more conferences, the provisions of ¶ 932¶1509 shall be

applied, provided the distributing committee members of each resulting conference shall be named subsequent to the effective date of the division and no later than the first regular annual session of such conferences.

Division on Communication

¶ 933¶1801. As United Methodists, our theological understanding obligates us, as members of the body of Christ, to communicate our faith by speaking and listening to persons both within and outside the Church throughout the world, and to utilize all appropriate means of communication.

The responsibility to communicate is laid upon every church member, every pastor, every congregation, every annual conference, every institution, and every agency, center and commission of the Church. Within this total responsibility, there are certain functions that the General Conference has assigned to the Division on General Commission on Communication of the Center for Resourcing and Operations, to be performed in behalf of all through the talents and resources at its command.

¶ 934¶1802. Name—There shall be a Division General Commission on Communication of the Center for Resourcing and Operations of The United Methodist Church, which for communication and public relations purposes may be designated as United Methodist Communications (UMCom).

¶ 935¶1803. Incorporation—The Division General Commission on Communication of the CRO is successor to the Joint Committee on Communications, incorporated in the State of Ohio, and shall be authorized to do business as United Methodist Communications (UMCom). It is authorized to create such other corporate substructures as the commission deems appropriate to carry out its functions.

¶ 936¶1804. Amenability and Accountability—The Division General Commission on Communication shall be amenable to the CRO and to General Conference. As an administrative part of one of the general program agency centers, that is division carries significant program functions in addition to its many service and support responsibilities, the Division on Communication commission shall be accountable to, report to, and be evaluated by the CRO and shall coordinate with the Coordinating Council Connectional Table in program matters and shall be accountable to and report to the General Council on Finance and Administration in financial matters.

¶ 937¶1805. Purpose— The Division General Commission on Communication shall lead the Church in communication. It shall meet the communication, public relations, and marketing needs of the entire Church, reflecting the cultural and racial diversity

within The United Methodist Church. It shall provide communication resources and services to local churches and annual conferences. It shall have a consultative relationship with all general agencies, centers and commissions of the Church and with any structures for communication and public relations at the central conference, jurisdictional, episcopal area, annual conference, district, or local church level.

¶ 938¶ 1806. Responsibilities—Specific responsibilities and functions of the Division~~General Commission~~ on Communication and its staff are as follows:

1. It shall be the official newsgathering and distributing agency for The United Methodist Church and its general agencies, centers and commissions. In discharging its responsibilities, in keeping with the historic freedom of the press, it shall operate with editorial freedom as an independent news bureau serving all segments of church life and society, making available to both religious and public news media information concerning the Church at large.

2. It shall have major responsibility on behalf of The United Methodist Church in the United States to relate to the public media in presenting the Christian faith and work of the Church to the general public through broadcast, the press, and multimedia. It may develop such structures for broadcast and multimedia communication purposes as are deemed helpful to the Church in its witness through the media. It shall unify and coordinate public media messages and programs of United Methodist general agencies, centers and commissions.

3. It shall give special attention to television, including broadcast television, cable, videotape, videodisc, and satellite. It shall provide counsel and resources to annual conferences—and through conferences, to districts and local churches—to develop and strengthen their television ministries. Responsibilities of the division~~commission~~ shall include program production and placement, and relationships to commercial broadcasters at the national level in the United States...

...8. It shall oversee a comprehensive communication system for the Church, providing a total view of communication structure and practices, including telecommunications. It shall create networks of communicators at all levels, including local church, district, conference, jurisdiction, and general church. These networks may include periodic consultations for such purposes as idea exchange, information sharing, joint planning, and monitoring and evaluating the total Church's communication enterprises. With respect to the use of computers for communication purposes, the

agency shall ~~answer to cooperate~~ with the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~...

...10. (c) training experiences for bishops, personnel of general Church agencies, centers, commissions and other groups on request; (d) providing and facilitating apprenticeship, internship, and scholarship programs for church communicators; and (e) counseling schools of theology and other institutions of higher education about the training of faculty, candidates for the ordained ministry, and laypersons in the principles and skills of communication, media resource development, and media evaluation.

11. It shall determine and implement, after ~~approval~~consultation with by the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, policy for the marketing of all financial causes demanding churchwide promotion or publicity...

12. It shall be the central agency marketing throughout the Church the following general Church funds: ...In the marketing of these causes, this agency shall consult with and is encouraged to use content material provided by the program agency responsible for the area and with the agency responsible for the administration of the funds. Budgets for the above funds shall be developed ~~through in cooperation with~~ the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~. In cases where the General Conference assigns a portion of the marketing responsibility to some other agency, center or commission, such marketing work shall be subject to coordination by the Division~~General Commission~~ on Communication. The cost of marketing the funds, as set in the approved marketing budget, shall be a charge against receipts, except that the cost of marketing general Advance Specials shall be billed to the recipient agencies in proportion to the amount of general Advance Special funds received by each (¶ 922.3), and the cost of marketing World Service Special Gifts shall be borne by administering agencies (¶ 919.6). The administration of the money thus set aside for marketing shall be the responsibility of the CRO~~General Commission on Communication~~.

13. It shall undertake the marketing of any cause or undertaking, financial or otherwise, not herein mentioned demanding churchwide promotion or publicity, provided such action is approved by the Council of Bishops, the Coordinating Council and the CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~, or their respective executive committees. The CRO~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall determine the source of the funding for any such authorized promotions.

14. Appeals for giving that are made to United Methodists shall be consistent with the aims of Christian

stewardship. The ~~CRO General Commission on Communication~~ and the ~~Center for congregational Development General Board of Discipleship~~ will cooperate in order that programs and resource materials of the two ~~program agencies~~ Centers may be in harmony in their presentation of Chris-tian stewardship...

...20. It shall produce materials for program interpretation in cooperation with the ~~Coordinating Council Connectional Table~~ and the general program ~~boards~~ agencies, centers and commissions, including the official program calendar of the denomination.

21. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ shall be charged with planning and implementation of the official United Methodist presence on and use of the Internet, the World Wide Web, or other computer services that can connect United Methodist conferences, agencies, and local churches with one another and with the larger world.

22. It shall supervise the use of the official United Methodist insignia and preserve the integrity of its design, in cooperation with the Division on Communication of the CRO. It shall maintain appropriate registration to protect the insignia on behalf of the denomination. The insignia may be used by any official United Methodist agency, including local churches, to identify United Methodist work, programs, and materials. In order to preserve the integrity of its design, the insignia should not be altered or modified by those official United Methodist organizations that use it. Any commercial use of the design must be explicitly authorized in writing by an appropriate officer of the CRO.

23. It shall supervise the use of the name "United Methodist" and maintain the appropriate registrations of this name on behalf of the denomination.

24. It shall, under the guidance of the CRO, provide direction and coordination in the design and implementation of operating systems in order to maximize the efficiency of operating personnel, equipment, and resources between and within agencies, centers and commissions. During the quadrennium, these agencies shall study their respective responsibilities, programs, and internal operations and institute such improvements and economies in their work as they find to be feasible and practicable. They shall cooperate with the CRO in working out, in advance of these studies, the general areas to be included and methods of carrying out this objective. They shall report their accomplishments in improvements and economies to the CRO before the close of the third fiscal year of each quadrennium, at a time determined by the CRO, which shall prepare from this information a combined report for the General Conference.

25. It shall provide guidance and consultation and to encourage general agency participation in the United Methodist Information Technology Association. The CRO may provide such staff and in-kind services to the association as it deems appropriate.

Delete ¶ 1807.1 to 1807.4, Renumber and Amend ¶ 1807.5 as follows:

¶ 939~~¶ 1807.5~~. Staff—The ~~Center for Resourcing and Operations~~ commission shall oversee all of the staffing needs of its Division on Communication~~select annually a general secretary upon nomination by the executive committee or a nominating committee and shall elect such deputy general secretaries as needed, and it shall provide for election or appointment of other staff.~~ The general secretary of the CRO shall cooperate with the ~~Coordinating Council Connectional Table~~ for program services and with the general secretary of the ~~General Council on Finance and Administration for financial services.~~

Delete ¶ 1808

Renumber ¶¶ 1101-1127, ¶¶ 1201-1212 to ¶¶ 1001-1042, delete ¶ 1421 and edit as follows:

Section IV. Center for Congregational Development
 ¶ 1001~~101~~. Purpose—1. There shall be a Center for Congregational Development, hereafter referred to as the CCD ~~General Board of Discipleship~~, the purpose of which is found within the expression of the total mission of the Church. Its primary purpose shall be to assist ~~annual conferences, districts, and local churches of all membership sizes, districts and annual conferences~~ in their efforts in making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. ~~to win persons to Jesus Christ as his disciples and to~~ Recognizing that the basic unit of strength and vitality within the annual conference is the local congregation, the CCD's primary focus is to help congregational participants ~~these persons~~ to grow in their understandings of God, so that they may respond in faith and love to God's call of discipleship in their lives. To this end, the CCD will help in the development of cooperative and connectional patterns of ministry so that the unified strength and vitality of local congregations and other units of the church can respond effectively to the needs of their community, region and world with ministries of compassion, nurture, advocacy and justice. ~~to the end that they may know who they are and what their human situation means, increasingly identifying themselves as children of God and members of the Christian community, to live in the Spirit of God in every relationship, to fulfill their common discipleship in the world, and to abide in the Christian hope.~~

2. The CCD ~~board~~ shall use its resources to enhance the meaning of membership as defined in ¶¶ 216-220,

which emphasizes the importance of the identification of church membership with discipleship to Jesus Christ. The ~~CCD board~~ shall seek to enable congregations to carry out ~~the their~~ primary mission of the church task and shall provide resources that support growth in Christian discipleship and leadership. In doing its work, the ~~CCD board~~ shall listen to the needs and requests of the Church, conduct research, design and produce resources, offer training, and deliver resources. All of this is to support congregations in their primary task of reaching out and welcoming receiving all who will respond, encouraging people in their relationship with God and inviting them to commitment to God's love made known in Jesus Christ, providing opportunities for them to be nurtured and formed in the Christian faith, and supporting them to live lovingly and justly in the power of the Holy Spirit as faithful disciples. The ~~CCD board~~, through all activities, shall lead and assist congregations in becoming inclusive communities of growing Christians, celebrating and communicating to persons of every age, racial and ethnic background, and social condition the redeeming and reconciling love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.

~~¶ 1002+102.~~ Responsibilities—All the responsibilities assigned to the units and divisions within the ~~CCD board~~ shall be considered to be the responsibilities of the ~~CCD board~~. In addition to these, the ~~CCD board~~ shall have authority to:

1. Provide for special publications directed toward the local church nurture, outreach, witness ministries, age-level and family ministries, ministry group representatives, the ministry group chairpersons, the pastor, and the other local church officers for whom the ~~CCD board~~ has primary responsibility...

...3. Provide systems of resources and support to users of resources that will assist people in the historic disciplines of the Church, i.e., Christian education, evangelism, lay ministries, spiritual growth, stewardship, outreach and worship. These resources will address ministry concerns across children, youth, and adult ages and family groupings and across programmatic and administrative functions of the congregation in order to improve ministry and the quality of Christian leadership for the future ministry of the Church.

4. Develop and provide programs, resources, training and consultation for annual conferences and their Boards of Ordained Ministry. These programs and resources will be designed to provide and facilitate leadership development and growth for potential candidates for the ordained ministry, diaconal ministry and local pastorate.

5.4. Develop and provide resources, training, and consultation for pastors of congregations.—~~These~~

~~resources will that~~ focus on equipping pastors for their spiritual and visioning leadership role with their congregations and their role as partners with the laity.

6. Develop and provide programs, resources, training and consultation for annual conferences and their Boards of Laity and/or lay leadership/ministry programs. These programs and resources will be designed to provide and facilitate leadership development and growth for laity leadership programs that include, but are not limited to lay speaking and service on annual conference and general church boards, agencies, centers and commissions. Any resources developed to facilitate lay leadership on another general church board, agency, center or commission will be done in consultation with that appropriate group.

7.5. Develop and provide resources, training, and consultation for pastors and congregational leaders as they enhance and evaluate the ministries of the laity and initiate new forms of ministry that nurture faith, build Christian community, and equip people for ministry in daily life.

8.6. Provide resources and training that will assist annual conference leaders in building, improving, and sustaining systems that develop spiritual leaders for congregations.

9.7. Provide resources and training that will assist leaders in planning and administering comprehensive children, youth, young-adult, adult, and older-adult ministries that encourage lifelong learning and growth in faith, that strengthen understanding of God and relationship with God and other people, and that lead to spiritual growth/maturity in faith and in practice.

10.8. Provide representation in ecumenical and interdenominational agencies as they relate to the work of the board.

11.9. Respond to requests and needs for ministries throughout the world, in consultation with conferences and appropriate agencies.

12.40. Engage in research, experimentation, innovation, and the testing and evaluation of programs, resources, and methods to discover more effective ways to help persons achieve the purpose set forth in ~~¶1001+101.~~ This responsibility will include authority for experimentation and research in all areas of ministry assigned to the Center for Congregational Development General Board of Discipleship and will encourage cooperation with other agencies in the conduct of such research and experimentation. This research and experimentation may be assigned to appropriate units within the ~~CCD board~~.

13.44. Ensure that ethnic local church concerns shall be an integral part of the total life of the board,

providing guidance, resourcing, and training so that these concerns are incorporated in all areas of discipleship in the local church.

¶1003 ~~1103~~. The CCD Oversight Board ~~board~~ shall provide such bylaws as necessary to facilitate the work of the CCD board, which shall not violate any provisions of the Discipline and which may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting thereon at a regular or special meeting; provided that written notice to such amendment has been given to the members and the vote thereon shall be delayed at least one day. The CCD Oversight Board ~~board~~ shall have the power and right to do any and all things that shall be authorized by its charter(s) and by The Book of Discipline. It shall have authority to develop and carry out its responsibilities as described in ¶1002 ~~1102~~; to buy, acquire, or receive by gift, devise, or bequest property—real, personal, and mixed; to hold, mortgage, sell, and dispose of property; to sue and be sued; to borrow money in case of necessity in a manner harmonious with ¶¶ 806-807; to develop and maintain ecumenical relations to carry out its responsibilities; and to administer its affairs through the board and its various units, divisions and committees.

¶1004 ~~1104~~. Incorporation—1. The Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ shall be a corporation existing under the laws of Tennessee and shall be the legal successor and successor in trust of the corporations known as the General Board of Evangelism of The United Methodist Church and the General Board of Laity of The United Methodist Church, The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church and it shall further be responsible for the performance of the functions previously conducted by the Commission on Worship of The United Methodist Church, the Division of the Local Church, the Division of Curriculum Resources of the General Board of Education of The United Methodist Church, and the Division of Ordained Ministry of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

2. The Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ is authorized to take such action as is appropriate under the corporation laws of Tennessee so as to accomplish the end result stated above, and under which the Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ shall be one legal entity.

3. The divisions of the General Board of Education were not incorporated separately; it is the intent, however, that responsibility for the functions delegated to the divisions by prior legislative action be transferred consistent with the separation of the divisions between the

Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and the Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~. In the division of the assets of the General Board of Education and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, it is the intent that all assets be used in keeping with the original intent and purpose for which they were established or acquired, and so be assigned as appropriate to the Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and the Center for Global Mission ~~Higher Education and Ministry~~, respectively. It is further intended that the annuities, bequests, trusts, and estates formerly held by the General Board of Education and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry be used for the benefit and use of the Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and the Center for Global Mission ~~Higher Education and Ministry~~, (in accord with their purposes as defined in the Discipline), respectively, as their interests may appear, and that real estate titles be authorized to be conveyed as appropriate and apportioned where indicated.

4. In the event that the intent of the original donor of existing annuities, bequests, trusts, and estates cannot clearly be determined in relation to the interests of the two boards, such assets shall be divided equally between the two centers ~~boards~~.

5. It is further intended that should additional assets accrue to the former General Board of Education and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry by reason of annuities, bequests, trusts, and estates not now known and where the intent of the donor can be clearly ascertained, the assets shall be used in keeping with the original intent and purpose for which they were established or acquired and so be assigned as appropriate to the Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and the Center for Global Mission ~~Higher Education and Ministry~~, respectively.

6. It is further intended that should additional assets accrue to the former General Board of Education and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry by reason of annuities, bequests, trusts, and estates not now known and where the intent of the original donor cannot be clearly determined in relation to the interests of the two centers ~~boards~~, such assets shall be divided equally between the two centers ~~boards~~.

7. The spiritual formation responsibilities of the CCD ~~general board~~ as described in ¶1015 ~~1115~~ may be carried out primarily by its subsidiary The Upper Room, incorporated in the State of Tennessee as a nonprofit, charitable organization that relates to the CCD ~~GBOD~~ and whose board members are elected by the CCD

~~GBOD~~. The Upper Room is authorized, subject to ~~¶1008~~ ~~1108~~, to establish long-range investments and engage in fundraising that shall guarantee, insofar as possible, a continuous flow of financial resources for the development of devotional literature, programs, and experiences.

8. The president of the CCD Oversight Board, the general secretary, and the treasurer shall have the power to execute on behalf of the CCD board legal paper such as conveyances of real estate, releases on mortgages, transfer of securities, contracts, and all other legal documents.

~~¶1005~~ ~~1105~~. Organization—1. The CCD Oversight Board shall consist of ~~thirty three~~ ~~fifty eight~~ members constituted in accordance with ~~¶ 705.4~~ ~~¶705.3~~ and shall be organized as specified in its bylaws and in accord with ~~¶¶ 702-710~~ of the General Provisions. ~~It shall be organized to accomplish its work through elected officers as prescribed in ¶ 708.~~

a) ~~Jurisdictional members, clergy, laywomen, and laymen shall be elected to the board by the jurisdictional and central conferences upon nomination from the annual conference in accordance with ¶ 705.3a based on the following formula: North—6, Northeastern—7, South Central—10, Southeastern—11, and Western—2.~~

b) ~~Central Conference Members—A members from each central conference shall be elected to the board on nomination by the Council of Bishops, according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4e.~~

c) ~~Episcopal Members—Six episcopal members, including at least one from the central conferences, shall be named by the Council of Bishops.~~

d) ~~Division on Ministries With Young People—Three members selected by the Division on Ministries With Young People.~~

e) ~~Additional Members—(1) United Methodist—Additional members are nominated by a committee composed of three persons from each jurisdiction (one clergy, one laywoman, and one layman) elected by the jurisdictional conference. They shall elect up to three six additional members to ensure inclusivity and expertise. (2) It is recommended that the board elect at least one of the additional members without vote, from among the other churches of the Churches Uniting in Christ.~~

2. The CCD Oversight Board may elect an executive committee and establish such rules as necessary for the carrying out of its duties. At least one of the executive committee members shall be from the Division on Ministries With Young People and at least two of its members shall be from the Central Conferences.

3. The CCD Oversight Board shall determine and establish the appropriate organization of the CCD board

and its staff, and it may create or discontinue as deemed necessary divisions, sections, committees, task forces, and consultations in order to carry out the regular or special duties of the CCD board.

4. Adequate provisions shall be made in its organizational structure for all responsibilities assigned to the CCD board. These organizational units or divisions shall be amenable to and report regularly to the CCD Oversight Board and its executive committee.

5. Meetings of the CCD Oversight Board will be carried out in the most effective and efficient manner possible. While recognizing that the growing worldwide nature of our denomination makes face-to-face meetings more financially problematic, we also recognize that the bonds of our connectional nature and fellowship also flourish best when we are together in time and location. Therefore, the CCD Oversight Board in consultation with the Center for Resourcing and Operations will think creatively to ensure that we hold at least one face-to-face meeting annually and utilize our creativity and the latest in technology and communications resources to meet in ways and at times that are caring and inclusive toward all of its members.

~~¶1006~~ ~~1106~~. Organizational Units—The organizational units or divisions shall be organized by the CCD Oversight Board so as to fulfill the objectives and the responsibilities assigned to them within the mandate of the board (see ~~¶1004.3~~ ~~1104.3~~). The basic organization of these units shall be as follows:

1. Membership—The units shall be composed of CCD Oversight Board members as provided in ¶ 705. In order to provide for unit members with special knowledge and experience, the CCD Oversight Board shall have authority to invite special guests or consultants to come and/or participate in specific meetings ~~elect members at large to the units on nomination of the units and in accord with ¶ 705.~~

2. Meetings—The units or divisions shall meet in conjunction with the meetings of the CCD Oversight Board, when possible. Special meetings may be called in a manner prescribed by the CCD Oversight Board. The presence of one-third of the members of a unit or division shall constitute a quorum.

3. Officers—Each unit or division shall have a chairperson, elected by the CCD Oversight Board; such vice chairpersons as necessary; and a recording secretary, elected by the unit.

4. Executive Committee—Each unit or division may elect an executive committee and establish such rules as necessary for the carrying out of its duties.

5. Unit or Division Staff—The administrative officer of each unit shall be elected by the CCD Oversight

Board and shall sit with the unit and all its regular committees. In all of these relationships, he or she shall have the right of the floor without the power to vote. All other staff persons are to be elected or appointed in a manner prescribed by the CCD Oversight Board (§ 714).

¶1107 ~~4407~~. Financial Support—1. The financial support of the CCD and its Oversight Board shall be determined as follows: the General Conference shall determine and provide the budget for the CCD board in accord with procedures defined in ¶ 907¶ 806.

2. The CCD Oversight Board shall have authority to receive and administer funds, gifts, or bequests that may be committed to it for any portion of its work and to solicit, establish, and administer any special funds that may be found necessary for the carrying out of its plans and policies in accordance with ¶ 912.3¶ 811.3. In the investment of any funds, the CCD Oversight Board shall adhere to the specific investment guidelines adopted by the General Conference.

3. When special missions are conducted or special projects are undertaken by the CCD board, offerings and contributions may be received toward defraying expenses.

4. In the discharge of its responsibility for Christian education in The United Methodist Church, the CCD board may establish and provide for participation by church school groups in a fund (or funds) for missions and Christian education for use throughout our worldwide church in the United States and overseas. Plans for the allocation of, administration of, and education for this fund(s) shall be developed cooperatively by such means as the board shall determine in consultation with the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~.

¶1008 ~~4408~~. Financial Relationship of The Upper Room to the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~—1. The funds for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of The Upper Room shall be derived from sales of resources, gifts, devises, bequests, annuities, events, and funds raised from subscribers, customers, foundations, and other limited groups of faithful subscribers, supporters, and interested parties (as defined in ¶ 918.1¶ 818.1).

2. No funds, property, or other investments either now in hand or hereafter accumulated by The Upper Room or other devotional and related literature hereafter produced by The Upper Room shall be used for the support of other features of the CCD board's work, but all funds from the sale of such publications shall be conserved by the board for the purpose of preparing and circulating such literature and cultivating the devotional life; provided, however, that this shall not prevent the

setting up of a reserve fund out of such income as a protection against unforeseen emergencies.

3. Administrative support services are provided to The Upper Room by the CCDGBOD on a reimbursable basis. As a subsidiary of the CCDGBOD, The Upper Room participates in the general church pension and benefits programs and receives administrative, financial, and personnel-related services from the Center for Resourcing and Operations~~GCEA~~ to the same extent as the CCDGBOD.

¶1009 ~~4409~~. Christian Education—1. The CCD Oversight Board shall have general oversight of the educational interests of the Church as directed by the General Conference. The CCD Oversight Board shall be responsible for the development of a clear statement of the biblical and theological foundations of Christian education, consistent with the doctrines of The United Methodist Church, its mission and the mission of the CCD board. The CCD Oversight Board shall devote itself to strengthening and extending the teaching ministry of the Church through research; testing new approaches, methods, and resources; evaluation; and consultation.

2. Through the ministry of Christian education, United Methodist congregations shall reach out to people of all ages as they are, encourage them to commit themselves to Christ and membership in his church, provide opportunities for them to grow in faith and to connect that faith with their daily lives, and equip them to live as God's people in love and service to the world. Opportunities for Christian education shall include educational aspects of all the general areas and interests of the denomination, such as evangelism, stewardship, missions, Christian social action, and Bible instruction. The ministry of Christian education shall be developed as a comprehensive, unified, and coordinated program for children, youth, adults, and families in local churches. It shall be promoted and administered by the CCD Oversight Board in cooperation with those agencies responsible for Christian education in jurisdictions, annual conferences, districts, and local churches. It shall give careful consideration to the needs of all churches, such as small and large membership churches, rural and urban settings, and ethnic populations.

¶1010 ~~4410~~. Education Responsibilities and Standards—The CCD board shall organize as may be necessary for carrying on the educational ministry throughout the whole life span of persons. The CCD board shall:

1. Formulate and interpret the philosophy of Christian education based on biblical, theological, and educational foundations (consistent with the Doctrinal

Standards, ~~and~~ General Rules, and Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, ¶ 103) as they relate to the church school and related activities;...

...2. Develop educational approaches in a variety of settings that appeal to persons of different ages, abilities, lifestyles, learning needs, and theological perspectives...

...11. ~~Cooperate with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry as they d~~Develop standards for certifying professional ministry careers as provided in ¶ 1421.2c and promote the continuing growth of local church staff related to educational ministries...

¶1011 ~~111~~. Cooperation—1. The CCD~~board~~ shall cooperate with other general boards, and centers, agencies and commissions in the promotion of stewardship, evangelism, worship, missions, education, and social action, and in the evaluation of these ministries from the perspective of sound educational procedures.

2. The CCD and its Oversight B~~board~~, in cooperation with the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~, shall be responsible for developing a unified program of mission education for all age groups in the local church. The mission education program shall include provisions for the following:

a) Linking emerging philosophies of mission and of education through information flow and cooperative work of the respective staffs and centers~~boards~~;...

...i) Cooperating with the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the General Board of Global Ministries~~ in providing an emphasis on mission education in the schools of theology through United Methodist courses on history, polity, and doctrine now required for candidates considering ordination or consecration.

3. The board shall have authority to cooperate with other agencies, centers and commissions of the Church, with defined organizations, and with ecumenical agencies to promote the ministry of Christian education.

4. The board is authorized to cooperate with the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ in the planning and execution of programs for the strengthening and development of the town and country, urban, and ethnic local church ministries of The United Methodist Church and of interdenominational cooperation in these fields.

¶1012 ~~112~~. Evangelism— CCD and its Oversight B~~board~~ understands that shall have general oversight of the evangelism ministries are an integral part of all of the ministries of The United Methodist Church and ~~of the Church as directed by the General Conference.~~ Evangelism is central to its ~~the~~ mission. ~~of the Church.~~ Evangelism is defined in the Book of Discipline, ¶ 630.1 and as such, the CCD will strive to always keep our pub-

lic witness and evangelistic nature at the forefront of our work.

The CCD~~board~~ shall share the blessing of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ with people of all age groupings and the various racial and ethnic cultures by the ~~development~~, promotion, and support of all phases of evangelism throughout The United Methodist Church.

¶1013 ~~113~~. Evangelism Responsibilities—In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, the CCD~~board~~ shall participate in the ~~have~~ general ~~oversight of the~~ evangelism ministries of The United Methodist Church by the envisioning and developing of resources and by training and consultation in various settings. The CCD~~board~~ shall:

1. Set forth an adequate biblical and theological basis and understanding for the personal, corporate, and social holiness aspects of evangelism, consistent with the doctrine, mission and tradition of The United Methodist Church, and it shall communicate and interpret the same to the membership of the Church through its focus areas, materials and resources...

...4. Cooperate with other program agencies, centers and commissions of the Church in supporting and equipping both clergy and laity at all levels in involvement in evangelism, church growth, and new congregational development...

...7. Set standards for elders desiring to serve as general evangelists. The CCD~~board~~ shall send copies of these standards quadrennially to the bishops, district superintendents, conference boards of discipleship, and general evangelists. An elder who feels called by God to be a general evangelist should prepare definitely for such service under the guidance of the annual conference to which that person belongs...

...9. ~~Seek mutual cooperation among and with the seminaries of the Church and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in the training and nurturing of persons for ministry and in continuing education where the responsibilities intersect...~~

...11. Participate in and cooperate with the work of the Curriculum Resources Committee of the CCD~~board~~ for the inclusion of evangelism concepts and resources in local church study curriculum...

...13. Work with the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ for the extension of the Church. To this end there shall be a Joint Committee on Congregational Development with equal representation of members from the CCD~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and the Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~, which shall meet regularly for mutual learning, developing strategies

for Church extension, and providing resources and assistance to conferences and districts in the field of new congregational development and congregational revitalization.

¶1014 ~~444~~. Worship Responsibilities—The CCDboard shall: 1. Set forth and interpret the biblical and theological basis for corporate worship with people of all age groupings, abilities and the various racial and ethnic cultures through resources, programs, and training materials consistent with the doctrines and mission of The United Methodist Church, and cultivate the fullest possible meaning in the corporate worship celebrations of the Church to the glory of God, including liturgy, preaching, the sacraments, music, related arts, and the observance of the liturgical seasons of the Christian Year...

...5. Work with other ~~North American~~ Christian denominations through the Consultation on Common Texts in the continuing development of a common calendar and lectionary, and encourage the voluntary use of the Revised Common Lectionary and resources based upon it...

...10. Participate in and cooperate with the Curriculum Resources Committee of the CCDboard for the inclusion of worship concepts and resources in local church study curriculum...

...15. Develop performance standards for associates, directors, and ministers of music ~~in cooperation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and cooperate with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in the development of standards and requirements for their certification of directors, associates, and ministers of music~~ as provided in ¶ 1405.6.

¶1015 ~~445~~. Stewardship Responsibilities—1. To interpret the biblical and theological basis for stewardship through programs, resources, and training materials for people of all ages consistent with the doctrines and mission of The United Methodist Church.

2. To provide education, counsel, resourcing, and training for the local church stewardship ministry group chairperson, commission on stewardship, board of trustees, endowment and permanent fund committees, wills and estate planning committees, memorial committees, committee on finance, committee on finance chairperson, financial secretaries, and treasurers, and to develop program resources and training materials for use with and by the above-named persons and/or groups (see ¶ 907.130~~¶ 807.17~~). Matters relating to procedures involving official records, forms, and reporting of statistical and financial information shall be the responsibility of the Center for Resourcing and Operations ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~...

Rename ¶1116 as ¶1016

¶1017~~447~~. Ministry of the Laity—The CDPA and its Oversight Board shall interpret and spread through the Church all the rich meanings of the universal priesthood of believers, of Christian vocation, and of the ministry of the laity in daily life.

The United Methodist Church has the responsibility of training and enabling the laos—the whole body of its membership—to enter into mission and to minister and witness in the name of Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church. Although all units of the Church have some responsibility for this imperative, the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~ has a primary preeminent responsibility in that it is charged with helping congregations to developing discipleship. To this end, the CCDboard shall:...

...8. Initiate a process of coordination and collaboration in developing a comprehensive approach to leadership development and training within all program areas for which the CCDGeneral Board of Discipleship has responsibility...

¶1018 ~~448~~. Christian Discipleship Formation Responsibilities—The CCDboard shall interpret and promote group ministries in local congregations in order to support the formation of Christian disciples focused on the transformation of the world.

1. Small Group Ministries—Recognizing the diverse means of grace necessary in forming Christian disciples, the CCDGeneral Board of Discipleship shall assist local congregations in developing a comprehensive system of small-group ministries by: ...

...2. Connectional Accountable Discipleship—Affirming that our Wesleyan heritage embraces a distinct emphasis of mutual accountability and support, the CCDGeneral Board of Discipleship shall encourage accountability support in congregations by: ...

¶1019 ~~449~~. Ethnic Local Church Concerns—The CCDboard shall function as an advocate for programs and concerns of ethnic local churches. It shall coordinate efforts to keep the needs of the membership of ethnic churches uppermost in the minds of its membership. The board will ensure that adequate resources—fiscal, human, and programmatic—are used to support and encourage the ministries of the ethnic local churches. It will consult with our ethnic minority caucuses and national ethnic plan leadership to determine the best courses of action to meet the needs and concerns of our ethnic local churches.

¶1020 ~~420~~. Age-Level, Life-Span, and Family Ministries—The CCDboard will provide for an integrated and coordinated approach in development of resources and service support for ministries with children, youth, adults of all ages, and families...

...The ~~CCD~~~~board~~ will also engage in research and testing, consultation and training, and collaborative planning so as to enhance the delivery of resources and services to leaders with age-level and family ministries responsibilities.

1. Comprehensive Children's Ministries—The ~~CCD~~~~board~~ will assist congregations and conferences in developing comprehensive ministries for and with children...

...2. a) Curriculum—Through the Curriculum Resources Committee (~~¶ 1022~~~~¶ 1122~~), the ~~CCD~~~~General Board of Discipleship~~ shall ensure the availability of curriculum and leaders' guides for use in a variety of settings suitable for the specific needs of all persons in the twelve- to eighteen-year-old age group; ...

...3. Comprehensive Adult Ministries—The ~~CCD~~~~board~~ will assist congregations and conferences in developing comprehensive ministries by, with, and for adults...

...4. Comprehensive Family Ministries—The ~~CCD~~~~board~~ will assist congregations and conferences in developing comprehensive ministries with families...

...The ~~CCD~~~~board~~ may organize and administer a Committee on Family Life. The committee will provide an arena for information sharing, collaborative planning, and/or cooperative programming in alignment with the purpose and responsibilities of representative participants. The committee will serve as advocates for ministries with families in all boards and agencies...

~~¶ 1021~~~~¶ 1124~~. General Provisions for the Committee on Older Adult Ministries—1. There shall be a Committee on Older Adult Ministries, which shall be administratively related to the ~~CCD~~~~General Board of Discipleship~~...

Delete ¶ 1121.4 and insert new ¶ 1021.4:

...4. Membership— standards shall be determined by the CCD Oversight Board and recommended to the General Conference for Disciplinary inclusion in 2016. As an interim measure, CCD Oversight Board may establish the Committee on Older Adult Ministries and begin its work right away.

Continue amending ¶ 1021

5. Meetings—The committee will meet at least once a year in conjunction with a meeting of the CCD Oversight Board~~General Board of Discipleship~~.

~~¶ 1022~~~~¶ 1122~~. Duties and Responsibilities of the Curriculum Resources Committee—There shall be a Curriculum Resources Committee, organized and administered by the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~, which shall be responsible for the construction of plans for curriculum and curriculum resources to be used in the Christian

educational ministry of the Church and other study settings. (See ¶ 258.1.)...

...3. The plans for curriculum and curriculum resources shall be consistent with the educational philosophy and approach formulated for the educational ministry of the CCD~~Church by the General Board of Discipleship~~ and shall reflect a unity of purpose and a planned comprehensiveness of scope...

...4. Plans for major new curriculum resources and new series that have been approved by the CCD~~General Board of Discipleship~~ shall be circulated by staff among appropriate persons and groups in the Church for review, suggestions for improvement, and additional ideas. In all matters, staff shall be responsible for bringing the review results into unity and harmony with the intent of the Curriculum Resources Committee.

a) The purpose of the review process shall be to improve the resource plans in order to fulfill ~~¶ 1022~~~~¶ 1122~~.

b) Opportunity for timely review shall be offered to teachers, leaders, and pastors in local churches of various sizes, locations, and racial, ethnic, and cultural constituencies; general secretaries of the Center for Congregational Development, Center for Global Mission, Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness,~~General Boards of Discipleship~~, Global Ministries, Church and Society, and Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Commissions on History and Archives, Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the Status and Role of Women, United Methodist Men, and Religion and Race; professors of educational ministries in United Methodist colleges and seminaries; professional Christian educators; The United Methodist Women, the United Methodist Men and others who may have interest, experience, and skills to aid the perfection of the plans.

~~¶ 1023~~~~¶ 1123~~. Curriculum Requirements—When the plans for curriculum and curriculum resources have been approved by the CCD~~General Board of Discipleship~~, the editorial staff of Church School Publications shall be responsible for the development of curriculum resources based on the approved plans...

~~¶ 1024~~~~¶ 1124~~. Authority of the Curriculum Resources Committee to Review Teaching Resources of General Agencies—The Curriculum Resources Committee shall review and may approve and recommend existing or projected resources from other agencies. The committee shall make certain that all approved materials conform to United Methodist doctrine as delineated in ¶¶ 103 and 104 of the Book of Discipline. All curriculum resources that are approved by the

~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ shall be authorized for use in the church school.

~~¶1025¶—1125.~~ Relationship of the Curriculum Resources Committee to the Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and to The United Methodist Publishing House—1. The Curriculum Resources Committee shall be related to the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ as follows:

a) The committee shall be responsible to the ~~CCD board~~ with respect to educational philosophy and approaches and shall seek to maintain the standards set by the ~~CCD board~~.

b) The committee shall work with the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ in setting policies for interpreting and promoting the use of approved curriculum resources.

c) The chairperson of the Curriculum Resources Committee shall serve as a member of the executive committee of the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~.

d) In preparation of the budget for presentation to the board of The United Methodist Publishing House (¶ 1636), the editor of Church School Publications shall consult with the general secretary of the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~.

2. The Curriculum Resources Committee shall be related to The United Methodist Publishing House as follows:

a) The publisher of The United Methodist Publishing House or the chairperson of the board of The United Methodist Publishing House may sit with the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ for consideration of matters pertaining to joint interests of the Curriculum Resources Committee and The United Methodist Publishing House and shall have the privilege of the floor without vote.

b) The United Methodist Publishing House shall publish, manufacture, and distribute the curriculum resources prepared by the editorial staff of Church School Publications. The United Methodist Publishing House and the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ shall be responsible jointly for interpretation and support of these resources...

...3. The committee shall exercise these additional relationships:

a) The committee shall cooperate with other agencies, centers and commissions of The United Methodist Church so that their assigned concerns are reflected in and supported by the church school resources...

...c) The committee may cooperate with The United Methodist Publishing House and the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ in educational research, in the development of experimental resources, and in the eval-

uation of resources that are provided for the church school.

~~¶1026¶—1126.~~ Editor of Church School Publications— ...

...2. The editor shall be elected by the Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ upon nomination by a joint committee composed of the president of the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~, the chairperson of the Curriculum Resources Committee, one other member of the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ representing educational concerns, the chairperson and two other members of The United Methodist Publishing House...

...3. The editor shall be responsible to the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~ for seeing that the content of church school publications is consistent with the educational philosophy formulated by the board.

~~¶1027¶—1127.~~ Membership of the Curriculum Resources Committee—1. The Curriculum Resources Committee shall consist of twenty-one voting members elected quadrennially by the Center for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~ as follows:

a) A bishop who is a voting member of the ~~CCD General Board of Discipleship~~, to be nominated by the executive committee of the ~~CCD board~~.

b) Twenty members, nominated by the executive committee of the ~~CCD board~~, at least seven of whom shall be pastors, at least three of whom shall be voting members of the ~~CCD board~~, and at least one of whom shall be at the time of election serving a church of two hundred members or less; at least seven shall be laypersons actively participating as member, leader, or teacher in the educational ministry in the local church; at least three of whom shall be voting members of the ~~CCD board~~; at least one of whom shall be at the time of election a member of a church of two hundred members or fewer; six additional members shall be nominated, three of whom shall be members of the ~~CCD board~~, with due consideration to the diversity in theological perspectives, educational attainments, sex, age, racial, and ethnic differences, and sizes of local churches, and in consultation with the directors of councils on ministries or boards of discipleship in each of the annual conferences.

c) Twenty persons from the program boards shall participate in Curriculum Resources Committee meetings with the privilege of the floor without vote. These persons shall be: the general secretaries of the Center for Congregational Development, Center for Global Mission, Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness ~~General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of~~

~~Church and Society, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, or someone designated by them; the editor of Church School Publications; the president and publisher and the vice president in charge of publishing of The United Methodist Publishing House; and with due consideration to providing for diversity in sex, age, racial, and ethnic differences, five staff members of Church School Publications and eight other staff members representing the broad concerns of the CCD~~General Board of Discipleship.

d) The chairperson of the committee shall be a member of the ~~CCD~~General Board of Discipleship...

Division on Ministries With Young People

~~¶1028¶ 1201.~~ There shall be a Division on Ministries With Young People of the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~.

Rename ¶1202 as ¶1029

~~¶1030¶ 1203.~~ Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the Division on Ministries With Young People shall be...

...6. To provide administrative oversight to the grants for ministries with young people distributed in consultation with the Center for Congregational Development, Center for Global Mission, Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness~~General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global Ministries, and General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~;

~~¶1031¶ 1204.~~ Authority and Accountability—The Division on Ministries With Young People shall be accountable to the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~ in programming, personnel, and administration. The Division shall have the authority to determine and interpret program directions that support its mandate. These program directions shall be in harmony with the charter of the ~~CCD~~General Board of Discipleship and have the ~~CCD~~GBOD's approval.

~~¶1032¶ 1205.~~ Relationship of the Division on Ministries With Young People to the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~—The Division on Ministries with Young People shall be related to the ~~CCD~~General Board of Discipleship as follows: Three members of the Division on Ministries with Young People shall be elected to the board, one of whom shall sit on the executive committee, one of whom shall sit on the finance committee and one of whom shall sit on the personnel committee of the ~~CCD~~General Board of Discipleship.

Rename ¶1206 as ¶1033

~~¶1034¶ 1207.~~ Membership—The membership of the Division on Ministries With Young People shall be inclusive with respect to gender, race/ethnicity, lay/clergy, and vocation.

1. Membership shall be as follows:...

...d) Additional Members:

(1) Five members of the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~ (2 clergy, 2 lay, 1 bishop, one of whom serves on the Executive Committee);

(2) Two members of the United Methodist Student Movement steering committee (¶ 1412.2g);

(3) Up to 5 additional members who, as determined by the ~~CCD~~General Board of Discipleship, may be nominated by the Division to ensure inclusiveness and expertise...

...2. a) Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness~~General Board of Church and Society~~

b) Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~

c) Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~

~~d) General Board of Higher Education and Ministry~~

e) ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~

~~d) f) General Commission on Religion and Race~~

e) ~~g) General Commission on the Status and Role of Women~~

~~f) h) General Commission on United Methodist Men~~

g) United Methodist Women

~~h) i) Center for Resourcing and Operations-General Council on Finance and Administration~~

i) ~~j) Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table

~~k) United Methodist Communications~~

~~j) l) United Methodist Publishing House~~

~~m) Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries~~

~~¶1035¶ 1208.~~ Youth Service Fund—There shall be a Youth Service Fund.

1. Organization—The Youth Service Fund shall be a means of stewardship education and mission support of youth within The United Methodist Church...

...The annual conference treasurer shall send the remaining thirty percent monthly to the treasurer of the Center for Resourcing and Operations-General Council on Finance and Administration to be forwarded to the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~, Division on Ministries With Young People. All other Youth Service Fund money raised in the annual conference shall be divided in the same manner and distributed in the same way...

~~¶1036¶1209.~~ Grants for Ministries with Young People—...

...2. Project Review—The Division on Ministries With Young People shall constitute a project review committee made up of three youth, three young adults, and three adult workers with young people who are members of the Division. The committee shall also include one staff representative and two board members each from the Center for Congregational Development, Center for Global Mission, and Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness~~General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ The Division on Ministries With Young People shall establish criteria in consultation with the four participating program boards and in relation to the purposes of the Division and the program boards.

~~¶1037¶1210.~~ Global Young People's Convocation—There shall be a Global Young People's Convocation...

...2. Legislation—During the convocation there shall be opportunities for jurisdiction and central conference delegations and individuals to propose legislation in a forum known as the United Methodist Young People's Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Assembly shall be made up of delegations as defined under "Voting members." Legislation brought to the Assembly shall relate to issues of concern to young people. Legislation adopted by the Legislative Assembly may be referred to the Division on Ministries With Young People or sent to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church carrying the name "United Methodist Young People's Legislative Assembly." All legislation, petitions, and programming must be in accordance with ¶ 907.9¶ 806.9 and ¶ 907.10¶ 806.10...

~~¶1038¶1211.~~ Staff—1. The Division on Ministries With Young People shall have as its chief staff officer an individual selected by the CCD~~Associate General Secretary.~~ This staff officer shall be nominated by the personnel committee of the CCD~~General Board of Discipleship~~ for election by the CCD~~Board.~~ The search committee shall be chaired by the General Secretary of the Center for Congregational Development~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and composed of equal representation from the CCD~~General Board of Discipleship~~ and the Division on Ministries With Young People.

2. All other staff members of the Division will be elected or appointed in a manner prescribed by the CCD~~Board~~ (¶ 714).

Rename ¶1212 as ¶1039

Division on Ordained Ministry

Delete ¶ 1421 and replace with ¶ 1040, ¶ 1041 and ¶ 1042 as follows:

¶1040¶ There shall be a Division of Ordained Ministry—The Division of Ordained Ministry shall be responsible for leading and serving the church in inviting, equipping, and supporting faithful and effective spiritual leaders from all cultural, ethnic, and racial backgrounds, who serve as ordained deacons and elders, licensed local pastors, diaconal ministers, certified persons in specialized ministries, and clergy endorsed for extension ministries in order to fulfill the mission of The United Methodist Church and the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. The division's work includes all men and women who are serving in categories of appointment by a bishop. This responsibility shall be discharged in active relationship with bishops, schools of theology, annual conference boards of ordained ministry, cabinets, jurisdictional boards or committees on ordained ministry, central conferences, ethnic caucuses, and other appropriate bodies. This division shall be responsible for the promotion of theological education and its support for the whole church.

In fulfillment of this responsibility and in accordance with the disciplinary requirements established for each region of the church in the world, the division will organize its work around the following core responsibilities:

1. Administration—a) Provide leadership in the interpretation of the need for ministry in The United Methodist Church in ways that are appropriate to each region of the church in the world. The interpretation of ministry includes the ministry of deacons, elders, local pastors, those approved for extension ministries, and certified for specialized ministries.

b) Maintain contact with the constituencies of the Division through gatherings of the chairs of the Order of Deacons and the Order of Elders and the Fellowship of Local Pastors, personal communication, newsletters, and other consultative services.

c) In consultation with ethnic constituencies, work with boards of ordained ministry, district committees on ordained ministry, and other appropriate agencies by developing guidelines, training, and resources for their work; providing guidance and counseling in the examination of ministerial students; and interpreting current disciplinary legislation concerning ordained and licensed ministry.

d) Provide resources and training to conference boards of ordained ministry and similar recognized bodies in their responsibility for administering the standards, requirements, examination, and interviews for ordination and certification in ministry careers.

e) Provide the connectional relationship whenever agencies of the general church wish to enter into discussion with or make inquiry into the work of United Methodist seminaries.

f) Study and coordinate with the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness in mutual ministry between United Methodist schools of theology and annual conferences in the fulfillment of their responsibilities for the education and formation of candidates for ordained, licensed, and certified ministries.

g) Coordinate with the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness in the church-wide interpretation and promotion of the Ministerial Education Fund, and support other funds and programs that assist in training persons for ordained ministry.

h) Coordinate with and advise the University Senate and its Commission on Theological Education as to the educational needs of candidates for ordination as elder and deacon. Especially as they relate to the review and approval process of non-United Methodist seminaries.

i) Cooperate with other agencies and ethnic groups within The United Methodist Church in matters related to the calling, training, and support of ministerial leadership throughout the church.

j) Participate in professional, ecumenical, national and international associations that support professional ministry.

k) Cooperate with the Center for Resourcing and Operations and boards of ordained ministry concerning legal issues, policies of professional ethics, and other matters related to the practice of ministry.

l) Foster cooperative relationships among persons in the diaconate of The United Methodist Church and their colleagues in other Christian churches.

2. Enlistment/Candidacy—a) Lead the church in lifting up God's call to ordained, licensed, and certified ministry in The United Methodist Church, through enlistment programs in the local church and annual, jurisdictional and central conferences.

b) Study ministerial needs and resources in The United Methodist Church and cooperate with the agencies, centers, commissions and other appropriate ethnic and cultural groups, in the interpretation of ministry as a vocation, in an effort to enlist suitable persons for ordained, licensed, and certified ministry.

c) Study the ministerial needs of the annual and central conferences in terms of pastoral leadership, the ministry of the deacon, and certified ministries, including candidacy statistics, retirement trends, retention of clergy, and the changing demand for ministerial supply.

d) Study the ministerial needs of the world and provide resources for the enlistment of persons for service in ministries beyond the local church.

e) Provide program materials and training resources for the enlistment and support of candidates for ordained, licensed, and certified ministry.

f) Work with ethnic centers related to the United Methodist seminaries, general church initiatives, and the ethnic caucuses to enlist racial and ethnic persons as candidates for ordained, licensed, and certified ministry.

3. Education—a) Maintain the educational standards for those who are ordained as deacons and elders, licensed as local pastors, and certified for specialized ministries in The United Methodist Church.

b) Advise the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness in their process of certifying the course offerings in United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity as specified in ¶ 335.(3), and provide the University Senate and boards of ordained ministry with a list of the courses approved.

c) Prescribe a theological studies program which will include basic graduate theological studies for those preparing for ordination as a Deacon, an advanced course of studies program for local pastors preparing for ordination as an Elder, and a curriculum of studies for those seeking certification in areas of specialized ministry.

d) Prescribe a Course of Study for local pastors that include the studies for license for pastoral ministry and the five-year Course of Study curriculum. All work in the Course of Study shall be taken in programs approved by the Division of Ordained Ministry. Upon approval of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, a candidate may complete up to one-half of the work through online courses developed by the Division of Ordained Ministry.

e) Identify the areas of need for specialized ministries; provide standards and educational programs that may lead to certification in those areas; and review the qualifications of persons recommended for certification by conference boards of ordained ministry.

f) Consult with the schools of theology and programs of pastoral training in the central conferences concerning pastoral needs, the relationship between United Methodist seminaries in the central conferences and the United States, and other resources for training pastors to serve in the central conferences.

g) Promote attending United Methodist seminaries for theological training in the Wesleyan tradition.

h) Cooperate with the Office of Loans and Scholarships, the Higher Education Foundation, the Crusade Scholarship Program, and other funding agencies in regard to scholarship assistance for racial and ethnic students preparing for ordained ministry.

4. Support/Accountability—a) Provide guidance and resources for the continuing education, spiritual formation, and career development of faithful and effective pastors, deacons, chaplains, diaconal ministers and persons certified for specialized ministries serving in local churches, extension ministries, and other appointment settings in the church and world.

b) Support and cooperate with bishops and district superintendents in the fulfillment of their ministry of superintending by (1) providing jointly with the Coordinating Council and the Council of Bishops for the training of new district superintendents; (2) providing ongoing training and support for bishops and superintendents in their work; and (3) developing resources to assist clergy, superintendents, and local churches in assessment and evaluation of ministry, including providing tools for staff-parish relations committees, pastors, boards of ordained ministry, and cabinets on ensuring effective cross-racial and cross-cultural appointments.

c) Encourage and resource conference boards of ordained ministry, the Order of Deacons and the Order of Elders, and the Fellowship of Local Pastors for the ongoing support of persons in ordained, consecrated, licensed, and certified ministry in The United Methodist Church.

d) Provide guidance to cabinets and other annual conference agencies to ensure conditions of employment, support, and benefits commensurate with their training, ability, and experience for those ordained, consecrated, licensed, or certified for ministerial service.

e) Support members of the endorsed community through relationships to certifying bodies and professional organizations; linking congregations, conferences, and church structures with persons in specialized settings; assisting persons in receiving specialized training for ministry in pastoral care and pastoral counseling settings; and providing retreats, convocations, and other special programs.

f) Lead the church in the acceptance and support of women of all ethnic and racial groups in ordained and licensed ministry.

g) Give attention to the specific needs of clergy with disabilities.

h) Work with bishops, cabinets, boards of ordained ministry, the Order of Deacons and the Order of Elders, the Fellowship of Local Pastors, and other church agencies in maintaining the professional and ethical standards of ministry in The United Methodist Church.

i) Encourage and support the continuing education, spiritual formation, and career development of effective spiritual leaders of all races and ethnic origins.

5. Endorsement—a) Identify, assess, and support

chaplains and clergy who show demonstrated ability to provide pastoral care in health-care settings, children's homes, retirement homes, prisons, workplaces, counseling centers, and the military.

b) Establish standards required for endorsed persons in the areas of specialized education, training and skills, and when required, professional certification, to ensure that The United Methodist Church provides quality pastoral care to patients, residents, prisoners, workers, counselees, and military personnel and their families.

c) Maintain policies and procedures to provide Ecclesiastical Endorsement for associate members, deacons and elders under appointment to ministries of chaplaincy and pastoral care where endorsement is required.

(1) The Division of Ordained Ministry, through its endorsing committee, has the authority to grant and remove endorsement and to adopt appropriate rules of procedure, to include procedure for appeals.

(2) An endorsing committee consisting of elected members of the Division of Ordained Ministry and chaired by a bishop shall represent The United Methodist Church in all endorsing procedures.

(3) Endorsement is the credential which certifies that a clergyperson performs a valid ministry of The United Methodist Church and has presented evidence of required specialized education, training, skills, and, when required, professional certification necessary to perform that ministry. Once the clergyperson no longer serves in that particular setting, the endorsement is withdrawn.

d) Establish and follow procedures for Ecclesiastical Approval for persons in the military student chaplain candidate programs, intermittent chaplaincy with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other identified entities.

e) Maintain programs for the oversight and advocacy of endorsed/approved persons.

f) Provide general oversight for all those under endorsement, particularly those serving outside the bounds of their annual conferences.

g) Assure conference boards of ordained ministry concerning the validity of ministry of clergy serving under endorsement.

h) Verify annually, to bishops and conference boards of ordained ministry, those clergy under endorsement and where necessary request their reappointment.

i) Establish and maintain standards for ecclesiastical endorsement.

(1) Establish standards for endorsements for all ministry settings in ¶ 344.1b

(2) Provide standards for use by annual conference boards of ordained ministry to determine the appropri-

atness of other extension ministry settings not identified in ¶ 344.1, and will assist, as requested, to evaluate specific settings.

(3) Provide advocacy for persons appointed under ¶ 344.1d and encourage new efforts to widen the understanding of ministry through the development of new extension ministry settings.

(4) Coordinate with certifying bodies in the development of standards for pastoral care certification in a variety of ministry settings.

j) Link congregations, conferences and church agencies with those persons in extension ministry settings.

k) Advise congregations, conferences, and church agencies in the development of programs of pastoral care in extension ministries.

l) Interpret extension ministries to the church and serve as an advocate for persons in extension ministries under its endorsement.

m) Assist in providing a ministry to United Methodist laity in or associated with the military, particularly outside the continental United States. The Division of Ordained Ministry along with the agencies, centers and commissions of the Church, shall work together to prepare materials, programs, and continuing ministries that include retreats, confirmation classes and other pastoral functions.

n) Receive and distribute funds and special gifts as have been or shall be given specifically for the support of endorsing agency responsibilities.

o) Sponsor the Chaplains Supplemental Pension Grant Fund for certain endorsed clergy, with administration and oversight provided by the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits.

6. Constituency Relationships—Establish three teams (elders and local pastors, deacons and diaconal ministers, chaplains and endorsed clergy) to relate directly with the constituents of the Division of Ordained Ministry to resource, support and interpret the work of the Division of Ordained Ministry. Each team shall be led by a member of that particular constituency.

¶1041. 1. United Methodist schools of theology share a common mission with the Center for Congregational Development and its Division of Ordained Ministry; in preparing persons for leadership in the ministry of The United Methodist Church; of leading in the ongoing reflection on Wesleyan theology; and of assisting the church in fulfilling its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. They contribute to the life of the global United Methodist connection through theological education for the sake of the worldwide mission of the church. These

schools of theology are maintained for the education of ordained and lay leadership, for the interpretation of the Christian faith and United Methodist tradition through biblical and theological research, and for prophetic leadership. The CCD provides advice and support in this common mission and in the development of relationships among the schools of theology in the U.S.A. and the central conferences and the various agencies, centers and commissions of the General Church.

2. All candidates for ordination as deacon or elder in The United Methodist Church are strongly encouraged to attend United Methodist schools of theology since these schools share with the CCD and the conference Boards of Ordained Ministry in the work of preparing persons for ordination and leadership in The United Methodist Church.

3. In fulfilling their task of preparing persons for effective service for Christ and the church, The United Methodist schools of theology in the USA shall acquaint students with the current polity, theology and programs of The United Methodist Church and shall offer practical experience in administration, evangelism, stewardship, and other areas which will prepare them for effective Christian ministry in a multicultural society. Each school of theology, in consultation with the Center for Congregational Development and its Division of Ordained Ministry, shall provide the courses in United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity specified in ¶ 335.(3) and seek to form persons for ministry in the Wesleyan tradition.

4. Schools of Theology of The United Methodist Church Located in the Central Conferences—a) In order to meet the needs for theological education and clergy training in their regions, the central conferences establish schools of theology to serve the United Methodists in their distinct cultural, social, and linguistic context. Schools of theology and programs of clergy training are established by the Center for Global Missions to serve the needs of the central conferences. These schools may be supported through the central conference and/or the Center for Global Mission and are accountable to the appropriate bodies for their program and their relationship to the denomination.

b) Additional schools of theology and pastoral training may be established by the central conference; General Conference; Center for Global Mission and accountability depends on the founding documents of the institutions.

¶1042 Education of Ordination Candidates—The United Methodist schools of theology share with conference boards of ordained ministry and the Division on Ordained Ministry the responsibility for the education

and formation of candidates for admission to the annual conferences.

Delete ¶¶ 1401-1420, ¶¶ 1422-1423, Renumber ¶¶ 1301-1313, ¶ 1327 as ¶¶ 1101-1126 and edit as follows:

Section V. Center for Global Mission

~~¶ 1101~~~~¶ 1301~~. There shall be a Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~, hereinafter referred to as the CGM, whose fundamental charge is to support the mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church (see ¶¶ 120-129)~~board, the purpose of which is found within the expression of the total mission of the Church~~. It is a missional instrument of The United Methodist Church, its annual conferences, missionary conferences, and local congregations in the context of a global setting...

~~¶ 1102~~~~¶ 1302~~. Responsibilities— ...

~~...3. To challenge all United Methodists with the New Testament imperative to proclaim the gospel to the ends of the earth, expressing the mission of the Church; and to recruit, send, and receive missionaries, enabling them to dedicate all or a portion of their lives in service across racial, cultural, national, and political boundaries...~~

~~...7. To assist local congregations and annual conferences in mission both in their own communities and across the globe by raising awareness of the claims of global mission and by providing channels for participation, including through Volunteers In Mission.~~

~~8. To express the concerns of women organized for mission and to help equip women for full participation both locally and globally in Church and world.~~

~~89. To engage in direct ministries to human need, both emergency and continuing, institutional and non-institutional, however caused.~~

~~940. To work within societies and systems so that full human potential is liberated and to work toward the transformation of demonic forces that distort life.~~

~~1044. To identify with all who are alienated and dispossessed and to assist them in achieving their full human development—body, mind, and spirit.~~

~~1142. To envision and engage in imaginative new forms of mission appropriate to changing human needs and to share the results of experimentation with the entire Church.~~

~~1243. To facilitate the development of cooperative patterns of ministry so that the unified strength of local congregations and other units of the Church in designated areas can respond with more effective ministries of justice, advocacy, compassion, and nurture.~~

~~1344. To affirm Volunteers in Mission as an authentic form of personal missionary involvement and devise~~

appropriate structure to interpret and implement opportunities for mission volunteers in the global community.

~~1445. To facilitate the receiving and assignment of missionaries from churches in nations other than the United States in cooperation with the other general agencies and with annual conferences.~~

15. To provide general oversight and care for campus ministries and institutions of higher education, including schools, colleges, universities, and theological schools.

16. To maintain the historic mission of The United Methodist Church in higher education and to serve as advocate for the intellectual life of the Church.

17. To seek to understand and communicate the significance of the Christian mission in higher education and ministry throughout the world as the context in which values and Christian lifestyle are shaped.

18. To provide counsel, guidance, and assistance to annual conferences through their boards of global ministries and higher education and campus ministry, and other such program units as may be organized in the annual conferences.

19. To conduct research on human needs to be met by the Church through its resources in higher education.

20. To facilitate the allocation of funds to institutions and to programs related to CGM.

21. To maintain adequate fiduciary and legal relationships with institutions and ministries and to assist annual conferences and other judicatories in their responsibilities in these matters.

22. To provide counsel, guidance, and assistance to institutions of higher education in their relationships with governments and governmental agencies.

23. To guard property and endowments entrusted to the institutions and to maintain and enforce adequate trust and reversionary clauses.

24. To promote, in cooperation with the Center for Resourcing and Operations (the successor agency to the General Commission on Communications), churchwide special Sundays and funds: Africa University Fund, Black College Fund, Ministerial Education Fund, Human Relations Day, One Great Hour of Sharing, Native American Ministries Sunday, World Communion Sunday, United Methodist Student Day, Christian Education Sunday, Golden Cross Sunday, Rural Life Sunday, Disability Awareness Sunday, and other funds and special days ordered by the General Conference.

25. To provide standards and support for and interpretation of the work of United Methodist theological schools.

26. To provide such services as will create a climate of acceptance and empowerment for women, for people

who are culturally or ethnically marginalized, and for people with disabilities in higher education.

27. To interpret, promote, and administer the loan and scholarship programs of CGM in cooperation with the Center for Resourcing and Operations.

28. To provide such support agencies as are deemed necessary to carry out the functions of CGM.

29. In cooperation with the Center for Resourcing and Operations, to develop long-range investments and fundraising projects within the Church that shall guarantee, insofar as possible, the continuous flow of resources for United Methodist higher education for the decades and the centuries to come. In developing such long-range investments, CGM shall adhere to the specific investment guidelines adopted by the General Conference.

30 To promote awareness of and concurrence with "Policies relative to Socially Responsible Investments" (§716), the Social Principles (§§160-166), and *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church*.

¶ 1103~~¶ 1303~~. Objectives—1. The objectives of CGM~~the board~~ shall be determined by the CGM Oversight Board (¶ 1109). Consideration should be given to the following historic mandates:

a) To plan for the implementation of the responsibilities of the CGM (¶ 1102)~~board~~ in the missional outreach of The United Methodist Church.

b) To establish the appropriate organization of ~~the board~~ and staff to accomplish its program and fulfill its ~~the~~ responsibilities of ~~the board~~.

c) To determine, in cooperation with mission constituencies, the areas to be served and the nature of the work to be undertaken.

d) To determine policy and program, to establish goals and priorities, to project long-range plans, and to evaluate the program and services~~of the board as to the progress made in fulfilling its purpose~~ in accordance with §§ 1101 and 1102~~¶¶ 1301 and 1302, and to seek to achieve its objectives through the programs of the board~~.

e) To coordinate and harmonize ~~the~~ its work of ~~the board~~.

f) To elect or appoint, according to the bylaws, its~~the~~ staff of ~~the board~~...

...j) To receive and act upon the reports of its units, committees, and ~~their~~ staff...

...2. The CGM~~board~~ shall develop and maintain cooperative working relationships with churches and ecumenical agencies on matters of mutual concern in the implementation of disciplinary responsibilities.

3. The CGM ~~may assist board shall facilitate and coordinate the program relationships of other program agencies of The United Methodist Church, upon their request, in their relationships with churches and agen-~~

cies in central, jurisdictional, and annual conferences, as well as in areas of the world where the United Methodist Church does not currently have a presence—~~nations other than the United States~~.

¶ 1104~~¶ 1304~~. Authority—The board shall have authority to make bylaws and regulate its proceedings in harmony with the Book of Discipline through the CGB Oversight Board. Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting thereon at a regular or special meeting, provided that required notice of such amendment has previously been given to the members. The CGM Oversight B~~o~~ard shall have the power and right to do any and all things that shall be authorized by its charter, except when there is duplication of activities from one agency, center or commission to another. It shall have authority to develop and carry out its responsibilities as described in ¶ 1102~~¶ 1302~~; to buy, acquire, or receive by gift, devise, or bequest property—real, personal, and mixed; to hold, mortgage, sell, and dispose of property; to sue and be sued; to borrow money in case of necessity in a manner harmonious with §§ 806-807; to develop and maintain ecumenical relations to carry out its responsibilities; and to administer its affairs according to its bylaws~~through the board and its various units and committees~~.

¶ 1105~~¶ 1305~~. Incorporation—1. The Center for Global Mission~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ shall be incorporated and shall implement its responsibilities through its corporate structure, including the CGM Oversight Board (which shall be the board of directors of CGM), and the corporate structures of the entities that it controls or that are administratively organized as divisions or departments of the CGM Oversight Board~~function through the board and its units~~.

2. The CGM~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ of The United Methodist Church shall be the successor to the following corporations: ~~the~~ General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church (except for those areas related to its Division of Ordained Ministry), the Board of Missions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Home Missions and Church Erection Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, ~~the Women's Missionary Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ,~~ the Missionary Society of The Evangelical Church...

...3. The CGM, through the CGM Oversight Board or another entity described in ¶ 1105.1, shall have control of all the work formerly controlled and administered by the following: the Board of Health and Welfare

Ministries; the Board of Missions of The United Methodist Church; the Board of Missions and Church Extension of The Methodist Church; the Missionary Society, the Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, ~~the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Service Guild, and the Ladies' Aid Societies of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Board of Missions, including the Woman's Missionary Society, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Woman's Board of Home Missions, the Woman's Missionary Council, and the Board of Church Extension of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South; the Board of Missions of The Methodist Protestant Church; the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church; such other incorporated or unincorporated divisions and departments and their predecessors as may have been merged into the previous General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church; and such other corporations or agencies of the General Conference as do similar work; but this list shall not be construed as exhaustive~~ exclusive.

4. Subject to the limitations hereinafter specified, any corporations within the CGM Board shall be subject to the supervision and control of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church in all things not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the states of incorporation.

5. The CGM Oversight Board shall have the power to create those subsidiary units or sections needed in the fulfillment of CGM's responsibilities and objectives (see ¶¶ 1102 and 1103) ~~designated functions, upon approval of the board.~~

¶ 1106 ¶ 1306. Executive Committee—There shall be an executive committee, which shall exercise the powers of the CGM Oversight Board ad interim, and whose membership and responsibilities shall be determined by the bylaws of the CGM Board.

¶ 1107 ¶ 1307. Corporate Officers—The CGM Oversight Board shall elect as its corporate officers a president, ~~three~~ vice presidents, a general treasurer, a ~~corporate recording~~ secretary, and such other officers as it shall deem necessary. The CGM Oversight Board shall determine the powers and duties of ~~the~~ its officers.

~~The president, general secretary, and treasurer of the board are ex officio members of all units and their executive committees, and standing committees of the board, without vote. The Women's Division shall elect its president, who shall be one of the three vice presidents of the board.~~

¶ 1108 ¶ 1308. Elected Staff—1. ~~Board Cabinet~~—a) The CGM Oversight Board shall elect ~~the~~ its general secretary for a quadrennial term ~~annually~~ by ballot. As

chief staff officer of the CGM Board, the general secretary shall have direct involvement in staff selections.

2. ~~b)~~ The CGM Oversight Board shall elect, ~~for quadrennial terms, a deputy-general secretary for administration, a maximum of five other deputy general secretaries, and a board-treasurer and as many deputy general secretaries and associate general secretaries as it thinks are appropriate to carry out its work. In addition, the Women's Division shall nominate its deputy general secretary for election by the division and the board after consultation with the president and the general secretary of the board.~~

3. ~~e)~~ The CGM Oversight Board's personnel committee, in consultation with the general secretary ~~of the board~~, shall recommend candidates for all of the positions described in ¶1108.2 of deputy general secretaries and board treasurer for election by the board. The ~~deputy general secretaries shall have administrative responsibility as assigned by the general secretary and shall be responsible to the general secretary.~~

4. ~~d)~~ The general secretary may add positions to the cabinet in consultation with the CGM Oversight Board's personnel committee.

2. Unit Staff—~~a) The Women's Division shall nominate for election by the board such other staff persons of the Women's Division as are deemed necessary to carry out the work assigned.~~

~~b) The board shall elect additional staff as needed.~~

3. ~~The board shall elect, on nomination of the board personnel committee and in consultation with the general secretary, one or more associate treasurers of the General Board of Global Ministries, one of whom shall be the treasurer of the Women's Division and nominated by the Women's Division. The associate treasurer(s) will be responsible to the treasurer of the General Board of Global Ministries for board fiscal procedures and to the assigned deputy general secretary for administrative procedures (¶ 703.7e).~~

¶ 1109 ¶ 1309. Personnel Policies—1. Selection—The staff of the CGM Board shall be selected on the basis of competency and with representation of ethnic and racial groups, young adults, and women, in accordance with policies in ¶ 714.

2. Staff Participation of Women—~~a) Of the cabinet-level staff positions within the CGM Board, a minimum of 40 percent shall be occupied by women.~~

~~b) A minimum of 40 percent of all elected staff, as well as a minimum of 40 percent of the appointed staff, shall be women.~~

¶ 1110 ¶ 1310. Properties, Trusts, and Annuities—1. All properties, trust funds, annuity funds, permanent funds, and endowments now or formerly held and

administered by the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church (except for those areas related to its Division of Ordained Ministry), the Board of Missions, the Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief of The United Methodist Church; the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church; the Board of Missions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church or their successors; and their respective divisions and departments or their successors shall be carefully safeguarded. The CGM Oversight Board~~General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church~~ shall endeavor to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds that make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church and to administer such investments in the best interest of those persons and causes for which said funds were established. Such properties, trust funds, annuity funds, permanent funds, and endowments shall be transferred to the CGM Oversight Board~~General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church~~ from merged boards and societies only when such transfers can be made in accordance with the laws of the states where the several boards and societies are chartered and on the recommendation of the CGM Oversight Board and the approval of such boards and societies. Funds of the CGM board and its preceding corporations and societies that are subject to appropriation shall be appropriated only on recommendation of the CGM Oversight Board. (See ¶ 907.11~~¶ 806.11~~.)

2. Former Evangelical United Brethren mission agencies located within the United States not directly owned by the CGM~~General Board of Global Ministries of the Women's Division of the board~~ and which receive more than 50 percent of their charitable donations through United Methodist channels of giving shall be governed by a board of trustees or directors of whom two-thirds of its elected voting membership shall be members of The United Methodist Church.

3. The financial affairs of the CGM board shall be as follows:

a) ~~Its~~The income ~~of the board, exclusive of the Women's Division,~~ shall be derived from apportionments, assessments, or askings distributed ~~to jurisdictions, annual conferences, and pastoral charges by the budget making process of the General Conference~~ in such manner as the General Conference may prescribe, and from church schools, gifts, donations, freewill offerings, annuities, bequests, specials, and other sources

from which missionary and benevolence funds are usually derived, in ~~accordance~~harmony with The Book of Discipline and actions of the General Conference. ~~Funds for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the Women's Division shall be derived from annual voluntary pledges, offerings, gifts, devises, bequests, annuities, or money received through special emphases and from meetings held in the interest of the division.~~

b) All contributions to and income on all funds of the CGM board should be used for current expenses and annual appropriations unless otherwise designated by the donor.

4. Askings shall be received from the fields, and budgets shall be prepared by the CGM Oversight Board, consistent with its constitution and charter, and the budget shall be presented to the Coordinating Council~~Connectional Table~~ in accordance with ¶ 907~~¶ 806~~.

~~¶ 1111~~~~¶ 1311~~. Membership—The policies, plans of work, management, business, and all affairs of the CGM~~General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church~~ shall be governed and administered by the CGM Oversight Board, which shall have thirty-three members, constituted in accordance with ¶ 705.4~~¶ 705.3d~~, and shall be organized as specified in its bylaws and in accordance with ~~¶¶ 702-710 of the General Provisions.~~be composed according to the following conditions:

Delete ¶ 1311.. and 1311.2 and continue editing as follows:

1)~~4~~. Members of the CGM Oversight Board shall be distributed across ~~its~~the component units and standing committees ~~of the board~~ in accordance with its~~board~~ bylaws.

2)~~5~~. The term of office of all members whose election is provided for in this paragraph shall begin and the CGM Oversight Board shall organize at a meeting to be held within ninety days after the adjournment of the last meeting of the several jurisdictional conferences held after the adjournment of the General Conference.

~~6. On nomination of the Council of Bishops, the General Conference shall elect to the board one bishop from each jurisdiction and three central conference bishops.~~

3)~~7~~. The general secretary, the general treasurer~~of the board~~, and the deputy general secretaries of the CGM shall be members without vote.

4)~~8~~. Salaried members of staff of any agency receiving appropriation funds from the CGM board shall not be eligible to serve as voting members of ~~said~~the CGM Oversight Board, except in order to fulfill the provisions of ¶ 705.

~~¶ 1112¶ 1312. Advance Committee— The Advance for Christ and His Church is the designated giving channel of The United Methodist Church. There shall be an Advance Committee, which shall have general oversight of the Advance for Christ and His Church (¶ 921).~~

~~1. The Advance Committee shall be organized under the authority and direction of the CGM Oversight Board in accordance with the bylaws of CGM General Board of Global Ministries. It shall consist of twenty (20) members as follows: Ten (10) directors of the General Board of Global Ministries; five (5) conference secretaries of global ministries (representing the five jurisdictions and elected by their jurisdictional associations) and five (5) members at large appointed by the Director of the Advance for Christ and His Church in consultation with the General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

~~2. Director of the Advance~~

~~a) There shall be a Director of the Advance, nominated by the General Secretary and elected by the General Board of Global Ministries. The salary and benefits of the director and other administrative costs of the Advance shall be borne by the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

~~b) Responsibilities of the Director of the Advance shall be:~~

~~(1) To coordinate the total program of the Advance, including its promotion, cultivation and administration;~~

~~(2) To coordinate the staff work required of the participating units of the General Board of Global Ministries within the Advance;~~

~~(3) To report directly to the Advance Committee concerning the program and progress of the Advance; and~~

~~(4) To keep a record of all general Advance Special projects.~~

~~2.3. General Advance Special Projects—It shall be the responsibility of the Advance Committee to determine which projects are approved to receive general Advance Special Gifts (¶ 921.2). The Advance fosters partnership between those who give and those who receive, and it affirms the right of persons to determine the priority of their own needs.~~

~~a) Projects shall be proposed by authorized persons closely related to the project and shall be recommended to the Advance Committee by the administering programmatic unit.~~

~~b) The Advance Committee may consider and approve proposals for either specific projects or broadly designated causes, such as a type of work, a country, a region, or an administrative unit.~~

~~e) No project within the boundaries of an annual conference shall be approved by the Advance Committee for promotion, cultivation, and administration as an Advance Special without consultation with the resident bishop and the board or agency delegated to have responsibility for mission by the annual conference.~~

~~4. Administering Units—Units authorized to recommend projects and receive and administer funds for general Advance Special projects shall be the following designated programmatic units of the General Board of Global Ministries: Evangelization and Church Growth Program Area, Community and Institutional Ministries Program Area, Mission Contexts and Relationships Program Area, Mission Personnel Program Area, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief. The administering programmatic units shall report annually to the Advance Committee on the financial progress of projects and assist in providing programmatic information as requested.~~

~~MISSION PROGRAM AREAS~~

~~¶ 1113¶ 1313. Program Areas—The CGM shall engage in mission programming around six areas. The program responsibilities of CGM shall be assigned to units. Six program areas shall be assigned responsibilities within the General Board of Global Ministries as it seeks to enhance the involvement of all United Methodists in Christian mission and develop ways to facilitate their mission involvement. The membership of the program areas shall be constituted in accordance with the bylaws of the CGM General Board of Global Ministries.~~

~~Delete ¶ 1313.1-1313.6 and replace with the following:~~

~~1. Congregational and Community Development.~~

~~a) Evangelization among people who have not heard or heeded the gospel.~~

~~b) Strategic new mission initiatives and establishing new congregations where United Methodism and/or cooperative church relationships do not exist.~~

~~c) Leadership development, including identifying, preparing training and empowering persons for leadership in the church and community so that vital mission-oriented congregations may be developed.~~

~~d) Resourcing leadership training programs and administering scholarships, including the World Communion Scholarship Program.~~

~~e) Church growth, including revitalization of existing congregations and faith communities, and congregational development, particularly among racial and ethnic congregations and congregations in transitional communities/neighborhoods. Congregational development shall be carried out in cooperation with CCD through a Joint Committee on Congregational Development composed~~

of equal representation from CGM and CCD, which shall meet at least annually to expedite cooperation between these two centers in the field of congregational development of both new congregations as well as the revitalization of existing congregations, with a priority given to racial and ethnic congregations.

f) Administration of the United Methodist Development Fund in accord with policies set by CGM for the purpose of making first mortgage loans to United Methodist churches, districts, city societies, district unions, mission institutions, or conference church extension agencies for the purchase of sites and for the purchase, construction, expansion, or major improvement of churches, parsonages, or mission buildings.

g) Church and community development, including grants, loans and technical assistance for programs of self-development and self-determination pertaining to social needs arising from concerns for ethnic and cultural pluralism, economic and sexual exploitation, and political and racial oppression.

h) Community-based programs in areas such as agricultural mission, communications, student and youth ministries.

i) Development of strong local and regional organizations for community development with the capacity to network and become part of an internationally related program.

j) To foster and facilitate cooperative patterns of ministry, including cooperative parishes, metropolitan ministries, rural and town and country ministries.

k) Administering funding and other forms of resource sharing for projects and programs—especially those serving women, children, and youth of partner churches and ecumenical bodies.

2. Connectional and Ecumenical Relationship.

a) Working with denominational, ecumenical, and secular coalitions, as appropriate, to develop new patterns of joint mission.

b) Identification and analysis of the missional concerns that shape the conditions under which the church is called to engage in God's Mission.

c) Development of and sustaining cooperative relationships and mission partnerships that include sharing of opportunities and resources, networking and collaboration. This includes the maintaining and fulfilling of connectional relationships with annual conferences, missionary conferences, and central conferences; autonomous, affiliated autonomous, and united churches; and ecumenical church bodies.

d) Developing missional relationships in countries where The United Methodist Church has no commitments by pursuing a working agreement with the church

or churches, a united mission organization, or ecumenical bodies related to the area, if such exists. If these approaches are not available, CGM may participate in the formation of a new United Methodist denominational structure, in which case it may request the Council of Bishops to provide any necessary episcopal oversight.

e) Providing liaisons with each central conference and its conferences, both annual and provisional, and each affiliated autonomous Methodist church or united church, and where applicable, requesting that these bodies make provision for liaison functions with CGM.

f) Providing information and assisting in developing action and advocacy for global justice, peace, and freedom through working cooperatively with other agencies of the Church; other denominations; and ecumenical, interfaith, and secular coalitions.

g) Fostering interaction of churches and ecumenical groups for the purpose of mutuality in the definition and implementation of Christian mission and international concerns.

3. Higher Education and Campus Ministry a) relating to and advising all United Methodist-affiliated educational institutions, as well as ecumenical campus ministry groups.

b) Encouraging the Church to support its educational institutions and campus ministries.

c) Relating to professional organizations of higher education and campus ministry on behalf of The United Methodist Church.

d) Resourcing annual conference boards or structures that care for ministries of higher education and campus ministry.

e) Assisting educational societies and foundations related to annual conferences for the promotion of Christian higher education and campus ministry.

f) Supporting and promoting the work of colleges historically related to The United Methodist Church and historically providing education for African Americans and of the Africa University. This includes cooperating with the Center for Resourcing and Operations in interpreting and promoting the Black College Fund and the Africa University Fund.

g) Cooperating with the University Senate in protecting the interests of The United Methodist Church concerning affiliated educational institutions, in evaluating and resourcing these institutions, and in managing changes in the relationships these institutions have with the Church.

h) Supporting and advising campus ministry groups, especially Wesley Foundations,

i) Promoting and supporting the financial well-being of campus ministries and institutions of higher

education that relate to The United Methodist Church. In cooperation with the Center for Resourcing and Operations, CGM shall appropriate funds for and protect or recover resources of The United Methodist Church that have been invested in any education institution, Wesley Foundation, or other campus ministry unit that fails to fulfill the expectations of the CGM and the General Conference.

4. Loans and Scholarships a) Promoting and administering student loans and grants.

b) Working with the Center for Resourcing and Operations to promote Human Relations Day, United Methodist Student Day, World Communion Sunday, and Native American Sunday.

5. Mission Education and Interpretation. a) Providing opportunities for United Methodists to understand the global mission of The United Methodist Church and for personal and corporate witness through involvement in and support of this mission.

b) Initiating and developing programs and resources that will encourage persons of particular cultures to become receivers and bearers of the gospel across boundaries and to live faithfully within a multi-cultural world.

c) Engaging in programs of mission interpretation, including training mission interpreters.

d) Training of connectional mission leaders to fulfill their responsibilities.

e) Working with schools of theology and professors of mission to provide an emphasis on education for mission.

f) Cooperating with CCD to provide opportunities for mission involvement and understanding of all age levels.

g) Initiating and developing special programs and resources through which children and youth may understand the mission of the Church.

h) Working with ecumenical agencies in fulfilling mission education responsibilities.

i) Providing opportunities for United Methodists to gather and witness as a global church.

6. Mission Service. a) Planning for and developing a broad range of mission volunteer opportunities for short-term assignments, including promoting and interpreting the need for volunteers with a variety of skills and abilities; working in close relationship with conference and jurisdictional officers to assist in identifying, developing, and supporting opportunities for mission volunteer service.

b) Promoting opportunities for mission service related to the Center for Global Mission throughout the constituencies of the Church, through the recruitment,

selection, preparation, commissioning, and assignment of all categories of mission personnel, with necessary supervision and support of these persons in assignments in the widest variety of church and ecumenical partners in the United States and around the globe.

c) Relating to persons in mission of partner churches.

~~HEALTH AND RELIEF UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF~~

¶ 1114¶ 1327. 1. General Provisions—~~a) Purpose—The Health and Relief Unit United Methodist Committee on Relief (“UMCOR”)~~ exists to assist United Methodists and churches to become involved globally in health and welfare ministries and in direct ministry to persons in need through programs of relief, rehabilitation, and service, including issues of refugees, hunger and poverty, and disaster response; and to assist organizations, institutions, and programs related to annual conferences and other units of The United Methodist Church in their involvement in direct service to persons in need ~~through both residential and nonresidential ministries.~~

b) Authority—~~The Health and Relief Unit, a single administrative unit with two functional areas—United Methodist Committee on Relief, and Health and Welfare Ministries—UMCOR is a New York not-for-profit corporation whose directors are elected by the Center for Global Mission. UMCOR shall operate under in a manner consistent with the policies set by the CGM General Board of Global Ministries and in accordance with the bylaws of the CGM and UMCOR.~~

e) Membership—~~The membership of Health and Relief shall be constituted in accord with the bylaws of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

~~2. United Methodist Committee on Relief—ac) Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the United Methodist Committee on Relief shall be as follows:~~

(1) ~~To seek to address human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ;~~

(2) ~~To provide immediate relief of acute human need and to respond to the suffering of persons in the world caused by natural, ecological, political turmoil and civil disaster;~~

(3) ~~To work cooperatively with the appropriate conference units, ecumenical bodies, and interdenominational agencies in the identification of, advocacy for, and assistance with ministries with refugees, hunger and poverty, and disaster response;~~

(4) ~~To administer these ministries described in subparagraph three (3) above in the spirit of Jesus Christ, preserving the dignity of persons without regard to religion, race, nationality, or gender, and shall seek to enhance the quality of life in the human community;~~

(5) ~~To work cooperatively with The Division on Communication of the Center for Resourcing and Operations~~General Commission on Communication in promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.;

(6) ~~To~~ initiate printed, audiovisual, electronic, and other resources to interpret, support, and communicate with conferences and churches concerning appeals for help and information related to ministries with refugees, hunger and poverty, and disaster response.;

(7) ~~To~~ assist and train conference coordinators to address emerging and ongoing issues related to refugee ministries, root causes of hunger and poverty, disaster relief, and rehabilitation.;

~~b) Financial Support Sources of funds shall include: voluntary gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing offering, Advance Special Gifts, supplementary gifts of United Methodist Women, churchwide appeals made by authority of the Council of Bishops and the General Council on Finance and Administration, and designated benevolence funds. Sources of funds for administrative functions of the General Board of Global Ministries shall be other than designated funds to the United Methodist Committee on Relief.~~

~~e) Consultation The response of United Methodist Committee on Relief growing out of natural or civil disaster shall be made at the request of the appropriate body related to The United Methodist Church. Repair and reconstruction of local church property and other church-related property shall be included in the funding response of the United Methodist Committee on Relief only when such response has been included in the appeal made for funds or the Advance Special Gifts made for this purpose. When this condition has been met, the United Methodist Committee on Relief shall respond in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries as follows:~~

~~(1) UMCOR, in consultation with conference disaster response coordinators, bishops, and district superintendents, shall identify specific locations where local church property and church-related properties have suffered damage.~~

~~(2) This information shall be relayed to the General Board of Global Ministries, which shall contact the conference disaster response coordinator to arrange an on-site visit to evaluate damages and initiate an ongoing consultative process.~~

~~3. Health and Welfare Ministries~~
~~a) Responsibilities The responsibilities of Health and Welfare Ministries shall be:~~

~~(1) To (8) assist conference units in addressing emerging and ongoing global health issues, including comprehensive community-based primary health care,~~

HIV/AIDS, ministries with persons with physically and mentally challenging conditions, environmental health, and particularly the health needs of women, children, youth, the communities of color in the United States, and racial and ethnic communities globally.;

~~(2) To provide (9) upon the request of the appropriate conference unit, provide~~ consultation services to existing and emerging health and welfare institutions and programs, and to jurisdictional, conference, district, and local church units.;

~~(3) To (10) assist local churches, districts, and annual conferences to develop ministries of health, healing, and wholeness.;~~

~~(4) To (11) provide help to conferences and health and welfare institutions to clarify their relationship with one another, including matters of legal and financial responsibility, and help health and welfare institutions to become involved in outreach ministry globally.;~~

~~(5) To provide programs for (12) act as a facilitator with respect to annual conferences, districts, and local churches that to encourage awareness of the gifts and needs of persons with disabilities and to promote the leadership and employment throughout the connectional system of persons with disabilities; and~~

~~(6) To (13) initiate printed, audiovisual, electronic, and other resources to interpret, support, and communicate with conferences and churches concerning development of health and welfare ministries and promotion of Golden Cross and similar offerings.~~

~~b) Financial Support Sources of funds shall include financial support from World Service and other funds designated for the program of health and welfare ministries, including such proportion of undesignated gifts as may be determined by the board, and from gifts, wills, and trust funds given especially to Health and Welfare Ministries. Health and Welfare Ministries is authorized to receive financial grants and trusts from private foundations and funds from public agencies and is empowered to act as trustee for the administration of such bequests.~~

~~d) Response to Requests for Disaster Funding— UMCOR shall respond to a request for funding growing out of natural or civil disaster only if the request for such funds comes either from, (i) an appropriate body related to The United Methodist Church, preferably an annual conference, or (ii) an equivalent appropriate body of an entity that is not related to The United Methodist Church. After receiving a funding request, UMCOR shall in consultation with conference disaster response coordinators, bishops, and district superintendents in The United Methodist Church, or with persons in similar positions in equivalent appropriate bodies of entities~~

that are not related to The United Methodist Church, identify specific locations where local church property and church-related properties have suffered damage, and arrange an on-site visit to evaluate and initiate an ongoing consultative process when appropriate.

e) e) Relationship with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries—~~Health and Welfare Ministries~~ UMCOR shall work with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries in leadership development and may make services available to the association.

f) Limitation of Responsibility—~~Health and Welfare Ministries~~ UMCOR shall not be responsible, legally or morally, for the debts, contracts, or obligations or for any other financial commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by any institution or interest related to a unit of The United Methodist Church, whether or not such institution or interest shall be approved, accepted, or recognized by ~~Health and Welfare Ministries~~ UMCOR or shall be affiliated with ~~Health and Welfare Ministries~~ UMCOR, or whether or not the promotion or establishment of the same shall be approved by the constitution of ~~Health and Welfare Ministries~~ UMCOR. No such institution or interest related to a unit of The United Methodist Church and no officer or member of ~~Health and Welfare Ministries~~ UMCOR shall have any authority whatsoever to take any action directly or by implication at variance with, or deviating from, the limitation contained in the preceding sentence hereof, except as ~~Health and Welfare Ministries~~ UMCOR may directly own and manage an institution in its own name.

DIVISION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Delete ¶¶ 1401-1420, ¶¶ 1422-1423 and add the following new paragraphs:

¶ 1115. Duties and Responsibilities—1. Higher education is a significant part of our Wesleyan heritage, our present task, and our future responsibility. The Church continues its historic mission of uniting knowledge and vital piety by maintaining educational institutions and a campus ministry, and through them an intellectual, spiritual, and material ministry to all persons within the academic community without respect to race, gender expression, sexual orientation, creed, or national origin.

2. There shall be a Division on Higher Education representing The United Methodist Church in its relationships with educational institutions and the campus ministry. The division shall have an advisory relationship to all United Methodist-affiliated institutions, including universities, colleges, secondary and special schools, Wesley Foundations, and similar organizations

as well as ecumenical campus ministry groups. The division will, on request, serve in an advisory and consultative capacity to all agencies of the Church owning or administering educational institutions and campus ministry units.

3. Principal objectives of the division are:

a) To determine the nature of the United Methodist mission in and through its elementary, secondary, and higher educational institutions and campus ministries.

b) To develop policy that enables The United Methodist Church to engage effectively in higher education throughout the world.

c) To encourage the Church in programs designed to nurture and sustain educational institutions and campus ministry units as invaluable assets in the ongoing life of the Church.

d) To promote the United Methodist Student Movement, along with other Methodist and ecumenical student Christian movements around the world, and a concerned Christian ministry of the educational community; to witness in the campus community to the mission, message, and life of Jesus Christ; to deepen, enrich, and mature the Christian faith of college and university students, faculty, and staff through commitment to Jesus Christ and the Church and to assist them in their service and leadership to the world, in and through the Church.

e) To interpret both the Church and its educational institutions and campus ministry to each other; to help the agencies of the Church and higher education participate in the greater realization of a fully humane society committed to freedom and truth, love, justice, peace, and personal integrity.

f) To foster within educational institutions the highest educational standards, effective programs of Church relationships, the soundest business practices, the finest ethical and moral principles, and especially Christian ideals; to help people experience release from enslavement, fear, and violence; to help people live in love; and to raise the awareness of and sensitivity to persons with special needs.

g) To preserve and protect resources, property, and investments of The United Methodist Church or any conference, agency, or institution thereof, in any educational institution, Wesley Foundation, or other campus ministry unit founded, organized, developed, or assisted under the direction or with the cooperation of The United Methodist Church.

h) To relate to professional organizations of higher education and campus ministry on behalf of The United Methodist Church.

i) To enable the division's constituencies to develop an interest in and response to public policies bearing on higher education, both independent and public.

j) To provide resources and suggest guidelines for annual conference boards of higher education and campus ministry.

4. The CGM Oversight Board shall hire any needed personnel, to facilitate the support of programs related to campus ministry; United Methodist related schools, colleges, and universities; and for the Black College Fund. It shall establish such committees and commissions as may be necessary for effective fulfillment of its objectives. It may adopt such rules and regulations as may be required for the conduct of its business.

¶ 1116. Responsibilities to General and Annual Conferences—The Division on Higher Education will cooperate with and assist the General and annual conferences and their respective agencies, centers and commissions organized on behalf of educational institutions and the campus ministry. (For annual conference boards, see ¶ 634.2.)

1. The division shall:

a) Provide for the cooperative study of plans for maximum coordination of the work of United Methodist higher education with the Church's mission in Christian education.

b) Direct attention of Church members to the contribution of United Methodist educational institutions and campus ministry units to the life and character of students, faculty, and staff and to the place the institutions and campus ministry have in the preservation and propagation of the Christian faith for our time.

2. The division shall assess institutional and campus ministry relationships with responsibilities to the Church, and it shall aid in the determination of the degree of active accord between institutional and campus ministry policies and practices and the policies of the Church as expressed in the Discipline and in General Conference enactments.

3. The division shall assist educational societies and foundations related to the annual conferences for the promotion of Christian higher education and the campus ministry, and it shall recognize such societies and foundations as auxiliaries of the division when their objectives and purposes, articles of incorporation, and administrative policies shall have been approved by the annual conference within whose boundaries they have been incorporated.

4. The division should provide the connectional relationship whenever agencies of the General Church wish to enter into discussion with or make inquiry into United Methodist-related schools, colleges, and universities.

5. The division shall direct attention to the work and needs of those educational institutions that stand in special relationship to The United Methodist Church and shall request support for them. Due recognition shall be given to the needs of the Black colleges historically related to The United Methodist Church. (See ¶¶ 915, 1420.)

6. The division shall approve changes in institutional sponsorship and relationships to the general or annual conferences, including separation from United Methodist program boards, from the general or one or more annual conferences, or from the University Senate as the certifying agency of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1117. Responsibilities to Educational Institutions—The Division on Higher Education shall establish policy and practice providing for consultation with and support of United Methodist educational institutions, campus ministry units, and annual conference boards of higher education and campus ministry in matters of institutional study and evaluation, promotion, interpretation, management, program, and finance.

1. The division shall, in cooperation with the University Senate:

a) Study trends in higher education, the needs of the Church, and public and private educational opportunities and requirements and make recommendations to the educational institutions and state commissions or other bodies or publics concerned with higher education.

b) Recommend and approve plans for institutional cooperation, consolidation, or merger between or among United Methodist-related colleges and/or between them and institutions of other denominations that ensure that the interests of The United Methodist Church are adequately protected.

c) Investigate the objectives, academic programs, educational standards, personnel policies, plant and equipment, business and management practices, financial program, public relations, student personnel services, student development programs, religious life, and Church relations of any educational institution claiming or adjudged to be related to The United Methodist Church.

d) Evaluate and classify institutions in order to authenticate relatedness to the Church and determine eligibility for Church financial support.

2. The division shall, in regard to campus ministry, Wesley Foundations, and ecumenical campus ministry groups, provide a structure within the division in order to:

a) Assist in development of plans for the systematic evaluation of these units in cooperation with their regularly constituted boards of directors or trustees and with

conference boards of higher education and campus ministry, and with area or regional committees or commissions on Christian higher education and campus ministry or appropriate ecumenical agencies.

b) Study the trends in programming and funding in campus ministry, review reports from the United Methodist Campus Ministers Association (UMCMA), conference agencies and local units, and interpret these findings to the constituency as appropriate to The United Methodist Church.

c) Affirm its commitment to an ecumenical approach to campus ministry; encourage local, campus, state, regional, and global units of that ministry to work toward ecumenical programming and structures where appropriate to provide counsel and support to conference boards and agencies in reviewing, evaluating, and strengthening existing and proposed local and regional ecumenical covenants for campus ministry; and ensure that ecumenical covenants and procedures for these units are on file with the annual conference boards of higher education and campus ministry.

d) Develop standards and policies for the professional staff of Wesley Foundations, campus ministries and chaplaincies and provide educational and training opportunities for campus ministers and chaplains.

e) Establish policies and guidelines for the work and responsibilities of oversight of the annual conference board of higher education and ministry programs of campus ministry in Wesley Foundations, local churches, and ecumenical campus ministries, and the work and responsibilities of local Wesley Foundations and campus ministry boards of directors.

f) Establish procedures and guidelines for the establishment of a new Wesley Foundation or campus ministry unit and the planning and construction of Wesley Foundation or campus ministry buildings.

g) Recognize and cooperate with agencies with whom relationships may serve to further the objectives of the division.

h) Provide for representation and participation, as deemed necessary, with other national and international ecumenical campus ministry agencies and associations.

i) Provide services to meet specific denominational needs.

j) Relate college and university students of The United Methodist Church to the United Methodist Student Movement and such Methodist and ecumenical student organizations around the world as may be appropriate.

3. The division shall, as it seeks to interpret higher education:

a) Promote the Church's mission in higher educa-

tion, including the special missions and educational ministries to ethnic groups, people with disabilities, and other peoples disadvantaged by world conditions.

b) Promote Christian instruction and provide opportunity for Christian service.

c) Encourage educational institutions and campus ministry units to inculcate human and humane values consistent with the gospel and the public good.

d) Foster the development of Christian community within the life of educational institutions and campus ministry units.

e) Make use of the existing Church organization and publications for interpreting the mission of higher education.

f) Participate in the World Communion Scholarship program.

g) Design and organize the promotion of United Methodist Student Day to recognize United Methodist students in higher education.

¶ 1118. Financial Support of Higher Education—
1. In recognition of its heritage and the mandate to maintain its mission in higher education and in light of emergent fiscal concerns, The United Methodist Church affirms its commitment to higher education and to the means by which it can be continuously supported and renewed.

2. The Division on Higher Education shall be empowered to take such action as may be necessary to:

a) Promote the financial support of Christian higher education within the Church.

b) Create arrangements that shall provide for the flow of supporting funds from the whole Church to the institutions affiliated with the Church as affirmed by the University Senate (¶ 1416).

c) Develop corporations, or other fiscal or fiduciary agencies, for the purpose of financing, creating, recycling, managing, or otherwise caring for institutions and campus ministry units or their assets and liabilities.

3. The division, in regard to fiscal matters, shall:

a) Study the financial status of United Methodist educational institutions and campus ministry units, encourage the Church to give them continuous support, and provide consultative services in fiscal affairs and other aspects of institutional management. The division shall study all appropriate related data and may recommend to each conference or agency the support levels appropriate for each related institution or institutions.

b) Appropriate such funds as are available for the support of educational institutions, Wesley Foundations, or other campus ministry units related to The United Methodist Church under such rules as the board may adopt.

c) Take such action as is necessary to protect or recover resources, property, and investments of The United Methodist Church or any conference, agency, or institution thereof, in capital or endowment funds of any educational institution, Wesley Foundation, or other campus ministry unit founded, organized, developed, or assisted under the direction or with the cooperation of The United Methodist Church should any such institution discontinue operation or move to sever or modify its connection with the Church or violate the terms of any rules adopted by the board or the terms of any such grant of new capital or endowment funds made by The United Methodist Church or any conference, agency, or institution thereof. In order to carry out its duties under this paragraph, the division shall, at its discretion, investigate, audit, and review all necessary records and documents of any educational institution claiming or adjudged by the division to be related to The United Methodist Church. In the event any such educational institution, Wesley Foundation, or other campus ministry unit shall endeavor to discontinue operation or move to sever or modify its connection with the Church or violate the rules adopted by the division in accordance with ¶ 1413.3b, it shall be the duty of the trustees and the administrators of such institutions, along with the conference agency on higher education and the resident bishop of the conference in which such institution is located, to confer at the earliest possible opportunity with appropriate representatives of the division to determine what resources and aid the division may be able to provide and to permit the division to carry out its responsibilities under this paragraph.

d) (1) Foster and aid through a special apportionment the United Methodist institutions historically related to education for African Americans. It shall have authority to institute plans by which colleges sponsored by the division may cooperate with or may unite with colleges of other denominations or under independent control, provided that the interests of The United Methodist Church are adequately protected. (2) Encourage such Black colleges to secure adequate endowments for their support and maintenance. Whenever the division is assured that their support will be adequate and the property will be conserved and perpetuated for Christian education under the auspices and control of The United Methodist Church, it may transfer the colleges to boards of trustees under such conditions as the Center for Global Mission may prescribe, which shall include the right of reversion to the CGM Oversight Board under conditions prescribed by the CGM Oversight Board.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

¶ 1119. Organization and Membership—1. The University Senate is an elected body of professionals in higher education created by the General Conference to determine which schools, colleges, universities, and theological schools meet the criteria for listing as institutions affiliated with The United Methodist Church. {See Judicial Council Decision 589.}

2. The senate shall be composed of twenty-five voting members who, at the time of election, are actively engaged in the work of education through employment in an educational institution and are fitted by training and experience for the technical work of evaluating educational institutions. Election is for the quadrennium, except in cases where conflict of interest arises as a result of change in employment. Nine of these members shall be elected quadrennially by the National Association of Schools and Colleges of The United Methodist Church—seven of whom shall be chief executive officers of United Methodist-related educational institutions, the other two holding other positions relevant to academic or financial affairs or Church relationships; four by the Center for Global Mission—two of whom shall be chief executive officers of United Methodist-related higher educational institutions, the other two holding other positions relevant to academic or financial affairs or Church relationships; four by the General Conference—two of whom shall be chief executive officers of United Methodist-related educational institutions at the time of their election, the other two holding other positions relevant to academic or financial affairs or Church relationships; four by the senate itself, without limitation other than the general provisions of this paragraph; and four shall be appointed by the Council of Bishops—two of whom shall be chief executive officers of United Methodist-related educational institutions, the other two holding other positions relevant to academic or financial affairs or Church relationships. Each of the five electing bodies shall elect at least one woman.

Members elected by the General Conference shall be nominated and elected by the following procedure: Twelve persons shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops, six of whom shall be chief executive officers of United Methodist-related educational institutions, the other six holding other positions relevant to academic or financial affairs or Church relationships. At the same daily session at which the above nominations are announced, additional nominations may be made from the floor but at no other time. From these nominations, the General Conference shall elect without discussion, by ballot and by plurality vote, the four persons to serve

on the senate, two from each of the two categories of nominees. Should a vacancy occur in the members elected by General Conference in the interim prior to the next General Conference, the Council of Bishops shall appoint a replacement taken from the remaining nominees. The election process shall be repeated at each succeeding General Conference. Care should be taken that women, racial and ethnic persons, and representatives from the United Methodist-related Black colleges and graduate theological seminaries shall be members of the senate. If a member (other than the four elected by the General Conference) retires from educational work, or for any other cause a vacancy occurs during the quadrennium, it shall be filled by the agency by which the retiring member was elected at its next meeting. The general secretary of the Center for Global Mission and anyone else deemed necessary by the CGM Oversight Board shall serve as ex officio members of the senate, with voice but without vote.

3. The CGM Oversight Board shall determine who will be the executive secretary of the senate. The general secretary of the CGM shall convene it for organization at the beginning of each quadrennium. The senate shall elect its own officers, including a president, a vice president, and a recording secretary, and it may appoint such committees and commissions and delegate to them such powers as are incident to its work. Thereafter, it shall meet semiannually at such time and place as it may determine. Special meetings may be called on the written request of five members or at the discretion of the president and the executive secretary.

4. After consultation with the officers of the senate, the Division on Higher Education shall provide in its annual budget for the expense of the senate as it may deem sufficient, except that expenses incurred by the senate on behalf of any other board of the Church shall be borne by that board.

¶ 1120. Purposes and Objectives—1. To establish the criteria that must be met by schools, colleges, universities, and theological schools to achieve and retain listing as institutions affiliated with The United Methodist Church.

2. To support the development of institutions whose aims are to address and whose programs reflect significant educational, cultural, social, and human issues in a manner reflecting the values held in common by the institutions and the Church.

3. To provide an effective review process to ensure that schools, colleges, universities, and theological schools listed by the University Senate and qualifying for Church support have institutional integrity, well-structured programs, sound management, and clearly

defined Church relationships. {See Judicial Council Decision 589.}

4. To establish effective annual reporting procedures that will provide the senate with the data necessary to complete its review of the institutional viability and program integrity of member institutions.

5. At the conclusion of each General Conference a complete set of the Daily Christian Advocate for that General Conference shall be sent to each theological school approved by the University Senate.

¶ 1121. Institutional Affiliation {See Judicial Council Decision 589.}—1. Approval by the senate is prerequisite to institutional claim of affiliation with The United Methodist Church.

2. Every effort shall be made by both the annual conferences and institutions to sustain and support each other, but identification of an institution with The United Methodist Church shall depend upon its approval by the senate. The senate shall provide adequate guidelines and counsel to assist institutions seeking initial or renewed affiliation.

3. Only institutions affiliated with The United Methodist Church through approval by the senate shall be eligible for funding by annual conferences, General Conference, general boards, or other agencies of The United Methodist Church.

4. To qualify for affiliation with The United Methodist Church, institutions must maintain appropriate academic accreditation.

5. Assessment of Church relationships shall be a part of the process for those institutions seeking approval of the senate for affiliation with The United Methodist Church. Inasmuch as declarations of Church relationships are expected to differ one from the other, and because of the diversity in heritage and other aspects of institutional life, declarations of Church relationship will necessarily be of institutional design.

¶ 1122. Annual Reports of Approved Institutions—

1. Each year the senate shall publish a list classifying United Methodist-affiliated institutions. These institutions shall include secondary schools, colleges, universities, graduate theological seminaries, and special schools.

2. The senate shall also prepare annually a list of approved schools, colleges, universities, and graduate theological seminaries for use by annual conference boards of ordained ministry in determining candidate educational eligibility for admission into full connection.

3. An institution that chooses to disaffiliate with The United Methodist Church for any reason shall: a) inform the University Senate as soon as possible after

discussions begin concerning disaffiliation; b) inform all appropriate United Methodist judicatories; and c) seek technical and legal assistance from the Division on Higher Education regarding fiduciary issues.

4. The senate shall publish annually, with its list of United Methodist-affiliated institutions, the names of institutions of other historic Methodist Churches that wish to participate in research projects, the insurance program, and technical services of the CGM. Such institutions shall be designated as “associate” institutions.

¶ 1123. Consultative Services—1. Support for approved institutions shall include, through the appropriate units of the Center for Global Mission, consulting teams with skills in comprehensive institutional design, management, governance, and program.

2. Support for approved institutions shall include an interpretation of and consultation on data in the annual institutional reports.

3. The Division on Higher Education shall report annually to the senate on the level and types of institutional support rendered by related conferences and agencies and shall evaluate such support, including specific responses of conferences and agencies to recommended levels.

UNITED METHODIST HIGHER EDUCATION FOUNDATION

¶ 1124. The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation is incorporated in the State of Tennessee as a nonprofit, charitable organization with permanent ties to the Center for Global Mission, which elects its board of trustees. The general purpose of the foundation is to foster the growth and development of institutions of higher education by encouraging persons and corporations to provide financial support and by acting as a foundation for such support. The foundation is also authorized to serve as a trustee and administrator of gifts and bequests designated by donors to specific institutions.

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS OF THE BLACK COLLEGES

¶ 1125. Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges—1. There shall be an organization known as the Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges. It shall be composed of all the presidents of the United Methodist institutions historically related to the education of African Americans and with a current relationship to The United Methodist Church.

2. Purposes and Objectives—The purpose of the council shall be to:

a) Help identify and clarify the roles of these colleges in higher education and in The United Methodist Church.

b) Promote fundraising efforts through the Church.
c) Study, review, and discuss programs of member institutions.

The council shall have a minimum of two regular meetings in each calendar year and shall be amenable to the Division on Higher Education in the implementation of its responsibilities.

SCHOOLS OF THEOLOGY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

¶ 1126. Goals—1. United Methodist schools of theology share a common mission of preparing persons for leadership in the ministry of The United Methodist Church; of leading in the ongoing reflection on Wesleyan theology; and of assisting the church in fulfilling its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. They contribute to the life of the global United Methodist connection through theological education for the sake of the worldwide mission of the church. These schools of theology are maintained for the education of ordained and lay leadership, for the interpretation of the Christian faith and United Methodist tradition through biblical and theological research, and for prophetic leadership. The Center for Global Mission provides leadership and support in this common mission and in the development of relationships among the schools of theology in the U.S.A. and the central conferences and the various agencies of the General Church.

2. All candidates for ordination as deacon or elder in The United Methodist Church are strongly encouraged to attend United Methodist schools of theology since these schools share with the Center for Congregational Development in the work of preparing persons for ordination and leadership in The United Methodist Church.

3. Schools of Theology of The United Methodist Church Located in the U.S.A.—a) Schools of theology of The United Methodist Church located in the U.S.A. exist to serve The United Methodist Church across its worldwide connection. In addition to their commitment to United Methodism, they also serve students of other denominations in witness to United Methodism’s ecumenical relationships. As denominational schools, they have a historic relationship to the denomination and are officially related to The United Methodist Church through the Center for Global Mission and the approval of its University Senate. The following schools comprise this network of United Methodist schools of theology in the U.S.A.: Boston University School of Theology, Claremont School of Theology, Duke Divinity School, Candler School of Theology, the Theological School—Drew University, Gammon Theological Seminary (ITC),

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Iliff School of Theology, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Perkins School of Theology, Saint Paul School of Theology, United Theological Seminary (Dayton, Ohio), and Wesley Theological Seminary. They are accountable to the church through the Center for Global Mission and its University Senate. Therefore, agencies of the church seeking to monitor the use of the schools will do so in cooperation with the CGM.

b) These schools of theology shall receive financial support for the current operating expenses from the annual conferences in the USA through the Ministerial Education Fund, administered by the, CGM. (See ¶ 916.2.) The Ministerial Education Fund shall be regarded by the annual conferences in the USA as a priority to be met before any additional benevolence, grants, or funds are allocated to other theological schools or schools of religion. {See Judicial Council Decision 545.}

c) In fulfilling their task of preparing persons for effective service for Christ and the church, The United Methodist schools of theology located in the USA shall acquaint students with the current polity, theology and programs of The United Methodist Church and shall offer practical experience in administration, evangelism, stewardship, and other areas which will prepare them for effective Christian ministry in a multicultural society. Each school of theology, in consultation with the CGM and the Division on Ordained Ministry of the Center for Congregational Development, shall provide the courses in United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity specified in ¶ 335.(3) and seek to form persons for ministry in the Wesleyan tradition.

d) Any institution seeking affiliation with The United Methodist Church for the preparation of candidates for ordination must first present its plan to the CGM for approval and recommendation to the University Senate, which alone can grant affiliation and listing as a United Methodist school of theology. A select number of non-United Methodist schools of theology may be granted approval for the preparation of candidates for ordination under the criteria of the University Senate.

4. Schools of Theology of The United Methodist Church Located in the Central Conferences—a) In order to meet the needs for theological education and clergy training in their regions, the central conferences establish schools of theology to serve the United Methodists in their distinct cultural, social, and linguistic context. Schools of theology and programs of clergy training are also established to serve the needs of the central conferences. These schools may be supported through the cen-

tral conference and/or the CGM and are accountable to the appropriate bodies for their program and their relationship to the denomination.

b) Additional schools of theology and pastoral training may be established by the central conference, General Conference and CGM and accountability depends on the founding documents of the institutions.

5. The United Methodist Church also shares in global theological education through ecumenical schools of theology where The United Methodist Church is a partner. Though not United Methodist-related, these institutions serve on behalf of United Methodists in those regions and may relate to the CGM in accordance with their charter and mission.

Delete ¶ 1101, ¶ 1102, ¶ 1104 and replace with ¶ 1201, ¶ 1202, ¶ 1204. Renumber ¶ 1103, ¶¶ 1105-1127 to ¶ 1203, ¶¶ 1205-1227 and edit as follows:

Section VI. Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness

¶ 1201. Name—There shall be a Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness in The United Methodist Church, hereinafter referred to as the CJRW, whose fundamental charge is to support the mission and ministry of the Church (see ¶¶ 120-139).

¶ 1202. Purpose—The Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness's primary purpose shall be threefold: to assist United Methodist groups and individuals to give witness to Jesus Christ in personal, social, and civic contexts; to promote justice in the Church and the world; and to equip the people of the Church to be ambassadors of reconciliation.

¶ 1203~~¶ 1003~~. Objectives—To achieve its purpose, the CJRW~~board~~ shall:

1. Project plans and programs that challenge the members of The United Methodist Church to work through their own local churches, ecumenical channels, and society toward personal, social, and civic holiness-~~righteousness~~;

2. Assist congregations, districts, annual conferences, jurisdictional conferences, central conferences and general conference with needed resources in areas of such concerns;

3. Analyze the issues that confront persons, communities, nations, and the world; and

4. Encourage Christian forms of witness that will assist humankind to move toward a world where peace and justice are achieved.

¶ 1204. Responsibilities—The primary responsibility of the Center for Justice, Reconciliation and Witness is to extend God's grace and hospitality to all through individual and communal witness and action on concerns of human well-being, justice, peace, reconciliation

and the integrity of creation. In particular, the CJRW shall conduct research, education, and create opportunities for action on the wide range of issues that confront the Church, using the Social Principles as guidelines for engaging groups and individuals for acts of witness, justice and reconciliation in order to further God's grace here on earth. Beginning with a biblical and theological basis and an understanding of witness that expands the wideness of God's welcome, the CJRW serves to develop, interpret and resource ministries of justice and reconciliation at conference, district, and local church levels, so that all persons will be invited and cared for by our United Methodist Church and may become disciples who work for the transformation of the world. To this end, all of the following shall be done in manners consistent with the Social Principles and policies adopted by the General Conference:

1) The CJRW will relate and provide liaison services to denominational and ecumenical associations and fellowships. In cooperation with ecumenical agencies and other appropriate boards and agencies, the CJRW shall encourage and promote ministries and models of mediation and conflict resolution, both ecumenically and within the agencies and institutions of The United Methodist Church.

2) The CJRW will work collaboratively with the centers and commissions of the United Methodist Church to seek mutual cooperation among and with its seminaries for the purpose of training and nurturing persons for ministry and in continuing education where the responsibilities intersect.

3) The CJRW will communicate with other Centers in whose programs the subject matter of witness, justice and reconciliation in order to provide counsel, guidance, and resources for the implementation of such programs.

4) The CJRW will participate in and cooperate with the work of the Publishing House for the inclusion of justice, reconciliation and witness concepts and resources in local church study curriculum, specifically young adults in living out their faith in the public domain.

5) The CJRW will provide consultation with conferences, districts, local congregations, and other agencies to develop strategies in personal and social witness.

6) The CJRW will develop, promote, and distribute resources and conduct programs to inform, motivate, train, organize, and build networks for action toward justice, reconciliation and witness throughout society that identify and respond to critical social issues at community, regional, national, and international levels.

7) The CJRW will collaborate with the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and the

Appalachian Development Committee as they seek to coordinate denominational support with various movements for racial, sexual, and social justice.

8) The CJRW shall facilitate and coordinate the legislative advocacy activities of the United Methodist Church in ecumenical, interfaith and civic arenas.

~~¶ 1205¶ 1005. Incorporation—The CJRW General Board of Church and Society~~ shall be a corporation existing under the laws of the District of Columbia and shall be the legal successor and successor in trust of the corporations, boards, departments, or entities known as ~~General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church,~~ the General Board of Christian Social Concerns of The United Methodist Church...

~~¶ 1206¶ 1006. Organization—1. The CJRW General Board of Church and Society~~ shall have ~~thirty-three~~ ~~sixty-three~~ members, constituted in accordance with ~~¶ 705.4 ¶ 705.3d,~~ and shall be organized as specified in its bylaws and in accordance with ~~¶¶ 702-710~~ of the General Provisions.

Rename ¶ 1007 as ¶ 1207 and insert.

~~¶ 1208¶ 1008. Financial Support—1. The General Conference shall determine and provide the funding for the board in accord with policies and procedures of ¶ 907¶ 806...~~

~~¶ 1209¶ 1009. Staff—1. The general secretary shall be the chief administrative officer of the CJRW board,~~ responsible for the coordination of the total program of the ~~CJRW board,~~ the supervision of staff, and the administration of the headquarters office. The general secretary shall be an ex officio member of the ~~CJRW Oversight Board's~~ executive committee without vote and shall sit with the ~~CJRW Oversight Board~~ when it is in session, with voice but without vote.

2. All other staff are to be elected or appointed in a manner prescribed by the ~~CJRW Oversight Board~~ consistent with the ~~personnel/affirmative action~~ policies of the Church and its Book of Discipline~~the board.~~

~~¶ 1210¶ 1010. Facilities/Headquarters—The headquarters location shall be determined in accordance with ¶ 908.7¶ 807.7. In addition, a~~ United Nations Office shall be maintained in cooperation with ~~United Methodist Women Inc.the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

~~¶ 1211¶ 1011. Bylaws—The CJRW General Board of Church and Society~~ shall provide its own bylaws, which shall not violate any provisions of the Constitution or the Book of Discipline. The bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting thereon at a regular or special meeting, provided that notice of such amendment has previously been given to the members.

Renumber ¶¶ 1601-1642 to ¶¶ 1301-1342

Section VII. The United Methodist Publishing House

Renumber ¶¶ 1701-1712 to ¶¶ 1401-1412

Section VIII. General Commission on Archives and History

Renumber ¶¶ 2001-2008 to ¶¶ 1501-1508 and edit as follows:

Section IX. General Commission on Religion and Race

¶ 1502~~¶ 2002~~. *Purpose*—The primary purpose of the General Commission on Religion and Race shall be to challenge, lead and equip the people of The United Methodist Church to be and become the intentionally diverse body of Christ affirmed in Scripture and reflected in the global community. Responding to a growing awareness of the impact of privilege and power in the global community, the Commission shall mobilize individuals to live out the Wesleyan ideals of personal and social holiness. The General Commission on Religion and Race exists to lead the Church in personal and systemic transformation. Through equipping, holding accountable and partnering with all of the connective structures of The United Methodist Church, the Commission will further racial equity, justice and the making of prophetic disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

¶ 1508~~¶ 2008~~. *Responsibilities*—The general commission will assume general Church responsibility for such matters as:

1. Advocating for visible and prophetic leadership at every level of the Global Church and mobilizing all people for action in the Church and in the world around issues of racial justice and inclusion, so that access to power and resources along with the gifts and graces of historically marginalized people can be used to bring about God's reign.

2. Ensuring racial equity, justice and inclusion on matters such as but not limited to: resolving racially and culturally based disputes and provide accountability in creating and enacting policies, programs and processes so that every level of the Global Church is more effective in ministry to increasingly diverse communities.

3. Conducting research and analysis for the purpose of engaging lay and clergy leadership in the complex social cultural realities facing congregations and conferences globally thereby deepening the relationships necessary to fulfill the mission of the United Methodist Church in a diverse world.

4. Provide training, resources and consultation at all levels of the Global Church in order to:

- Increase culturally competent leadership.
- Expand vital and relevant local church ministry.
- Challenge white privilege and promote anti-racism efforts.
- Further racial/ethnic/tribal justice, equity and reconciliation.

So that members of the Church become self-aware, learn to value and accept cultural differences and to become agents of change in the Church and world.

5. Identifying and responding to salient denominational matters such as culturally competent leadership development, cross-racial/cross-cultural and multicultural ministry, renewal of ethnic ministry, global racism, ethnocentrism, and tribalism in order for the Church to more effectively move its mission forward in a diverse and global society.

Administering CORR (Commission on Religion and Race) Action Fund. The CORR (Commission on Religion and Race) Action Fund is established by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church for the empowerment of diversity, inclusion and racial justice work within and outside the Church. The fund is available through grants to congregations comprised of racial and ethnic persons, community agencies, and other groups for the purposes established by the General Conference. The Fund shall be administered by the General Commission on Religion and Race on behalf of The United Methodist Church. The General Commission shall be responsible for developing guidelines and policies regarding grants, and for evaluation of projects receiving support.

Renumber ¶¶ 2101-2109 to ¶¶ 1601-1609

Section X. General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

United Methodist Women – enabling Amendments:**Amend ¶ 256.5 as follows:**

¶ 256.5 United Methodist Women—United Methodist Women

5. United Methodist Women—~~In every local church there shall be an organized unit of United Methodist Women.~~ United Methodist Women shall be organized in every local church. The following is the authorized constitution:

Article 1. Name—The name of this organization shall be United Methodist Women.

Article 2. Relationships—The ~~unit~~ local organization of United Methodist Women ~~in the local church~~ is directly related to the district, ~~and~~ conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women, ~~and to the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist church.~~

Article 3. Purpose—~~The organized unit of~~ United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Article 4. Membership—Membership shall be open to any woman who indicates her desire to belong and to participate in the global mission of the church through United Methodist Women. The pastor(s) shall be an ex officio member of the local unit organization ~~and of its executive committee~~, of United Methodist Women and of its Leadership Team or equivalent structure.

Article 5. ~~Officers and Committees~~ Leadership Team—~~The local unit shall elect a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a committee on nominations. Additional officers and committees shall be elected or appointed as needed, in accordance with the plans of the Women's Division as set forth in the bylaws for the local unit of United Methodist women.~~

Members of the local organization of United Methodist Women shall elect as its leaders those persons who are needed to help the organization to fulfill the PURPOSE, including at least a president, a treasurer, a secretary and one member at large. These persons may form such other teams or committees as may be needed to fulfill the PURPOSE and in accordance with this constitution and guidance from the national organization of United Methodist Women.

Article 6. Funds:

a. ~~The organized unit of~~ United Methodist Women ~~shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. United Methodist Women~~ in the local church shall secure funds for the fulfillment of the PURPOSE.

b. All funds, from whatever source secured by the ~~unit~~ local organization of United Methodist Women, belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and by its order. Its accounts shall be audited or reviewed in accordance with guidance from the national organization.

c. The total budget secured and administered by the ~~organized unit~~ organization of United Methodist Women ~~in the local church~~ shall include: (1) pledges and other money for the programs and responsibilities of the ~~Women's Division to~~ national organization of United Methodist Women, which shall be directed through regular channels of ~~finance~~ giving of United Methodist Women; and (2) funds to be used in mission locally, which shall include amounts for ~~administration and membership development~~, the functions of the local organization of United Methodist Women.

d. ~~The organized unit in the local church shall make an annual pledge to the total budget of the district or conference organization of United Methodist Women. The local organization of~~ United Methodist Women shall make an annual pledge to the total budget of the district or conference organization of United Methodist Women, as applicable.

e. All undesignated funds channeled to the ~~Women's Division~~ national organization of United Methodist Women shall be appropriated by ~~the division~~ its board of directors.

Article 7. Meetings—Each local organization of United Methodist Women ~~The organized unit in the local church~~ shall ~~hold such meetings for~~ develop and implementing plans for fulfilling the purpose Purpose and transacting its business as ~~the unit itself shall decide.~~

Article 8. Relationship in the Local Church—~~The organized unit~~ local organization of United Methodist Women shall encourage all women to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.

Article 9. Amendments—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the ~~Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries before the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium~~ national organization of United Methodist Women for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which proposed legislation must be submitted for action of the General Conference.

Amend ¶ 536 as follows:

¶ 536. Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Jurisdiction

Article 1. Name—In each jurisdiction there shall be a jurisdiction organization named United Methodist Women, auxiliary directly related to the ~~Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~ national organization of United Methodist Women.

Article 2. Authority—Each jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the program and policies of the ~~Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries~~ national organization of United Methodist Women.

Article 3. Membership—The voting membership of the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of the members of the ~~core~~ planning group; Jurisdiction Leadership Team, six ~~three~~ delegates ~~members from~~ members from elected by each conference organization, ~~all of whom shall be conference officers; members of the Women's Division board of directors of~~

United Methodist Women and the members of the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group living in organizations within the jurisdiction; a representative of the jurisdictional Association of Deaconesses and Home Missioners/Home Missionaries; and all the active bishops of the jurisdiction.

Article 4. Meetings and Elections—a) There shall be a meeting of the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women during the last year of the quadrennium. At that time, ~~the jurisdiction president, and other Core Planning Group officers shall be elected,~~ members of the Jurisdiction Leadership Team and members of the board of directors of the Women's Division national organization of United Methodist Women shall be elected according to the Discipline (¶¶ 647.6d, 1325).

b) There may be other ~~meetings~~ gatherings as needed to fulfill the Purpose.

Article 5. Amendments—Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be sent to the recording secretary of ~~the Women's Division prior to the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium.~~ United Methodist Women for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.

Amend ¶ 647 as follows:

¶ 647. United Methodist Women—Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Conference

Article 1. Name—In each annual conference there shall be a conference organization named United Methodist Women, ~~auxiliary directly related to the jurisdictional and national organizations of United Methodist Women, and to the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

Article 2. Function—The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with the district and local organizations ~~and the local units of United Methodist Women, in to developing~~ programs to meet the needs and interests of women and the concerns and responsibilities of the global Church; to encourage and support spiritual growth, missionary outreach, and Christian social action; and to promote the plans and responsibilities of the Women's Division national organization of United Methodist Women.

Article 3. Authority—Each conference organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities and policies of the ~~Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~ national organization of United Methodist Women.

Article 4. Membership—The conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of ~~all members of local units~~ United Methodist Women existing within the bounds of the conference. The resident bishop shall be an ex officio member of the conference organization of United Methodist Women and of its ~~executive committee.~~ Leadership Team or equivalent structure.

Article 5. ~~Officers and Committees~~ Leadership Team—The conference organization shall elect such leaders as may be needed to fulfill the Purpose, including at least a president, ~~a vice president, a secretary,~~ a treasurer, a secretary, and a ~~e~~Committee on ~~Nominations.~~ Additional officers and committees and teams shall may be elected or appointed formed in to fulfill the Purpose in accordance with the plans of this constitution and guidance from the Women's Division national organization of United Methodist Women as set forth in the bylaws of the conference organization of United Methodist Women.

Article 6. Meeting and Elections.

a) There shall be an annual meeting of the conference organization of United Methodist Women, ~~at which time there shall be presented a program designed to meet the needs of the women of the conference in harmony with the purpose, plans, and responsibilities of the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries. Officers and the committee on nominations shall be elected, the necessary business transacted, and pledges made for the ensuing year.~~ At the annual meeting, the Leadership Team shall review the conference events and priorities of the prior year, propose a plan of activities and priority for the following year including a supporting budget, elect members of the Leadership Team as needed to implement the plan and set the pledge amount for the following year.

b) The voting body of the annual meeting of the conference organization shall be composed of ~~representatives from units in local churches~~ members of United Methodist Women organizations existing within the bounds of the conference as determined by the conference organization; such district officers as the conference organization may determine; the conference officers and chairpersons of committees; members of the conference and district leadership teams; Women's Division and officers of and members of the board of directors of United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group and the jurisdictional organization leadership team residing within the bounds of the conference.

c) At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdic-

tional organization, ~~six conference officers~~ three members of the Leadership Team or their designees shall be elected according to provisions in ¶ 536.3 for membership in the jurisdictional organization.

d) At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdictional organization, the conference organization shall nominate ~~three~~ two women for membership on the ~~Women's Division~~ board of directors of the national organization of United Methodist Women, the names to be sent to the jurisdiction organization according to ¶ 536.4.

Article 7. Relationships.

a) The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Women is a member of the annual conference, as set forth in ¶ 32.

b) ~~Designated officers shall represent~~ ¶The conference organization shall name representatives from among its membership to serve on the various agencies boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the annual conference as the constitutions and bylaws of such agencies provide.

c) The conference organization shall encourage women to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.

Article 8. Amendments. Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the ~~Women's Division prior to the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium~~ national organization of United Methodist Women for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.

Amend ¶ 669 as follows:

¶ 669. United Methodist Women—Constitution of United Methodist Women in the District

Article 1. Name—In each district there shall be a district organization named United Methodist Women, directly related to the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women, ~~and the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

Article 2. Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the district organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with United Methodist Women members and local units organizations of United Methodist Women existing within the district in developing to develop programs to meet the needs and interests of women and the concerns and responsibilities of the global Church; to encourage and support spiritual growth, missionary outreach, and Christian social

action; and to promote the plans and responsibilities of the ~~Women's Division and the~~ conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 3. Authority—Each district organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference and national organizations ~~and the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~ of United Methodist Women.

Article 4. Membership—~~All members of organized units of United Methodist Women in the local churches of the district shall be considered members of the district organization.~~ The district organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of members of United Methodist Women existing within the district. The district superintendent shall be ~~a~~ an ex officio member of the district organization of United Methodist Women and of its ~~Executive Committee.~~ Leadership Team or equivalent structure.

Article 5. ~~Officers and Committees.~~ Leadership Team—The district organization shall elect ~~a~~ as its leaders those persons who are needed to help the organization to fulfill the Purpose, including at least a president, ~~vice president, a secretary,~~ a treasurer, a secretary and a ~~e~~Committee on ~~Nominations.~~ Additional ~~officers and committees shall be elected or appointed~~ or teams may be formed to fulfill the Purpose in accordance with ~~the plans of the Women's Division as set forth in the bylaws for the district~~ this constitution and guidance from the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 6. Meetings and Elections—There shall be an annual meeting of the district organization of United Methodist Women, ~~at which time there shall be presented a~~ to adopt a program designed to meet the needs of the women of the district in harmony with the ~~purpose~~ Purpose, the plans; and responsibilities of the conference and national organizations ~~and the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.~~ of United Methodist Women, to elect members of the Leadership Team ~~Officers~~ and the ~~e~~Committee on ~~Nominations, to transact~~ shall be elected, the necessary business ~~transacted,~~ and to receive pledges made for the ensuing year.

Article 7. Relationships—~~a) Designated officers shall represent~~ ¶The district organization of United Methodist Women shall designate members to serve on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the district and/or the Annual Conference as the constitution and bylaws of such agencies provide.

b) The district president shall be ~~the only district representative~~ a member with vote, on of the conference executive committee Leadership Team.

c) The district organization shall encourage women to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.

Article 8. Amendments—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the ~~Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries prior to the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium.~~ national organization of United Methodist Women for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.

Renumber and reorder ¶¶ 1318-1326 to ¶¶ 1701-1716 and amend as follows:

Section XI. United Methodist Women

¶ 1701. There shall be an organization called United Methodist Women in The United Methodist Church in the United States, organized at the local church, district, conference, jurisdiction and national levels.

Renumber ¶ 1318 "Women's Division" as ¶ 1702 and amend as follows:

1702. Purpose—~~The Women's Division~~ United Methodist Women shall be actively engaged in fulfilling the mission of Christ and the Church and United Methodist Women's national organization shall interpret the Purpose of United Methodist Women for the whole organization. With continuing awareness of the concerns and responsibilities of the Church in today's world, ~~the Women's Division~~ United Methodist Women shall be an support ministry with and advocate for the oppressed and dispossessed with special attention to the needs of women, ~~and~~ children and youth; shall work to build a supportive community among women; and shall engage in activities that foster growth in the Christian faith, mission education, and Christian social involvement throughout the organization.

Renumber ¶ 1319 as ¶ 1703 and amend as follows:

¶ 1703. Responsibilities—~~The responsibilities of the Women's Division~~ United Methodist Women's national organization shall be:

1. ~~To~~ Recommend program and policies to local, district, conference and jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women.

2. ~~To~~ Interpret the role and responsibility of ~~the division~~ United Methodist Women in fulfilling the mission of Christ and the Church.

3. Express the concerns of women organized for mission.

~~3.~~ 4. ~~To~~ Provide resources and opportunities for women that enrich their spiritual life and increase their knowledge and understanding of the needs of the world and their responsibility in meeting those needs.

~~4.~~ 5. ~~To~~ Secure funds through the channels of United Methodist Women for God's mission in the world ~~the support of the program of the Church through the General Board of Global Ministries,~~ with special concern for the needs ~~and responsibilities~~ of women, children and youth.

~~5.~~ 6. ~~To~~ Project plans specifically directed toward leadership development of women through appropriate planning with the other ~~units of the board,~~ organizations of the church and ecumenical community.

~~6.~~ 7. ~~To~~ Strengthen the Church's challenge to men and women to enlist in the diaconate respond to God's call by serving as missionaries, and deaconesses or home missionaries and in all other avenues of service and leadership in the church.

~~7.~~ 8. ~~To~~ Enlist women in activities that have a moral and religious significance for the public welfare and that contribute to the establishment of a just global society.

9. Administer the office of the Deaconess and Home Missioner Order.

10. Strengthen and support direct ministries to human need, both emerging and continuing, through national mission institutions working on behalf of women, children and youth and compassionate response around the world.

11. Provide leadership and support for persons serving as regional missionaries."

~~8.~~ 12. ~~To~~ work with other agencies of the Church and community in areas of common concern and responsibility. A United Nations Office shall be conducted in cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society.

~~9.~~ 13. ~~To~~ Give visible evidence of oneness in Christ by uniting in fellowship and service with other Christians, including the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, Church Women United, and other similar groups, thereby strengthening the ecumenical witness and program of the Church.

14. ~~To formulate concepts of contemporary mission.~~ Participate in developing mission theology.

Renumber ¶ 1320 as ¶ 1704 and amend as follows:

¶ 1704. Authority—~~1.~~ The ~~Women's Division~~ Board of Directors of United Methodist Women shall have the authority to make its bylaws and to regulate its proceedings in harmony with the charter of the board,

~~and with its approval, to develop and carry out the functions of the board as described in ¶ 1302; to buy and sell property; to solicit and accept contributions, subject to annuity under the board's regulations; and to appropriate its funds meet at least annually and at such other times as it may deem necessary and shall have the authority to:~~

1. ~~Make its bylaws and regulate its proceedings in harmony with its charter; buy and sell property; solicit and accept contributions, and appropriate its funds; decide on policy matters pertaining to the homes for retired workers which are owned by United Methodist Women.~~

2. ~~The division shall meet annually at the time of the meeting of the board and at such other times as it shall deem necessary. Organize jurisdiction, conference, district, and local church organizations of United Methodist Women, which shall be directly related to the national organization.~~

3. ~~Make constitutions and recommend bylaws for United Methodist Women at local, district, conference, jurisdiction levels.~~

~~The Women's Division shall include in its responsibilities:~~

a) ~~Those formerly carried by the Women's Society of Christian Service of The Methodist Church, and the Women's Society of World Service of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Women's Society of Christian Service of The United Methodist Church, and those other organizations of women of similar purposes that have operated in the churches forming the United Methodist tradition, including the Women's Missionary Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; the Woman's Missionary Society of The Evangelical Church; the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Service Guild, and the Ladies' Aid Societies of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Woman's Missionary Society, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Woman's Board of Home Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Council of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and the Woman's Convention of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Protestant Church. This list shall not be construed as exclusive.~~

b) ~~All policy matters pertaining to the homes for retired workers owned by the Women's Division.~~

4. ~~The Women's Division shall have the authority:~~

a) ~~To organize jurisdictional, conference, district, and local church organizations of United Methodist Women, which shall be auxiliary to the General Board of Global Ministries, through the Women's Division, of The United Methodist Church.~~

b) ~~To recommend constitutions and make bylaws for United Methodist Women.~~

4. e) ~~To Appropriate funds received through United Methodist Women.~~

5. d) ~~To Serve as the national official policy-making body of United Methodist Women, with the officers of the national organization designated as the national officers.~~

¶ 1705. ~~Successor entity - United Methodist Women shall be the name of the organization of The United Methodist Church formerly known as Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, which shall succeed to, control and be responsible for the work formerly carried out by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of The Methodist Church, the Women's Society of World Service of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Women's Society of Christian Service of The United Methodist Church, and those other organizations of women of similar purposes that have operated in the churches forming the United Methodist tradition, including the Women's Missionary Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; the Woman's Missionary Society of The Evangelical Church; the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Service Guild, and the Ladies' Aid Societies of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Woman's Missionary Society, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Woman's Board of Home Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Council of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and the Woman's Convention of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Protestant Church. This list shall not be construed as exhaustive.~~

¶ 1706¶ 1325. ~~Membership of the Board of Directors—The Women's Division shall be composed of fifty members as follows: forty shall be laywomen elected by the jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women at quadrennial meets (¶ 536.4); five shall be the jurisdiction presidents of United Methodist Women; and five shall be elected by the Women's Division. The president, general secretary, and treasurer of the board (¶ 1307) and the deputy general secretary, treasurer, and assistant general secretaries of the Women's Division shall be members ex officio. The Women's Division shall elect from its membership to board membership a number equivalent to one third of total board membership but not less than thirty. It shall also elect members to units and committees of the board as defined inboard bylaws.~~

United Methodist Women shall have a board of directors composed of 25 members as follows: 20 shall be laywomen elected by the jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women at quadrennial meetings

(¶ 536.4); and five shall be laywomen elected by the board of directors. The staff cabinet of United Methodist Women shall be members *ex officio*, without vote.

¶ 1707. *United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group* - United Methodist Women shall organize a Program Advisory Group to provide input at regular intervals to the board of directors about the program and planning of the organization. The Program Advisory Group shall have between 70 and 80 members including all members of the board directors of United Methodist Women, the Jurisdiction Presidents, a representative from each Conference organization of United Methodist Women not already represented on the board (elected on nomination of the Conference nominating committee), two members of the Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner elected by the Order, seven to ten directors from other agencies of the United Methodist Church including five members elected by the Center for Global Mission and up to five members selected by the board of directors of United Methodist Women for diversity of age, experience, cultural background, race, physical ability and employment status. United Methodist Women's regional missionaries, a representative from the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women and a representative of its North America Region shall be *ex officio* members, with voice and not vote. The national President of United Methodist Women shall convene the sessions of this group, which may be organized in committees, groups or teams as needed to accomplish its work.

¶ 1708¶ 1321. *Organization*—The Women's Division shall elect an executive committee of nineteen members, which shall exercise the powers of the division *ad interim*. The Women's Division shall name members of its executive committee to serve on the board executive committee. The number named shall be at least one third of the board executive committee membership. Members of the Women's Division executive committee shall be elected by the Women's Division to serve on executive committees of board units and committees as defined in board bylaws. The president, general secretary, and treasurer of the board (¶ 1307) and the deputy general secretary, treasurer, and assistant general secretaries of the Women's Division shall be members *ex officio* without vote. The board of directors of United Methodist Women may elect an executive committee of such membership as it may determine, which shall exercise the powers of the board *ad interim*. The members of the staff cabinet of United Methodist Women shall be members of the executive committee, *ex officio* without vote. The board of directors of United

Methodist Women shall be organized into sections or committees as the directors shall determine.

Delete ¶ 1322.

¶ 1709¶ 1323. *Assembly*—There may be an assembly of United Methodist Women, including a delegated body termed the Assembly. The division board of directors of United Methodist Women shall determine the time and place of meeting and the purpose, composition, functions, and powers of the Assembly.

¶ 1710¶ 1324. *Financial Relationship to the General Board of Global Ministries Finances*—The funds for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the Women's Division United Methodist Women shall be derived from annual voluntary pledges, offerings, gifts, devises, bequests, annuities, or money received through special emphases and meetings held in the interest of the division United Methodist Women. All funds, except those designated for local purposes, shall be forwarded through the channels of finance giving of the organization to the treasurer of United Methodist Women's, to the treasurer of the division, national organization. Undesignated funds received by the Women's Division shall be allocated by the division, on recommendation of the appropriate section or committee, for the work of the several sections of the Women's Division and to such other units of the General Board of Global Ministries as the division shall determine for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the division. Funds appropriated for the work of the other units of the board may be given with specific designations and time limits, after which unspent funds are to be returned to the division. The board of directors of United Methodist Women shall allocate undesignated funds it receives for the work of its various sections and committees as well as for grants and allocations to other organizations within the church and the world as may be necessary or useful for the fulfillment of its Purpose.

¶ 1711. *Relationship to the General Board of Global Ministries*—The board of directors of United Methodist Women shall elect five members to serve as directors of the General Board of Global Ministries. It shall also elect members to units and committees of the General Board of Global Ministries as defined in the General Board of Global Ministries' bylaws, including at least one member to serve on its executive committee.

Renumber ¶ 1326 "Constitution of United Methodist Women" as ¶ 1712 and insert.

Renumber ¶ 1314 as ¶ 1713 and amend as follows:

¶ 1713¶ 1314. *General Provisions*—1. There shall be in The United Methodist Church the Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner. The purpose of the eOffice of dDeaconess and hHome mMissioner shall be

to express representatively the love and concern of the believing community for the needs in the world and to enable, through education and involvement, the full ministry and mission of the people of God. Deaconesses and home missionaries function through diverse forms of service directed toward the world to make Jesus Christ known in the fullness of his ministry and mission, which mandate that his followers:

- a) Alleviate suffering;
- b) Eradicate causes of injustice and all that robs life of dignity and worth;
- c) Facilitate the development of full human potential; and
- d) Share in building global community through the church universal.

2. The Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner is a lay order of The United Methodist Church as order is defined in ¶ 306 “a covenant community within the church to mutually support, care for, and hold accountable its members for the sake of the life and mission of the church”.

~~2. 3. Deaconesses, who are laywomen, and home missionaries, who are laymen, are professionally trained persons who have been led by the Holy Spirit to devote their lives to Christ-like service under the authority of the Church. They are approved by the General Board of Global Ministries through a process established by United Methodist Women, consecrated and commissioned by a bishop at a session of the board or at a setting approved by the board. settings approved by the board of directors of United Methodist Women. They shall have a continuing relationship to The United Methodist Church through the General Board of Global Ministries United Methodist Women.~~

Deaconesses and home missionaries are available for service with any agency or program of The United Methodist Church. Deaconesses and home missionaries may also serve in other than United Methodist Church agencies or programs, provided that approval ~~be~~ is given by ~~the board~~ United Methodist Women in consultation with the bishop of the receiving area.

~~3. 4. Full-time service is the norm for the ministry of a deaconess or home missionary, meaning that the person’s entire vocational time is devoted to work of ministry in the field of labor to which one is appointed by the bishop.~~

a) ~~The program office shall process a~~ Appointments for deaconesses and home missionaries shall be recommended in consultation with the bishop of the area, in accordance with the policies and procedures of ~~the General Board of Global Ministries United Methodist Women.~~

b) The appointment shall be fixed by the bishop (¶ 415 <[http://localhost:49152/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id&id=414-416Spec.Respons.ofBishops&t=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$>](http://localhost:49152/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id&id=414-416Spec.Respons.ofBishops&t=document-frame.htm3.0>)>.7) at the session of annual conference and printed in the list of appointments in the annual conference journal.

c) The annual conference secretary shall:

(1) Keep a record of all persons in the annual conference who have been commissioned and/or consecrated to the Office of Deaconess or Home Missioner.

(2) Publish annually in the annual conference journal the list of appointments of deaconesses and home missionaries.

~~4. 5. A deaconess or home missionary shall hold church membership in a local church within the conference where her/his appointment is located and shall be a voting member of the charge conference of that church. Those holding staff positions serving in appointments with a general board or connectional agency of The United Methodist Church may hold church membership in or where an annual conference borders meet may hold church membership in an annual conference within reasonable distance of the headquarters of the board or agency served office location at which they serve. A deaconess or home missionary whose appointment is located outside the boundaries of an annual conference may hold her or his church membership in a local church in her or his home conference or in the local church in the annual conference in which she or he last held her or his church membership.~~

~~5. 6. Deaconesses and home missionaries shall be seated at the sessions of the annual conference with voice and vote as lay members of the annual conference in accordance with ¶¶ 32 <[http://localhost:49152/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id&id=32-36AnnualConf&t=document-frame.htm\\$3.0\\$>](http://localhost:49152/NXT/gateway.dll?f=id&id=32-36AnnualConf&t=document-frame.htm3.0>) and 602.4.~~

~~6. A deaconess or home missionary shall be a member of the annual conference in accordance with ¶¶ 32 and 602.4.~~

7. Deaconess and home missionaries shall be subject to the administrative authority of the program or agency to which they are appointed. In matters of their assignment they are subject to the authority of ~~the General Board of Global Ministries United Methodist Women~~ and may not contract for service that would nullify this authority.

8. Each deaconess or home missionary shall enroll in a pension plan. The rights of any deaconess or home missionary in any prior or existing agreement shall be fully protected.

9. ~~A leave of absence may be requested. It shall be granted for reasons of health, family responsibilities, or~~

~~vocational re-assessment, or for lack of employment in a helping profession or church-related vocation. Approval of leave of absence shall be given annually. Such leave shall normally not exceed five years. Exceptional circumstances requiring an extended leave shall be handled in consultation with the Personnel Services Team of the Mission Personnel Program Area of the General Board of Global Ministries. A deaconess or home missionary may request a leave of absence according to the administrative guidelines and procedures of United Methodist Women.~~

Renumber ¶ 1315 “Home Missionaries” as ¶ 1714.

~~¶ 1715¶1316. Committee on Deaconess and Home Missioner Service – 1. There shall be a Committee on Deaconess Service, which shall be advisory to the General Board of Global Ministries. United Methodist Women’s national organization will organize the Committee on Deaconess and Home Missioner Service.~~

~~2. 1. The Committee on Deaconess and Home Missioner Service shall be composed of one bishop who is a member of the General Board of Global Ministries; a total of six active deaconesses, home missionaries, and home missionaries selected by vote of the active deaconesses, home missionaries, and home missionaries who relate to the board; and four directors of the General Board of Global Ministries, at least two of whom shall also be directors of the Women’s Division. (active or retired) named by the Council of Bishops; two representatives of the Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner, named by the Order; two representatives of United Methodist Women, named by the board of directors of United Methodist Women; and one representative of the National Association of Deaconesses, Home Missioners and Home Missionaries, named by the Association. The Committee may name additional members as it deems necessary, but will consist of no more than twelve persons in total.~~

~~Additional members may be co-opted as deemed necessary by the Committee on Deaconess Service.~~

~~3. 2. There shall may be an executive committee and other committees as necessary for carrying out the duties of the Committee on Deaconess and Home Missioner Service.~~

~~4. 3. The work of the committee shall be carried out in accordance with the bylaws as approved by the General Board of Global Ministries board of directors of United Methodist Women.~~

~~¶ 1716¶1317. Deaconess Program Office Supporting the Work of Deaconesses and Home Missioners – There United Methodist Women’s national organization shall be a program office for deaconesses and home missionaries to represent the deaconess and~~

~~home missionary relationship retain staff whose primary assignment is to represent deaconesses and home missionaries on a national level and to maintain a community of professionally competent persons who are committed to service under the authority of the Church. The executive secretary of the program office shall be a deaconess. At least one of the executive staff assigned to the work of deaconess and home missionary shall be a deaconess or home missionary.~~

1. All administrative policies and procedures that pertain to ~~the office of~~ deaconesses and home missionaries shall also apply to ~~the office of~~ home missionary missionaries and be administered by the ~~Deaconess Program Office~~ executive staff with primary assignment to the work with deaconesses and home missionaries (¶¶ 1314-1317).

~~2. The General Board of Global Ministries shall assign the administration of the program office to the Mission Personnel Program Area or another unit as it may determine (¶ 1303.1b) There may be a national association of deaconesses, home missionaries, and home missionaries in relationship with United Methodist Women.~~

3. There may be a national jurisdictional organizations of deaconesses, home missionaries, and home missionaries, which shall operate according to policies approved by the General Board of Global Ministries, and their support constituencies.

~~4. There may be jurisdictional organizations of deaconesses, home missionaries, and home missionaries and their support constituencies, which shall operate according to policies approved by the General Board of Global Ministries.~~

Renumber ¶¶ 2301-2303 to ¶¶ 1801-1803 and Amend as follows:

Section XII. General Commission on United Methodist Men

~~¶ 2301¶1801.~~ There shall be a General Commission on United Methodist Men in The United Methodist Church. The general commission shall be amenable to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. Between sessions of the General Conference, the general commission shall be accountable to the ~~Coordinating Council~~ ~~Connectional Table~~ by reporting and interpreting activities in its purpose (¶ 702.2).

~~¶ 2302¶1802.~~ Purpose—The General Commission on United Methodist Men shall have primary oversight for the coordination and resourcing of men’s ministry within The United Methodist Church...

..5. b) to provide advocacy, cooperation, and relationship in partnership with the National (USA) Association of United Methodist Scouts, the Center

for Congregational Development ~~General Board of Discipleship~~, the Council of Bishops, and the civic youth-serving agencies (Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, Camp Fire USA, 4-H, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and such appropriate organizations within the Central Conferences) for the promotion of youth-serving/scouting ministries within The United Methodist Church; ...

~~¶ 2303~~ ~~¶ 1803~~. Membership—...

...6. Funding—The ~~General Commission on United Methodist Men~~ ~~The General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall make provision for the necessary support of the work of the commission by ~~providing World Service Funds to complement the~~ direct revenue and contributions from United Methodist Men. This shall include meeting and related expenses for the central conference representative.

Renumber ¶ 2201 to ¶ 1901 and Amend as follows

Section XIII. Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters

~~¶ 2201~~ ~~¶ 1901~~. General Provisions—1. The General Conference recognizes the differences in conditions that exist in various areas of the world and the changes taking place in those areas. There shall be a Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters serving as an independent coordinating body. The Center for Global Mission ~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ shall be the facilitating agency to the standing committee. The standing committee shall serve as the coordinating body to study the structure and supervision of The United Methodist Church in its work international work ~~outside the United States and its territories~~ and its relationships to other Church bodies...

2. ...All resolutions and petitions related to central conferences presented to the General Conference shall be referred to the committee for consideration, if requested by the submitting agency, central, jurisdictional and/or annual conference; and the committee shall report its recommendations ~~directly to the submitting body~~ ~~General Conference~~. On matters dealing with the determination of episcopal areas (¶ 404.1), affiliation and autonomy (¶ 572), and joining The United Methodist Church (¶ 575), the committee shall report ~~directly to the central, jurisdictional, annual conference, affiliated and/or autonomous body that proposed the legislation and to the Council of Bishops and Coordinating Council~~ General Conference.

3. The standing committee shall be composed of one bishop, one ordained minister, and one layperson from each central conference or jurisdiction, if a central conference does not exist, who are delegates to the General Conference and named by the Coordinating

Council in consultation with the Council of Bishops; ~~one bishop, one ordained minister, and one layperson from each central conference who are delegates to the General Conference and named by the Council of Bishops~~; ~~one bishop, one ordained minister, and one layperson who are elected members of the General Board of Global Ministries and named by the Council of Bishops~~. The central conference bishop assigned to the Center for resourcing and Operations ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall also be a member of this committee. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women, lay, clergy, youth and young adults. The chairperson of the standing committee shall be a central conference bishop, and shall also serve as a member of the Coordinating Council ~~Connectional Table~~.

4. The Center for resourcing and Operations ~~General Council on Finance and Administration~~ shall recommend to the General Conference for its action and determination a provision in the budget of an appropriate general Church fund for the expenses incurred by the standing committee.

Renumber ¶¶ 2401-2405 to ¶¶ 2001-2005

Section XIV. Ecumenical Organizations

Renumber ¶ 2406 to ¶¶ 2101

Section XV. JUSTPEACE Center for Mediation and Conflict Transformation

Rationale:

This petition recognizes the need to reexamine and streamline our church structure in ways that enhance our processes of connectionalism and diversity in shared discernment and oversight. However, it does it in ways that encourage mutual trust; maintain lay leadership; and focus on effective ministry, not mere efficiency.

¶701.

Petition Number: 20938-GA-¶701.3-G; Carlsen, Jonathan - Arcadia, FL, USA.

General Agencies

Delete last sentence in ¶ 701.3:

3. The general agencies of... sessions of the General Conference.¹ ~~The term general agency or agency, wherever it appears in the Book of Discipline in reference to a general agency, does not and is not meant to imply a master-servant or principal-agent relationship between such a body and the General Conference or any other unit of the denomination, or the denomination as a whole.~~

Rationale:

The sentence is ambiguous and confusing. Who is master, servant, principal or agent is unclear. The most likely reading seems to (1) conflict with ¶ 702, (2) make each agency “a law unto itself,” and (3) subvert the principle of connectionalism. Better to omit it.

¶702.

Petition Number: 20470-GA-¶702-G; Jackson, Fredric O. - White Plains, NY, USA for New York Annual Conference.

General Church Ethics Policies

Amend ¶702 as follows, inserting a new point 2 after ¶702.1:

¶702. *Amenability and Program Accountability* –

2. All official General Church organizations, groups, committees, councils, boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall adopt a code of ethics and policies regarding conflict of interest, confidentiality, whistleblower protection, record retention and document destruction and nepotism applicable to both members and employees, which embody and live out our Christian values.

Rationale:

Religious organizations are not immune to the need for transparency and accountability. These types of policies are an attempt to try to ensure all decisions are made with the best interests and sacred fiduciary duties that the church is entrusted with in mind.

¶702.

Petition Number: 20939-GA-¶702-G; Carlsen, Jonathan - Arcadia, FL, USA.

General Agency Lawsuits

Add new subparagraph 702.6 after ¶ 702.5 and renumber current ¶ 702.6 as ¶ 702.7:

6. General agencies, their subunits, and their staffs shall not initiate litigation in the civil courts against other Christians, nor shall they voluntarily become a co-litigant in such lawsuits initiated by others.

Rationale:

The General Rules (¶ 103, p. 73), 1 Corinthians 6:1-8, and earlier Methodist and EUB Disciplines prohibited

Christians’ suing other Christians. Acts contradicting the General Rules violate the Fifth Restrictive Rule (¶ 21) and are unconstitutional. In 2007, one agency sued to evade the *Discipline*’s rules governing its spending.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20329-GA-¶705-G; Sidorak, Stephen J. Jr. - New York, NY, USA for General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.

Pan-Methodist and Full Communion Representatives

Amend ¶705.3.b) of the *Book of Discipline*, “Each general agency ~~may shall~~ elect ~~at least~~ one member, ~~but not more than three~~, with vote and voice from among the member churches of the ~~Commission on Pan Methodist Cooperation and Union~~ Pan-Methodist Commission. In addition, ~~it is recommended that~~ each general agency may elect at least one member ~~without~~ vote from among our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners ~~the other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ~~. These members would be in addition to those otherwise specified in ¶705.3a above. The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns shall assist general agencies if they choose to elect such representatives in their compliance with this provision.

Delete ¶705.4.e)(2) from the *Book of Discipline*.

Amend ¶1006.1.d)(2) of the *Book of Discipline* “~~It is recommended that~~ The board may elect ~~at least~~ one of the additional members ~~without~~ vote from among ~~the other churches of Churches Uniting in Christ~~. our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners.”

Amend ¶1105.1.e)(2) of the *Book of Discipline*, “~~It is recommended that~~ The board may elect ~~at least~~ one of the additional members ~~without~~ vote, from among ~~the other churches of the Churches Uniting in Christ~~. our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners.”

Amend ¶1407.2.d)(2) of the *Book of Discipline*, “~~It is recommended that~~ The board may elect ~~at least~~ one of the additional members ~~without~~ vote from among ~~the other churches of Churches Uniting in Christ~~. our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners.”

Amend ¶1906.2 of the *Book of Discipline*, “~~Two~~ One additional members with vote may include a persons from among our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners. ~~the other churches in Churches Uniting in Christ.~~”

Delete ¶2303.1.h) from the *Book of Discipline*.

Add new subparagraph after ¶2303.1h) to the *Book*

of Discipline, “The commission may consist of one representative from a men’s ministry from a Pan-Methodist Church.” Renumber the subparagraphs of ¶2303 accordingly.

Rationale:

Current financial realities make it difficult for some agencies to continue to bear the cost of Pan-Methodist and CUIC representatives. This removes the requirement for membership while leaving the option open for agencies that would choose to elect Pan-Methodist or CUIC members. ¶705.4.e)(2) is redundant with regard to ¶705.3.b).

¶705.

Petition Number: 20720-GA-¶705-\$-G; Pogue, Creed - Estell Manor, NJ, USA.

General Agency Board Members

Amend Paragraph 705 as follows:

¶ 705. General Agency and Connectional Table Membership-The people of God are called to faithful discipleship in the name of Jesus Christ. “The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-12). In response to God’s call, some are called forth from local congregations to fulfill the common mission of The United Methodist Church as an expression of the Church made visible in the world. This call includes the invitation to some to be in ministry with others who together seek to fulfill the vision for the Church as members of general Church bodies. Such persons come to this ministry as servants of the whole Church.

The following provisions shall govern the nomination and election of the voting membership of those general Church bodies to which the jurisdictional conferences elect and central conferences nominate members.⁵ All lay voting members of general agencies and the Connectional Table shall be professing members of The United Methodist Church and active in local churches unless otherwise specified by the Book of Discipline. All provisions pertaining to the nomination and election of general agency and Connectional Table members shall take effect immediately upon the adjournment of the General Conference that enacts them. The secretary of the General Conference shall coordinate the processes pertaining to nominations and

elections of general agency and Connectional Table members.

~~1. Nominations by Conferences— a) Each annual and missionary conference in the United States, upon recommendation from a committee composed of the bishop and the general and jurisdictional conference delegation, and having allowed opportunity for nominations from the floor, shall elect persons to be submitted to a jurisdictional pool. The jurisdictional nominating committee shall select persons for election to the following general Church bodies: Connectional Table; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; The United Methodist Publishing House; General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; General Commission on Communication; General Commission on Religion and Race; and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. Jurisdictional conferences may decide that persons elected by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States for inclusion in the~~

~~jurisdictional pool shall not serve as members of the jurisdictional nominating committee.~~

~~b) Each annual and missionary conference in the United States shall nominate the persons most recently elected as delegates to the General Conference to the jurisdictional pool. In addition, it shall nominate at least fifteen and not more than forty five persons to the jurisdictional pool, including, where available, at least two racial and ethnic persons from each of the ethnic groups Asian American, African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Pacific Islanders; and where available at least one and not more than five persons in each of the following seven categories: (1) clergy (including at least one woman), (2) laywomen, (3) laymen, (4) youth (¶ 710.3), (5) young adults (¶ 710.3), (6) older adults, and (7) persons with disabilities. Elected members of general and jurisdictional delegations, and others nominated by their annual conference shall list all of the categories for which they qualify, i.e., nationality, age, gender, ethnic origin, etc., and shall be eligible to be nominated by the jurisdictional nominating committee to a general church body in any one of the categories for which a delegate is qualified.~~

~~e) Each central conference or a body authorized by it shall nominate to each general program board membership at least one person from each of the following three categories: (1) clergy, (2) laymen, and (3) laywomen to form a pool from which each board is to elect the additional members that are to come from the central~~

conferences pursuant to ¶ 705.4c. These lists shall be sent to the Connectional Table for use by the general agencies in electing additional members.

d) All nominees shall list one to three preferences for membership. In addition all nominees shall prepare an up to one hundred word biographical statement listing experience, gifts, training, and other qualifications for general agency membership. Biographical statements for all persons in the central and jurisdictional conference pools shall be available to the nominating committee members in the meeting at which they make their nominations. Names and biographical data of all persons nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States or the central conferences, but not elected, shall be forwarded by the jurisdictional or central conference secretary to the Connectional Table to be used by the general agencies as a pool from which additional members may be elected (§§ 5e, 6b).⁶

1.

a) One general agency board member shall be selected by the jurisdictional conference delegation from each episcopal area in the jurisdictional conferences for the following general agencies: Connectional Table; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; The United Methodist Publishing House. The annual conference(s) in the episcopal area may create an alternate method of selecting the general agency members representing that episcopal area.

b) One general agency board member shall be selected from each episcopal area in the central conferences by whatever method the annual conference(s) within the episcopal area select for the Connectional Table, General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

2. Additional Nominations—In addition to the foregoing provisions (¶ 705.1), the Division on Ministries With Young People of the General Board of Discipleship shall nominate ten youth and ten young adults (¶ 710.3) to each jurisdictional pool, inclusive of race, ethnicity, gender, size of church, and persons with disabilities.

3. Members of the general agencies and the Connectional Table shall be elected using the following provisions:

a) Each jurisdiction shall elect members of the general agencies and the Connectional Table as provided in ¶¶ 705.4, 705.5, and 906.1. Persons within any jurisdiction elected by the Women's Division to serve as mem-

bers of the General Board of Global Ministries (¶ 1325) shall be counted in, and not be additional to, the total number of members allocated to each jurisdiction for purposes of determining proportional distribution, but Women's Division members are additional to the membership prescribed in ¶ 1311.1. The secretary of the General Conference shall offer to each jurisdiction a suggested fair and equitable allocation of members to the annual and missionary conferences within each jurisdiction; however, each jurisdiction shall determine for itself how members will be allocated among the annual and missionary conferences of the jurisdiction.

b) Each general agency shall elect at least one, but not more than three, member(s) with vote and voice from among the member churches of the Commission on Pan Methodist Cooperation and Union. In addition, it is recommended that each general agency elect at least one member without vote from among the other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ. These members would be in addition to those otherwise specified in ¶ 705.3a above. The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns shall assist general agencies in their compliance with this provision.

e) It is recommended that the membership of general agencies include both youth (¶ 256.3) and young adults. It is recommended that, wherever possible, at least 10 percent of the membership of each general agency be equally divided between youth and young adults. The youth and young adult membership of each general agency should be inclusive (consistent with ¶ 705.3d).

d) It is recommended that the membership of each of the general agencies seeks to be inclusive based on gender, racial and ethnic persons, age, persons with disabilities, and size of church. In order to ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic persons (Asian American, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders), it is recommended that a jurisdiction's membership on each general agency be at least 30 percent racial and ethnic persons and incorporate one third clergy, one third laymen, and one third laywomen (except as provided in ¶¶ 1105, 1311). The episcopal members shall not be counted in the computation of the clergy membership.

e) The membership of the General Commission on United Methodist Men shall be elected in accordance with ¶ 537 and ¶ 2303.3. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the Commission holding membership by virtue of office may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

4. General Program Board Membership—a) Each general program board shall have the number of members specified in ¶¶ 1006, 1105, 1311, and 1407.

~~b) Jurisdictional Membership—Each jurisdiction shall elect the number of persons listed in the specific legislation for membership on each of the four general program boards. In the jurisdictional nominating process for membership on those boards, special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth (§ 256.3), young adults, older adults, people with disabilities, and persons from small membership churches. In order to ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic persons (Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders), it is recommended that at least 30 percent of a jurisdiction's membership on each general program board be racial and ethnic persons. It is further recommended that the jurisdiction membership on each program board incorporate one third clergy, one third laymen, and one third laywomen (except as provided in §§ 1104.1, 1311.2; see also §§ 1311.6, 1407). The episcopal members shall not be counted in the computation of the clergy membership.⁷~~

~~c) Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa); three each on the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Commission on United Methodist Men, and The United Methodist Publishing House; four each on the General Council on Finance and Administration and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; seven each (one from each Central Conference) on the Connectional Table, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Board of Discipleship; and fifteen on the General Board of Global Ministries. It is recommended that the central conference membership on each program board incorporate one third clergy, one third laymen, and one third laywomen. The central conference membership shall be elected by the Council of Bishops.~~

d) Episcopal Membership—The episcopal membership of the general program boards shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference (see exception, § 1311.6). At least one of the episcopal members of each general agency, with the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, shall be a central conference bishop and, in the case of the General Board of Global

Ministries, three central conference bishops (one from each region: Africa, Europe, Philippines).

~~e) Additional Membership—(1) Additional members shall be elected by each general program board in order to bring into the board persons with special knowledge or background that will aid in the work of the agency, to consider differing theological perspectives, and to perfect the representation of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§ 710.3), young adults (§ 710.3), older adults, women and men, people with disabilities, and persons from small membership churches. After the election of central conference members as provided in § 705.4c, the remaining number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each board reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible, the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b). Each general program board shall elect additional members as specified in general program board membership paragraphs. Insofar as possible, no more than one person shall be elected from each episcopal area. It is recommended that such additional membership shall maintain the one third laymen, one third laywomen, and one third clergy balance.⁸~~

~~(2) Consultation Membership—It is recommended that each general program board elect at least one member without vote from among the member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ, other than The United Methodist Church, as an additional member. These members shall be in addition to, and not instead of, other members as provided herein.~~

f) Liaison Representatives—The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (Iglesia Metodista Autónoma Afiliada de Puerto Rico) will have one liaison representative, at its own expense, to each of the general program agencies of The United Methodist Church.

~~5. Other General Agencies—~~a) Each jurisdictional conference shall elect members from the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States (§ 705.1) in accordance with the specific membership provisions of those agencies as set forth in the Book of Discipline: General Board of

~~Pension and Health Benefits (§ 1502.1a), The United Methodist Publishing House (§ 1602), General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (§ 1906), General Commission on Communication (§ 1807), General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (§ 2104), and General Commission on Religion and Race (§ 2003). With the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (§ 1502.1) and The United Methodist Publishing House (§ 1602.1) the number of additional members to be elected shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each agency reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b).~~

b) Episcopal and additional members, if any, of the general agencies listed in § 705.5a shall be nominated and elected by the procedures specified in the paragraphs listed in §§ 705.1b, 705.1d, and 705.4e. The agencies shall consider names forwarded to them by the Connectional Table as having been nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States or in the central conferences, but not elected by these conferences to general agency membership. Additional names may be considered in order to perfect the representation as provided in § 705.4e.

Rationale:

We have a very confusing system to elect general agency board members that couldn't create more distance between the agencies and the pews if we tried except for the IOR proposal. Electing a member from each episcopal area deepens the connection and accountability which should help apportionments and mission.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20840-GA-¶705-G; Brooks, Lonnie D. - Anchorage, AK, USA.

Agency and Table Member Allocations

Amend §§705 and 706 regarding the membership allocation authority of the Secretary of the General Conference as indicated:

¶705.4.e) Additional Membership—(1) Additional members shall be elected by each general program board in order to bring into the board persons with special knowledge or background that will aid in the work of the agency, to consider differing theological perspectives, and to perfect the representation of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§ 710.3), young adults (§ 710.3), older adults, women and men, people with disabilities, and persons from small-membership churches. After the election of central conference members as provided in § 705.4c, the remaining number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each board reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and In executing this responsibility the secretary has authority to make adjustments in the allocation of members so that the total number of members of each church body as specified in each body's defining provisions is the prevailing principle when rounding numbers is required, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible, the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b). Each general program board shall elect additional members as specified in general program board membership paragraphs. Insofar as possible, no more than one person shall be elected from each episcopal area. It is recommended that such additional membership shall maintain the one-third laymen, one-third laywomen, and one-third clergy balance.

5. Other General Agencies—a) Each jurisdictional conference shall elect members from the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States (§ 705.1) in accordance with the specific membership provisions of those agencies as set forth in the Book of Discipline: General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (§ 1502.1a), The United Methodist Publishing House (§ 1602), General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (§ 1906), General Commission on

Communication (§ 1807), General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (§ 2104), and General Commission on Religion and Race (§ 2003). With the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (§ 1502.1) and The United Methodist Publishing House (§ 1602.1) the number of additional members to be elected shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each agency reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. ~~In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and~~ In executing this responsibility the secretary has authority to make adjustments in the allocation of members so that the total number of members of each church body as specified in each body's defining provisions is the prevailing principle when rounding numbers is required, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b).

¶ 706. Nomination of Additional Board Members—
1. Giving due consideration to inclusiveness (see §§ 124, 139), each jurisdiction shall designate one clergy, one laywoman, and one layman whom it has elected to a general program agency to nominate the additional members of that program agency (§ 705.4). The members thus designated by the five jurisdictions in each general program agency shall constitute a committee to nominate additional members for that agency and shall be convened as provided in § 706.2. The number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of the program agency reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. ~~In the determination of proportionate allocation, minor fractions shall be rounded down and major fractions rounded up to the nearest integer, and~~ In executing this responsibility the secretary has authority to make adjustments in the allocation of members so that the total number of members of each church body as specified in each body's defining provisions is the prevailing principle when rounding numbers is required, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction. In so far as possible, the nominating committee shall select

from the jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b)

Amend § 906 regarding membership allocation for the Connectional Table as indicated:

¶ 906. Organization of the Connectional Table—
1. Membership—The voting members of the Connectional Table shall consist of 47 persons as follows:

a) Twenty-eight persons elected through jurisdictional and central conferences, one from each of the central conferences by their own nomination processes and 21 from the jurisdictional conferences elected by the jurisdictional nomination process. Jurisdictional membership shall include one person from each jurisdiction, and the balance of the jurisdictional members shall be allocated by the Secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that the members, including those youth, young adult, and caucus members specified in §§ 906.1d) and 906.1e), represent the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership.

Amend § 1006 regarding membership allocation for the General Board of Church and Society as indicated:

¶ 1006. Organization—1. The General Board of Church and Society shall have sixty-three members, constituted in accordance with § 705.3d, and shall be organized as specified in its bylaws and in harmony with §§ 702-710 of the General Provisions. The membership shall be constituted as follows:

a) Jurisdictional Members—Clergy, laywomen, and laymen shall be elected to the board by the jurisdictional conference upon nomination from the annual conference in accordance with § 705.5b, based on the following formula: North Central—7, Northeastern—8, South Central—11, Southeastern—12, and Western—3.

b) Central Conference Members—Six central conference members who are not bishops shall be elected to the board ~~on nomination~~ by the Council of Bishops, according to the provisions in § 705.4c.

c) Episcopal Members—Six episcopal members, including at least one from the central conferences, shall be named by the Council of Bishops.

d) Additional Members—(1) United Methodist—Additional members are nominated by a committee composed of three persons from each jurisdiction (one clergy, one laywoman, and one layman) elected by the jurisdictional conference. They shall elect up to nine additional members to ensure inclusivity and expertise.

(2) It is recommended that the board elect at least one ~~of the~~ additional members without vote from among the other churches of Churches Uniting in Christ.

Amend ¶1105.1 regarding membership allocation for the General Board of Discipleship as indicated:

¶ 1105. Organization—1. The board shall consist of ~~fifty-eight~~ fifty-seven members constituted in accordance with ¶ 705.3 of the General Provisions. It shall be organized to accomplish its work through elected officers as prescribed in ¶ 708. The membership shall be constituted as follows:

a) Jurisdictional members, clergy, laywomen, and laymen shall be elected to the board by the jurisdictional conference upon nomination from the annual conference in accordance with ¶ 705.3a based on the following formula: North Central—6, Northeastern—7, South Central—10, Southeastern—11, and Western—2.

b) Central Conference Members—~~A member from each~~ Six central conference members who are not bishops shall be elected to the board ~~on nomination~~ by the Council of Bishops, according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

c) Episcopal Members—Six episcopal members, including ~~at least~~ one from the central conferences, shall be named by the Council of Bishops.

d) Division on Ministries With Young People—Three members selected by the Division on Ministries With Young People who must be selected from the jurisdictions (¶705.4.c).

Amend ¶1311.1 regarding membership allocation for the General Board of Global Ministries as indicated:

¶ 1311. Membership—.... ~~The~~ There shall be five additional members of the board ~~are~~ nominated by a committee composed of three persons from each jurisdiction—a clergy member, a layman, and a laywoman—elected within each jurisdiction. The committee is to be convened by the president of the board, or if there be none, the secretary of the Council of Bishops. ~~There shall be one additional member from each of the five jurisdictions (~~ If an additional member is to be selected from the South Central Jurisdiction under the provisions of ¶705.4e, then the member from the South Central Jurisdiction shall be from either the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference or the Rio Grande Annual Conference, unless they are already represented in the basic membership of the board). ~~There shall be five additional members from the central conferences elected from those nominated according to ¶ 705.4e.~~ An intentional effort shall be made to rotate representation among the central conferences for those members specified in ¶705.4.c).

Amend ¶1407.2 regarding membership allocation for the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry as indicated:

¶1407.2.b) Central Conference Members—Six Central Conference members who are not bishops shall be elected to the board ~~on nomination~~ by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

c) Episcopal Members—Six episcopal members shall be named by the Council of Bishops, including ~~at least~~ one from the central conferences (see ¶ 710.11).

Amend ¶1602.1 regarding membership allocation for the United Methodist Publishing House as indicated:

¶ 1602. Membership—1. The board of The United Methodist Publishing House, hereinafter called the board, shall consist of up to forty-three members as follows:

a) Episcopal members—Three bishops, including ~~at least~~ one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops.

b) Jurisdictional members—Thirty members elected by the jurisdictional conferences based on the following formula: North Central—6, Northeastern—6, South Central—7, Southeastern—9, and Western—2, provided that no jurisdiction shall be represented by fewer than two members.

c) Additional members—Up to eight additional members may be elected by the board, with consideration given to representation of women and racial and ethnic groups not elected by the jurisdictions, and to special knowledge or background in publishing, marketing, graphic arts manufacturing, production of audiovisuals or electronic media, or other business fields. It is recommended that persons elected by each jurisdiction be inclusive of women and ethnic groups—Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and Pacific Islanders.

d) Central Conference Members—Two central conference members who are not bishops elected by the Council of Bishops.

Amend ¶1807.1 regarding membership allocation for the General Commission on Communication as indicated:

¶ 1807. Organization—1. Membership—The membership of the General Commission on Communication shall be composed of twenty-eight members as follows:

a) Three bishops, including ~~at least~~ one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops.

b) Sixteen members elected by the jurisdictional conferences based on the following formula: North Central—3, Northeastern—3, South Central—4, Southeastern—4, and Western—2. It is recommended that at least one of the persons elected by the jurisdictional conferences be a racial or ethnic person.

c) Two members of the central conferences who are not bishops named by the Council of Bishops.

Amend ¶1906.1.d) regarding membership allocation for the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns as indicated:

¶1906.1.d) ~~Seven~~ Nine additional members with vote selected by the elected commission at the organizational meeting. It is recommended that persons elected by each jurisdiction and by the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns be inclusive of ethnic representation—Asian American, African American, Hispanic American, Native American, and Pacific Islander—and youth and young adults.

Amend ¶2003 regarding membership allocation for the General Commission on Religion and Race as indicated:

¶ 2003. Membership—The total membership of the commission shall be forty-three, composed of:

1. Three bishops, including ~~at least~~ one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops.

2. Twenty-seven persons elected by the jurisdictions from the annual conference nominations, based on the following formula: North Central—5, Northeastern—7, South Central—6, Southeastern—6, and Western—3. It is recommended that persons elected by each jurisdiction include persons from each ethnic group—Asian American, African American, Hispanic American, Native American, and Pacific Islanders. At least two shall be women, and at least one under the age of thirty.

3. One central conference member who is not a bishop named to the board by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

Amend ¶2303 regarding membership allocation for the General Commission on United Methodist Men as indicated:

¶ 2303. Membership—1. The commission shall consist of twenty-five (25) voting members as defined in ¶ 705.3 in the General Provisions and ¶ 537. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the Commission holding membership by office or organization, may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms. The membership shall be composed of:

a) three bishops, including ~~at least~~ one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops;

b) the five (5) jurisdictional presidents of United Methodist Men;

c) six members elected by the National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men, including the national president and five members at large (including at least two members of the commission from the previous quadrennium, for continuity) chosen for expertise and jurisdictional balance if possible;

d) two central conference members who are not bishops named by the Council of Bishops;.

Rationale:

2008 General Conference, voting 762-99, adopted Petition 81485 with sweeping revisions to ¶705 and others, recommended by General Administration and the Commission on Central Conferences. This petition solves residual conflicts between new ¶705 and individual agency paragraphs experienced this quadrennium by the General Conference Secretary in allocating agency membership.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20978-GA-¶705.1-\$-G; Kulah, Jerry - Monrovia, Liberia for Liberia Annual Conference.

Representation on General Agencies

¶ 705...

1. Nominations by Conferences-a) Each annual and missionary conference ~~in the United States~~, upon recommendation from a committee composed of the bishop and the general, central, and jurisdictional conference delegation, and having allowed opportunity for nominations from the floor, shall elect persons to be submitted to a jurisdictional pool. The jurisdictional nominating committee shall select persons for election to the following general Church bodies: Connectional Table; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of Pension and Health Benefits;

The United Methodist Publishing House; General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; General Commission on Communication; General Commission on Religion and Race; and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. Jurisdictional conferences may decide that persons elected by the annual and missionary conferences ~~in the United States~~ for inclusion in the jurisdictional pool shall not serve as members of the jurisdictional nominating committee.

b) Each annual, central, and missionary conference ~~in the United States~~ shall nominate the persons most recently elected as delegates to the General Conference to the jurisdictional pool. In addition, it shall nominate at least fifteen and not more than forty-five persons to the jurisdictional pool, including, where available, at least two racial and ethnic persons from each of the ethnic groups Asian American, African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Pacific Islanders; and where available at least one and not more than five persons in

each of the following seven categories: (1) clergy (including at least one woman), (2) laywomen, (3) laymen, (4) youth (§ 710.3), (5) young adults (§ 710.3), (6) older adults, and (7) persons with disabilities. Elected members of general and jurisdictional delegations, and others nominated by their annual conference shall list all of the categories for which they qualify, i.e., nationality, age, gender, ethnic origin, etc., and shall be eligible to be nominated by the jurisdictional nominating committee to a general church body in any one of the categories for which a delegate is qualified.

Rationale:

Nearly 40 percent of United Methodists now live outside the U.S. About 30 percent of the 40 percent live in Sub-Saharan Africa. We are concerned that less than 15 percent of general agency membership comes from outside the U.S. A proportionate representation on general agencies supports the true nature, inclusiveness...

¶705.

Petition Number: 20513-GA-¶705.1b; Daugherty, Ruth A. - Lancaster, PA, USA for Northeastern Jurisdiction Vision Table.

Jurisdictional Pool

Amend ¶ 705.1b as follows:

...In addition, it ~~shall~~ may nominate at least fifteen and not more than forty-five persons to the jurisdictional pool...

Rationale:

The number of elected members to the General Boards and agencies is being reduced; therefore, it is not necessary to have such a large pool of persons. Changing the mandatory language to permissive language allows each annual conference to determine the number of persons needed for an inclusive pool.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20377-GA-¶705.3-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

Agency and CT Membership

Amend ¶705.3b) as follows:

¶705. *General Agency and Connectional Table Membership—*

3. Members of the general agencies and the Connectional Table shall be elected using the following provisions:

b) Each general agency shall elect at least one, but not more than three, member(s) with vote and voice from among the member churches of the Commission on Pan Methodist Cooperation and Union. In addition, ~~it is recommended that~~ each general agency is permitted to elect at least one member with voice but without not vote from among the other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ.

Amend ¶705.3c) as follows:

c) It is recommended that to the extent permitted by the state laws applicable to the general agencies, at least 10 percent of the voting membership of each general agency include both youth (¶256.3) and young adults (¶256.3), and that the number of youth be equal to the number of young adults. In any state in which youth and young adults are not permitted to serve as voting members of a general agency incorporated in that state. It is recommended that, wherever possible, at least 10 percent of the membership of each general agency be equally divided between youth and young adults who are elected shall serve as non-director representatives with voice, but not vote, until they reach the legal age to serve as voting members, at which time they shall become voting members. The youth and young adult membership of each general agency should be inclusive (consistent with ¶ 705.3d).

Rationale:

Using the word “permitted” rather than “recommended” in ¶705.3b) affords general agencies more flexibility under proposed new governance structures that will likely result in smaller boards of directors. The proposed revisions to ¶705.3c) make this paragraph consistent with applicable New York State law (see §701(a) NY N-PCL).

¶705.

Petition Number: 20123-GA-¶705.3b-G; Burton, M. Garlinda - Chicago, IL, USA for General Commission on the Status and Role of Women; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency and CT Membership

Amend ¶ 705.3b: Each general agency may shall elect at least one member, but not more than three, ~~member(s)~~ with vote and voice from among the member churches of the ~~Commission on~~ Pan Methodist Commission Cooperation and Union. In addition, ~~it is~~

~~recommended that~~ each general agency may elect at least one member without vote from among the other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GCSRW Board of Directors, this makes the language permissive instead of mandatory and aligns with legislation being proposed by GCCUIC and GBOD.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20245-GA-¶705.3c-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Percentage on General Boards and Agencies

Amend ¶ 705.3c by substitution and addition to read:

It is recommended that the membership of general ~~agencies, boards, agencies, and the Connectional Table~~ include both youth (¶ 256.3) and young adults. It is recommended that, whenever possible, at least 10 percent of the members of each general board and agency, as well as the Connectional Table, be equally divided between youth and young adults. The youth and young adult membership of each general board, agency, and the Connectional Table shall be inclusive (consistent with ¶ 705.3d and 2506.1).

Rationale:

To ensure that general agencies and boards are inclusive of youth and young adult voices and the general church is responsive to youth and young adult needs.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20073-GA-¶705.4-G; Cape, Kim - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Size of GBHEM Board

To Amend ¶ 705.4, effective at the conclusion of General Conference 2012, as follows:

c) *Central Conference Membership*—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be

allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; ~~at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa);~~ three each (one from each region; Philippines, Europe Africa) on the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Commission on United Methodist Men, and The United Methodist Publishing House; four each on the General Council on Finance and Administration, and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; seven each (one from each Central Conference) on the Connectional Table, the General Board of Church and Society; and three on the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; and the General Board of Discipleship; and fifteen on the General Board of Global Ministries. ~~It is recommended that the central conference membership on each program board incorporate one third clergy, one third laymen, and one third laywomen.~~ The central conference membership shall be elected by the Council of Bishops.

d) *Episcopal Membership*—The episcopal membership of the general program boards shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference (see exceptions, ¶1311.6). At least one of the episcopal members of each general agency, with the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefit, shall be a central conference bishop and, in the case of the General Board of Global Ministries, three central conference bishops (one from each region: Africa, Europe, Philippines).

Rationale:

Part of a comprehensive plan (see ¶ 1407 recommendation) to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBHEM Board of Directors This is a response to the Call to Action Report which recommends "...smaller competency-based boards ..." This will result in a new governance model, and cost savings.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20378-GA-¶705.4-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

General Program Board Membership

Amend ¶705.4c) as follows:

¶705. *General Agency and Connectional Table Membership*—

4. *General Program Board Membership*—

c) *Central Conference Membership*—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: [...]and ~~fifteen~~ ten on the General Board of Global Ministries, only one of whom shall be a bishop. It is recommended that the aggregate central conference membership on ~~each~~ the program boards ~~incorporate~~ be composed of—one-third clergy (half of whom shall be women), one-third laymen, and one-third laywomen. The central conference membership, excluding episcopal members, shall be elected by the Council of Bishops.

Amend ¶705.4d) as follows:

d) *Episcopal Membership*—The episcopal membership of the general program boards shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference (~~see exception, ¶1311.6~~). At least one of the episcopal members of each general agency, with the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, shall be a central conference bishop ~~and, in the case of the General Board of Global Ministries, three central conference bishops (one from each region: Africa, Europe, Philippines)~~.

Amend ¶705.4f) as follows:

f) *Liaison Representatives*—The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (Iglesia Metodista Autónoma Afiliada de Puerto Rico) will have one liaison representative with voice but not vote, at its own expense, to each of the general program agencies of The United Methodist Church.

Rationale:

Reduction from fifteen to ten members and from three to one bishop in ¶705.4c) based on proposal to reduce size of GBGM board. Central Conference membership will increase from seventeen to thirty-one percent and Central Conference Episcopal membership remains same. Use of “aggregate” affords more flexibility to smaller boards.

The...

¶705.

Petition Number: 20501-GA-¶705.4-G; Erbele, W. Terence - Ketchikan, AK, USA for Alaska Annual Conference.

Puerto Rico Liaison Representatives

Add a new ¶705.4.g):

¶705.4.g) *Status of Liaison Representatives*—Because of the special nature of the relationship between the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico and the

general agencies of The United Methodist Church as established in the Concordat between the two churches, the liaison representatives of the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico to the general agencies of The United Methodist Church will serve with voice and vote and be afforded the same status on those agencies as though they were members, except as provided in ¶705.4.f).

Rationale:

This clarifies the status of the liaison representatives of the MCPR on UM general agencies which has been the subject of debate on several UM agencies.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20260-GA-¶705.4c-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - Central Conference Membership

Amend ¶ 705.4c:

Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; ~~at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa)~~; three each (one from each region of Philippines, Europe, Africa) on the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Commission on United Methodist Men, and The United Methodist Publishing House; four each (at least one from each region of Philippines, Europe, Africa) on the General Council of Finance and Administration, the General Board of Discipleship, and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; seven each (one from each Central Conference) on the Connectional Table, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, ~~and the General Board of Discipleship~~; and fifteen on the General Board of Global Ministries....

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors, this allows for one bishop and three other Central Conference members on the General Board of Discipleship.

¶705.

Petition Number: 21078-GA-¶705.4c-\$-G; Meyer, Mary - Arcadia, FL, USA.

Central Conference Membership

Amend ¶¶ 705.4c, 805.1a(3), 906.1a, 1006.1b, 1105.1b, 1407.2b, 1602.1d, 1704.2, 1807.1c, 1906.1c, 2003.3, 2104.1e, and 2303.1d, per ¶ 507.2 (composite petition) as shown:

1. Amend ¶ 705.4c:

c) *Central Conference Membership* — The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be proportional to the central conferences' share of the total membership of the Church with allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa). Episcopal members shall be included in this proportional number. ;three each on the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on the Role and Status of Women, the General Commission on United Methodist Men, and the United Methodist Publishing House; four each on the General Council on Finance and Administration and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; seven each (Whenever this proportional number of central conference members in an agency equals or exceeds seven, there shall be at least one from each Central Conference.)—on the Connectional Table, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Board of Discipleship; and fifteen on the General Board of Global Ministries. It is recommended ... one-third laywomen. The central conference membership shall be drawn from a pool of candidates selected by each annual conference within the central conferences and elected by the Council of Bishops.

2. Amend ¶ 805.1a(3) [General Council on Finance and Administrations]:

(3) ~~six~~ members at large; from the central conferences whose number is determined according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c. Of this group there shall be at least one member from Africa, one from Europe, one from the Philippines, ,and most Most of whom these members shall be elected for special skills. After the above-mentioned election of central conference members, the any remaining ...

3. Amend ¶ 906.1a [Connectional Table]:

a) Twenty-eight persons elected through jurisdictional and central conferences, ~~one~~ The number from each of the central conferences determined according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c by their own nomination process and 24 the remaining members from the jurisdictional ...

4. Amend ¶ 1006.1b [General Board of Church and Society]:

b) *Central Conference Members* — ~~Six~~ The number of central conference members shall be determined and shall be elected ...

5. Amend ¶ 1105.1b [General Board of Discipleship]:

b) *Central Conference Members* — ~~A member from each~~ The number of central conference members shall be determined and shall be elected ...

6. Amend ¶ 1407.2b [General Board of Higher Education and Ministry]:

b) *Central Conference Members* — ~~Six~~ The number of central conference members shall be determined and shall be elected ...

7. Amend ¶ 1602.1d [United Methodist Publishing House]:

d) *Central Conference Members* — ~~Two~~ The number of central conference members shall be determined and shall be elected by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

8: Amend ¶ 1704.2 [General Commission on Archives and History]:

2. The commission shall be composed of twenty-four members, ~~in the following manner: Ten members elected by the General Conference on nomination by the Council of Bishops, in which two shall come from the~~ The number of central conferences; conference members shall be determined and shall be elected by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c. In addition, on nomination by the Council of Bishops, the General Conference shall elect two bishops (one of whom shall come from the central conferences); and five presidents of the jurisdictional ... jurisdictional College of Bishops,; and seven additional Additional members shall be elected by the general commission ensuring that all three regions of the central conferences are represented. It is recommended ...

9. Amend ¶ 1807.1c [General Commission on Communication]:

c) *Central Conference Members* — ~~Two members~~ Members of the central Conference named elected by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

10. Amend ¶ 1906.1c [General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns]:

3) ~~Three persons~~ Members from the central conferences elected by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

11. Amend ¶ 2003.3 [General Commission on Religion and Race]:

3. ~~One central~~ Central conference ~~member mem-~~ bers whose number is determined and who are named elected to the board by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

12. Amend ¶ 2104.1e [General Commission on the Status and Role of Women]:

e) There shall be ~~two~~ central conference members whose number is determined and who are named elected to the board by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

13. Amend ¶ 2303.1d [General Commission on United Methodist Men]:

d) ~~two~~ central conference members whose number is determined and who are named elected by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c;

Rationale:

With 1 in 3 United Methodists residing outside the United States and belonging to a central conference, the current limits on the numbers of central conference members in several agencies are unfair and discriminatory.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20114-GA-¶705.4e-G; Burton, M. Garlinda - Chicago, IL, USA for General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

Commission Membership

Amend second sentence in ¶ 705.4e: After the election of central conference members as provided in ¶ 705.4c and with the exception of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (¶ 2104.1.b), the remaining number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each board reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GCSRW Board of Directors, this aligns with ¶ 2104.1b.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20261-GA-¶705.4e-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure

Amend the second sentence in ¶705.4e to say:

After the election of central conference members as provided in ¶ 705.4c and with the exception of the General Board of Discipleship (¶ 1105.1e), the remaining number of additional members shall be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each board reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors, this aligns with proposed ¶ 1105.1e.

¶705.

Petition Number: 20326-GA-¶705.4e2; Sidorak, Stephen J. Jr. - New York, NY, USA for General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.

Deletion

Delete ¶705.4.e)(2) from the *Book of Discipline*.

~~It is recommended that each general program board elect at least one member without vote from among the member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ, other than The United Methodist Church, as an additional member. These members shall be in addition to, and not instead of, other members as provided herein.~~

Rationale:

The paragraph is redundant with regard to ¶705.3.b).

¶705.

Petition Number: 20323-GA-¶705.5-G; Sidorak, Stephen J. Jr. - New York, NY, USA for General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.

Change Size of GCCUIC Board

Amend ¶¶705 & 1906 as indicated:

¶705.5. Other General Agencies—a) Each jurisdictional conference shall elect members from the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States (¶ 705.1) in accordance with the specific membership provisions of those agencies as set forth in the Book of Discipline: General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (¶ 1502.1a), The United Methodist Publishing House (¶ 1602), ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (¶ 1906)~~, General Commission on Communication (¶ 1807),...

¶ 1906. 1. The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns shall be composed of ~~thirty-eight~~ nine United Methodists as follows:

a) Two bishops appointed by the Council of Bishops, one of whom shall be the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops. One of the bishops shall be from a central conference.

b) One Persons from each jurisdiction, one person from the central conferences in Europe, one person from the central conferences in Africa, and one person from the central conference in The Philippines. The bishop who is not the Ecumenical Officer shall be counted as one of these eight persons. ~~a). based on the following formula: North Central 5, Northeastern 4, South Central 6, Southeastern 5, and Western 2, Central Conferences 4, elected by the jurisdictional conferences (see ¶ 705). Each jurisdictional conference and central conference will nominate two candidates and the Council of Bishops will elect seven members from this pool of candidates.~~

~~e) Three persons from the central conferences, elected by the Council of Bishops. (¶705.4.e)~~

d) ~~Seven additional members with vote selected by the elected commission at the organizational meeting. It is recommended that the Council of Bishops ensure that the United Methodist membership persons elected by each jurisdiction and by the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns be inclusive of ethnic representation, Asian American, African American, Hispanic American, Native American, and Pacific Islander and youth, and young adults, and women, with a goal of 50% laity.~~

2. Two additional members with voice and vote from our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners. the other churches in Churches Uniting in Christ.

Rationale:

In order to maximize mission and ministry of the Commission by making optimum use of resources, and

to balance the ecumenical and interreligious work load between staff and elected members, it is proposed that the number of elected members be significantly reduced.

¶706.

Petition Number: 20115-GA-¶706.1-G; Burton, M. Garlinda - Chicago, IL, USA for General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

Additional Board Members

Add the following sentence after last sentence in ¶ 706.1:

In place of the process outlined in this paragraph, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women will use the procedures in ¶ 2104.1.b to select additional members.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GCSRW Board of Directors, this aligns with ¶ 2104.1b.

¶706.

Petition Number: 20262-GA-¶706.1-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - Additional Members

Add the following sentence after the last sentence in ¶ 706.1:

In place of the process outlined in this paragraph, the General Board of Discipleship will use the procedures in ¶ 1105.1e to select additional members.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors, this aligns with proposed ¶1105.1e.

¶707.

Petition Number: 20628-GA-¶707-G; Lomperis, John S.A. - Arlington, VA, USA.

General Agency Petitions

AMEND Discipline ¶707 as follows:

¶ 707. *Meetings*—1. In those years ...

2. A councils, boards, commissions, and committees ...

3. Unless otherwise specified ...

4. Any petition submitted to the General Conference on behalf of a general agency must first receive, at a minimum, the support of two-thirds of the agency's members present and voting at a scheduled meeting.

Rationale:

This helps ensure that petitions originating from a general agency reflect a broad consensus of a supermajority of the connection-representing membership rather than any narrow-majority faction therein. The supermajority requirement would help promote dialogue and common-ground-finding, rather than division and alienation, between members of differing perspectives.

¶708.

Petition Number: 20379-GA-¶708.3-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

Non-Voting Board Members

Amend ¶708.3 as follows:

¶708. *Organization*—

3. ~~Terms of o~~Officers of boards, divisions, and departments, or other subunits who do not serve on the board of directors as voting members shall be elected for the quadrennium or until their successors are elected.

Rationale:

Reflects the quadrennial election of relevant executive staff.

¶709.

Petition Number: 20740-GA-¶709-G; Ladd, C. Don - Franklin, TN, USA.

Members of Committees and Sub-Committees

Amend ¶709

The membership of each ~~program~~ board, agency, table, or commission shall be divided among the divisions or other subunits of the board ~~in such number as the board determines.~~ so that each member of the board is fairly utilized on the several committees, sub-commit-

tees, divisions and other sub-units in order to ensure that each jurisdiction is proportionally represented.

Rationale:

Membership on committees and subcommittees of boards are not being assigned proportionally. Because these sub-groups are tasked with specific duties/tasks for the boards, they must reflect the same jurisdictional proportionality of the board or it distorts the work accomplished.

¶710.

Petition Number: 20380-GA-¶710.1-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

GA Membership Qualifications

Amend ¶710.1 as follows:

¶710. *Membership Qualifications*—

1. Members of all general agencies shall be professing members of The United Methodist Church except as provided in ¶705.3**4b**.

Rationale:

Corrects a cross-reference.

¶710.

Petition Number: 20382-GA-¶710.11-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

Deletion

Delete ¶710.11.

Rationale:

The proposed deletion makes the *Discipline* consistent with applicable New York state law. There is no applicable provision under New York state law that permits GBGM directors to vote by proxy, although there is a provision that permits members of a New York not-for-profit corporation to do so.

¶710.

Petition Number: 20381-GA-¶710.3-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

Youth Membership

Amend ¶710.3 as follows:

¶710. *Membership Qualifications*—

3. All youth representatives (¶ 256.3) elected to general agencies shall be at the time of organizational board meetings twelve to sixteen years of age. All young adults (¶ 256.3) elected to general agencies shall be at the time of organizational board meetings seventeen to twenty-eight years of age. If the laws of the state of incorporation of any general agency do not permit a youth representative or young adult representative to serve as a director of that general agency, the disqualified person shall serve as a non-director representative to the board of directors with the right to speak at meetings of the general agency but without the right to vote. All older-adult representatives (¶ 705.1.b(6)) shall be at the time of organizational board meetings at least sixty-five years of age.

Rationale:

The proposed revision makes this paragraph consistent with applicable New York State law (see §701(a) NY N-PCL).

¶713.

Petition Number: 20103-GA-¶713-G; Cape, Kim - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Agency Staff

Amend current ¶ 713 and insert a new paragraph following it:

¶ 713. Election of General Secretaries of Program Agencies—The general secretary of each general program agency that is accountable to the Connectional Table shall be elected quadrennially by ballot of the board of the agency involved. ~~Each general program agency shall elect quadrennially by ballot its deputy and associate general secretary(ies) and may elect or appoint such other staff as may be necessary.~~

¶ New Paragraph Each general agency shall appoint such other staff as may be necessary by a process to be determined by the agency.

Rationale:

Selection of agency staff subordinate to the general secretary should be a process in which the general secretary participates by requirement of general conference, and those staff members should be accountable to the general secretary for performance. Elected staff cur-

rently are responsible to the board, not to the general secretary.

¶713.

Petition Number: 20342-GA-¶713; Kumar, A. Moses Rathan - Nashville, TN, USA for General Council on Finance and Administration.

General Agency Staff Employment

Add the following language to the end of ¶ 713:

An agency's board must approve the termination of employment of its general secretary. Absent a contrary action by, or policy of, the agency's board, the agency's general secretary may terminate the employment of all other agency staff, including elected staff.

Rationale:

These changes clarify that general secretaries serve at the pleasure of their boards of directors. All other agency staff, including elected staff described in ¶ 705, serve at the pleasure of the general secretary, unless the agency's board has decided otherwise

¶713.

Petition Number: 20383-GA-¶713-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

Agency Staff

Amend ¶713 as follows:

¶713. *Election of General Secretaries, Deputy General Secretaries, and Associate General Secretaries of Program Agencies*—The general secretary, deputy general secretaries, and associate general secretaries of each program agency that is accountable to the Connectional Table shall be elected quadrennially by ballot of the board of the agency involved. Each general program agency ~~shall~~ may elect quadrennially ~~by ballot its deputy and associate general secretary(ies) and may elect or appoint~~ such other staff as ~~may be~~ necessary.

Rationale:

Reflects the quadrennial election of relevant executive staff. Deputy and associate general secretaries moved from second to first sentence with general secretaries as these positions are all elected quadrennially. The proposed revision replacing “shall” with “may” in

the second sentence affords the agency discretion regarding the terms of other relevant...

¶713.

Petition Number: 20504-GA-¶713-G; Erbele, W. Terence - Ketchikan, AK, USA for Alaska Annual Conference.

Balloting

Add the following new text to the end of existing ¶713:

The balloting shall be secret, but the presiding officer shall announce to the membership the results of the election, including the number of votes for election, against election, and in abstention.

Rationale:

The members of general agencies are those persons selected through the process prescribed by General Conference to be responsible for the operation of the agencies and must have full information concerning the members of the executive staff of the agencies, including the level of support for their election.

¶714.

Petition Number: 20420-GA-¶714.4; Boigegrain, Barbara - Glenview, IL, USA for General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

General Agency Health Plans

Amend ¶714.4 as follows:

4. Provisions of the ~~Staff Retirement Benefits Program, amended and restated effective January 1, 2007, as the Retirement Security Program for General Agencies of The United Methodist Church Retirement Plan for General Agencies~~, shall be reviewed, with recommendations, by the Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices (¶ 807.13b)

a) Each general agency shall sponsor or participate in a group health care plan that covers the agency's full-time clergy and full-time lay employees in the United States. For the purpose of this paragraph, group health care plan shall mean a health insurance plan, group health care plan, or multiple-employer health care plan that provides benefits for major medical and hospitalization expenses. The sponsoring general agency may

determine additional eligibility for the group health care plan in its discretion.

Alternatively, in the event that federal law or state law governing health care plans and health insurance establishes coverage options for those persons without employer-provided coverage that ensure access, regardless of health status or condition, to affordable coverage through health insurance exchanges, connectors, single-payer systems, or other mechanisms, the general agency may cease maintaining its group health care plan to the extent such coverage is available to its clergy and lay employees. In such event, the general agency nevertheless shall provide continued administrative and financial support of full-time clergy and full-time lay employees toward the purchase of such coverage through these alternative mechanisms to the extent such individuals' coverage may not be subsidized by government agencies, i.e., because their compensation exceeds certain thresholds, particularly considering the tax advantages of employer-provided financial support toward health care coverage.

In addition, general agencies shall develop and maintain health and wellness programs for their full-time clergy and full-time lay employees. Moreover, each general agency shall annually submit its health plan data, to the extent the general agency maintains a group health care plan, de-identified as necessary, including, but not limited to, financial soundness, claims experience and other cost drivers, plan designs and coverage, and eligibility criteria to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

b) Each general agency shall respect the health and wholeness of its clergypersons and lay employees, who have retired in accordance with the general agency's retirement policy, and their spouses, by providing access to Medicare supplement plans and prescription drug coverage plans. Access for retirees and their spouses may include, but shall not be limited to (i) sponsoring an employer retiree health care plan that supplements Medicare; (ii) participating in a multiple employer retiree health care plan that supplements Medicare; (iii) securing individuals' eligibility under group contracts with Medicare supplement plan providers or exchanges; (iv) subsidizing the costs of coverage for retired clergypersons and lay employees and their spouses ~~to~~ enrolled in Medicare Part D plans or Medicare Advantage plans; (v) providing subsidies toward and group relationships with providers of individual Medicare supplement and other retiree coverage policies; and (vi) providing fixed dollar retiree health benefits through health reimbursement arrangements, stipends or otherwise.

~~c) On or before December 31, 2008, e~~Each general agency must submit a generally accepted financial valuation, such as in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 106, as amended, of its projected medical liabilities for its population covered by its employer retiree health care plan to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, ~~and must submit a similar report biannually/biennially thereafter.~~

~~d) On or before December 31, 2010, each general agency must create a plan to address the funding requirements of its projected future medical liabilities for the population covered by its employer retiree health care plan. On or before December 31, 2008, e~~Each general agency shall document in writing its policy regarding the portability of retiree health care eligibility, coverage, cost-sharing, and benefits and communicate the policy to its clergy and lay employees and incoming clergy and lay employees from annual conferences or other general agencies. For the purpose of this paragraph, portability encompasses credit given for service outside the general agency within the denomination to clergy and lay employees toward (i) eligibility for health care coverage in retirement and (ii) accrual of employer subsidies toward or employer cost-sharing of the cost of health care coverage. In addition, a general agency at which a clergyperson served will provide funding toward that clergyperson's retiree health coverage, if any, pursuant to ¶639 Health Coverage for Retired Clergy with Connectional Service in accordance with and in proportion to its policies about such funding for its employees based on the years the clergyperson served at such general agency.

Rationale:

The denomination's value of ensuring access to comprehensive health coverage for clergy and lay employees of general agencies is preserved, but with necessary accommodation for the changing federal and state legal landscape, which is creating new options for coverage beyond the traditional employer group health plan model.

¶714.

Petition Number: 20419-GA-¶714.4d; Boigegrain, Barbara - Glenview, IL, USA for General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

General Agency Funding Plans

Delete the first sentence of ¶714.4. d) and substitute the following:

~~¶ 714.4 d) On or before December 31, 2010, each general agency must create a plan to address the funding requirements of its projected future medical liabilities for the population covered by its employer retiree health care plan. On or before December 31, 2013, and then annually thereafter, each general agency must develop and implement a formal comprehensive funding plan for funding its annual benefit obligations relating to its annual retirement, welfare and health plan obligations (including those obligations of GCFA for bishops) as well as its projected pension and retiree medical liabilities (including those obligations of GCFA for bishops). The funding plan or plans shall be submitted to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits for review and be published along with a favorable written opinion of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits in an addendum to the agency's annual financial report. In addition, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall include general agency benefits and benefits for bishops in its quadrennial report to General Conference concerning the long-term benefit liabilities of the denomination. Therefore, each general agency shall provide to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits information periodically requested. (Effective at the conclusion of General Conference 2012)~~ On or before December 31, 2008, each general agency ...

Rationale:

This paragraph will expand funding plans to include all benefit plan liabilities and improve funding plans by requiring a favorable opinion.

¶714.

Petition Number: 20343-GA-¶714.9; Kumar, A. Moses Rathan - Nashville, TN, USA for General Council on Finance and Administration.

Clergy Appointment to General Agencies

Amend ¶ 714.9 as follows:

~~Prior to any interviews of clergypersons for general board or agency staff positions, the bishop of the clergyperson under consideration shall be consulted at the initiative of the general board or agency. When a clergyperson's employment with a general agency is terminated, the general agency shall have no further obligation to provide compensation or benefits to the terminated clergyperson, except as provided or permitted by the General Council on Finance and Administration's uniform personnel policies described in ¶ 807.13a.~~

Rationale:

These changes clarify that clergy under appointment and lay staff shall be treated the same when their employment with a general agency is terminated.

¶716.

Petition Number: 20853-GA-¶716-G; Brandly, Dale - Bellbrook, OH, USA.

Investments

¶ 716. Socially Responsible Investments-It shall be the policy ... or companies dealing in pornography and/or companies & organizations that publicly advertise, or it is generally known, that they promote & support gay rights programs. The boards and agencies ...

¶717.

Petition Number: 20940-GA-¶717-G; Carlsen, Jonathan - Arcadia, FL, USA.

Advocacy and Record Policies

Amend ¶ 717:

¶717. Record Maintenance Advocacy and Record Policies ? Each general agency shall keep a continuous record of its advocacy roles, coalitions, and other organizations supported by membership or funds, ~~and~~ the endorsement of or opposition of federal and state to government legislation, advocacies posted on the Internet, and in litigation (to the extent allowed by judicial directives governing due process. Information concerning these activities shall be available to United Methodist churches upon request. Organizations not officially related to the General Conference may take positions only in their own names and may not speak for a general agency or the denomination as a whole (¶509.1) However, agencies, their officers, and staff may only take positions on:

1) Scouting and military policy issues with the concurrence of the General Commission on United Methodist Men;

2) Racial issues with the concurrence of the General Commission on Religion and Race; and

3) Issues affecting the central conferences and general church policies with the concurrence of the Connectional Table and the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters.

Rationale:

The UN Security Council and African villages operate based on unanimity, not dissension (Judges 21:25—in 2000, two UM agencies clashed in court). Many UM Men, as veterans, can strengthen military policy pronouncements. “Federal and state” may not apply outside the U.S. The altered emphasis merits a new title.

¶721.

Petition Number: 20316-GA-¶721-G; Goodpaster, Larry M. - Charlotte, NC, USA for Council of Bishops.

Disclosure of Recording

Amend ¶721 by addition

¶ 721. Restrictions on Closed Meetings—In the spirit of openness and accountability, all meetings of councils, boards, agencies, commissions, and committees of the Church at all levels of the church, including subunit meetings and teleconferences, shall be open. Regardless of local laws or customs, all participants shall be notified at the beginning of any meeting, including telephone or video conference calls, if the meeting is being recorded electronically and of the intended use of such recording. Portions of a meeting may be closed for consideration of specific subjects...

Rationale:

Regardless of state and local laws and customs, participants in any type of meeting, including telephone, conference and/or video calls, are entitled to an expectation of privacy unless notified otherwise.

¶722.

Petition Number: 20913-GA-¶722-!-G; Juergensmeyer, John - Elgin, IL, USA.

Translation of UM Publications

Amend ¶ 722 as follows:

722. Translation of Church name and publications.

1. The name of the United Methodist Church may be translated by any central conference into languages other than English. The United Methodist Church in the Central Southern Europe Central Conference and the Germany Central Conference may use the name Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche.

2. The Book of Discipline, the Book of Resolutions, the Book of Worship, the UM Hymnal, and all UMC

publications shall be translated into all languages which are spoken as a native language by 100,000 or more members or regular church attendees of UMC Congregations.

Rationale:

The Council of Bishops has established a Worldwide Nature of the Church Study Committee, which is reporting to this 2012 General Conference, and has proposed a “new model” for a Worldwide UMC.

We are already a “Worldwide UMC”; our 2005 statistics showed 3,227,162 professing UMC members in Africa, and 3,316,955...

¶805.

Petition Number: 20345-GA-¶805-G; Kumar, A. Moses Rathan - Nashville, TN, USA for General Council on Finance and Administration.

Board Membership

Amend ¶ 805.1 and .2 as follows:

¶ **805. Organization**—1. *Membership*—~~a)~~ The twenty-one voting members of the council shall be elected quadrennially.

a) Sixteen voting members of the council shall be elected by the General Conference and shall consist of forty persons be nominated as follows:

(1) ~~four~~ two bishops ~~including one from a central conference,~~ nominated by the Council of Bishops;

(2) ~~thirty~~ eleven persons from the jurisdictions, nominated by the ~~C~~college of ~~B~~bishops in each jurisdiction based upon an allocation by the secretary of the General Conference so ~~as to insure~~ that the membership of the council reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon their combined clergy and lay membership, ~~at least one of whom should be a youth between the ages of twelve and seventeen, and at least one of whom should be a young adult not over twenty-eight years of age at the time of election; and~~

(3) ~~six~~ three persons from the central conferences ~~- members at large, one member from Africa, one from Europe, and one from the Philippines; - nominated by the Council of Bishops and most of whom shall be elected for special skills. After the above mentioned election of central conference members, the remaining members at large shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops based upon an allocation by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure, to the extent possible, that membership of the Council reflects the propor-~~

~~tionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (¶ 705.5b). This petition shall become effective upon passage by the General Conference members.~~

b) It is recommended that in selecting the voting members from the jurisdictions and central conferences attention be given to ensuring adequate representation of racial and ethnic groups and young people, and that approximately with at least two of the at large members to be racial and ethnic persons. It is further recommended that in the membership from each of the jurisdictions and the at large members, one-third be clergy in full connection, one-third be laymen, and one-third be laywomen.

b) Five voting members of the council shall be nominated and elected by the council in such a manner as set forth in the council’s bylaws, provided, not more than one of these five voting members shall be from the same jurisdictional or central conference. These five voting members shall be selected for the purpose of bringing to the council special knowledge, experience, or diversity.

c) The general secretaries . . . until their successors are elected and qualified.

f) Vacancies occurring between sessions of the General Conference shall be filled by the council on nomination of the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction concerned (see ¶ 712) if the vacancy is among members chosen to represent a jurisdiction, or, in the event of a vacancy among the episcopal; ~~or central conference, or at large~~ representative members, on nomination of the Council of Bishops. Vacancies among the five voting members nominated and elected by the council shall be filled in such a manner as set forth in the council’s bylaws.

2. *Meetings*—The council shall meet at least annually and at such other times as are necessary on call of the president or on written request of one-fifth of the members. ~~Twenty-one~~ Eleven voting members shall constitute a quorum.

(The provisions of ¶ 805 shall be effective at the conclusion of the 2012 General Conference.)

Rationale:

The General Council on Finance and Administration is seeking to improve its efficiency and effectiveness by reducing its size to enable more frequent regular meetings without an increase in cost. These actions by the Council are consistent with the results of the Call To Action report that recommended similar action...

¶805.

Petition Number: 20346-GA-¶805-G; Kumar, A. Moses Rathan - Nashville, TN, USA for General Council on Finance and Administration.

Committees

Amend ¶¶ 805.3 and .4 as follows:

3. *Officers*—The officers of the council shall be a president, a vice president, a recording secretary, and a general secretary, who shall also be the treasurer of the council, all of whom shall be elected by the council (see § 5). They shall serve until the adjournment of the next succeeding quadrennial session of the General Conference after their election and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The president, and vice president, and recording secretary shall be elected from the membership of the council. The general secretary shall sit with the council and its executive committee at all sessions and shall have the right to the floor at all meetings of the council and its committees without the privilege of voting.

4. *Committees*—~~a) *Executive Committee*—There shall be an executive committee of the council, consisting of the episcopal members, the officers of the council, chairpersons of the committees on services as defined in the council bylaws, and up to three members at large to assure that, in addition to the episcopal members, there is at least one member from each jurisdiction and there is racial and ethnic participation. The executive committee shall meet on call of the president or of a majority of the membership and shall act for the council and exercise its powers in the interim between the meetings of the council, but it shall not take any action contrary to or in conflict with any action or policy of the council. A copy of the minutes of each meeting of the executive committee shall be sent from the central office to each member of the council as soon after the meeting as practicable.~~

~~b) *Committee on Audit and Review*—The executive committee of the council shall appoint a **Committee on Audit and Review**, no members of which shall be officers or members of the executive committee of the council, and at least half of whom shall not be members of the council, whose duty it shall be to review audits of all treasuries receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 810.2) in accordance with all established auditing standards, including the funds of the council, related policies with financial implications, and the utilization of financial assets in achieving the stated mission of the entity as defined by the General Conference, the governing~~

board, and donor designations. Not included are the audits of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and The United Methodist Publishing House. In any matter of possible or potential financial impropriety reported to the committee by the auditors, the committee chair shall immediately inform the president and general secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration and the president and general secretary of the applicable agency. The committee shall report its findings to the annual meeting of the council.

~~c) *Committee on Official Forms and Records*—The council shall maintain and supervise under the direction of its general secretary a **Committee on Official Forms and Records**, which shall have the duty of preparing and editing all official statistical forms, record forms, and record books for use in the Church. Through these forms, the council shall collect statistical and financial information from all annual conferences of The United Methodist Church. The committee shall consist of one bishop elected by the Council of Bishops and nine persons elected by the General Council on Finance and Administration, as follows: five members of the council, one conference secretary, one conference treasurer, one conference statistician, and one district superintendent. At least one member shall represent the central conferences. The members shall be from the qualifying area or serving in the qualifying position at the time of their election. The following persons shall be consultants to this committee ex officio, without vote: two staff representatives of the council, a representative of The United Methodist Publishing House, and representatives of other general agencies when their programs are directly involved. All official record forms, record books, and certificates designed by the committee for use in The United Methodist Church and available for sale shall be printed and published through The United Methodist Publishing House.~~

~~d) *Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices*—The council shall organize a committee consisting of three representatives from the General Council on Finance and Administration, one of whom shall serve as chairperson, and one representative of each of the following agencies: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and the General Commission on United Methodist Men. Each of~~

the aforementioned representatives shall be selected by the council, board, or commission represented from its membership. The committee shall have duties and responsibilities as defined in ¶ 807.13b.

ce) Committee on Legal Responsibilities and Corporate Governance—The council shall organize a committee composed of six persons; ~~three of whom shall be~~ members of the council, ~~two active annual conference chancellors, and one at-large attorney~~. The committee shall be amenable to the council and shall make recommendations to the council regarding the fulfillment of ~~its~~the responsibilities defined in ¶807.9 and its exercise of appropriate principles of corporate governance. The Legal Services Department of the council shall be responsible to the Committee on Legal Responsibilities and Corporate Governance.

df) Other Committees—The council shall ~~elect or appoint~~establish such other committees and task forces as needed for the performance of its duties.

(The provisions of ¶ 805 shall be effective at the conclusion of the 2012 General Conference. Also, effective at the conclusion of the 2012 General Conference, replace any reference in the *Book of Discipline* to any GCFA committee, other than those listed in ¶ 805.4 (as amended by this petition), with the phrase “a committee designated by the General Council on Finance and Administration”.)

Rationale:

The General Council on Finance and Administration proposes to change some of its committee structure in conjunction with a reduction in the size of its membership. These changes can help the Council function more efficiently by establishing policies to be carried out by the staff between regular meetings.

¶805.

Petition Number: 20376-GA-¶805.4e; Kumar, A. Moses Rathan - Nashville, TN, USA for General Council on Finance and Administration.

Committee on Legal Responsibilities

Amend ¶ 805.4e as follows:

Committee on Legal Responsibilities and Corporate Governance—The Council shall organize a committee composed of six persons; ~~three of whom shall be~~ members of the council, ~~two active annual conference chancellors, and one at-large attorney~~. The committee shall be amenable to the council and shall make recommendations to the council regarding the fulfill-

ment of ~~its~~the responsibilities defined in ¶807.9 and its exercise of appropriate principles of corporate governance. The Legal Services Department of the council shall be responsible to the Committee on Legal Responsibilities and Corporate Governance.

(The provisions of ¶ 805 shall be effective at the conclusion of the 2012 General Conference.)

Rationale:

The Enron and other financial scandals highlighted the need for significantly improved corporate governance. GCFA has decided this function best resides with the formerly-named Committee on Legal Responsibilities. This name change merely reflects those additional responsibilities. The changes to the composition recognize the increased need for legal expertise in this...

¶901.

Petition Number: 20839-GA-¶901-G; Finley, Jane - Toccoa, GA, USA.

CT as Restructure Agent for UMC

Amend ¶901 as follows:

¶ 901.1. Name—There shall be a Connectional Table in The United Methodist Church where ministry and money are brought to the same table to coordinate the mission, ministries, and resources of The United Methodist Church. Effective January 1, 2005, the Connectional Table shall be assigned the primary responsibilities, general policies and practices found in the relevant 700 paragraphs.

2. The Connectional Table shall have oversight responsibility for all program agencies of The United Methodist Church.

3. In the exercise of its responsibility prescribed in §2 hereof, the Connectional Table shall have authority during the 2013 to 2016 quadrennium to guide and work with all the agencies and connectional bodies of The United Methodist Church, program and administrative, to plan for and implement the overall restructure and reorganization approved by the 2012 General Conference for those agencies and bodies. This authority will include, but not be limited to, discontinuing agencies, assigning responsibilities, determining membership, and choosing headquarters location. Specifically the goal is the consolidation of program and administrative leadership to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort while ensuring that critical and important connectional ministries are functional and adequately carried forward. This subparagraph will be

effective upon certification of passage by the Council of Bishops of the proposed amendment to ¶16.16 of the Constitution proposing to grant to General Conference the authority to delegate its legislative authority for a specific and time limited purpose.

4. The Connectional Table oversight responsibility shall include authority for the consolidation of administrative services to the extent possible and practicable for all general church activities into the appropriate agency on a fee for service basis.

Amend ¶905. Objectives –

.8 The Connectional Table and its executive officer shall evaluate the strategic planning, goals, objectives and quantitative commitments made by organizations and staff receiving church funds. This review shall be taken into account in the utilization of general church funds as a part of and through the budgeting process.

Amend ¶906. *Organization of Connectional Table –*

1. *Membership* – The voting members of the Connectional Table shall consist of ~~47~~ 35 persons as follows:

(a) ~~Twenty-eight~~ three persons elected through jurisdictional and central conferences, one from each of the central conferences by their own nomination processes and ~~24~~ 16 from the jurisdictional conferences elected by the jurisdictional nomination process. Jurisdictional membership shall include one person from each jurisdiction and the balance of the jurisdictional members shall be allocated by the Secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that the membership represents the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership. Consideration should be given to ethnic, gender and age inclusivity.

(b) An effective bishop, selected by the Council of Bishops, shall represent the Council, serve as a member with right of voice and vote, and shall convene an organizational meeting of the Connectional Table within two months of the last jurisdictional conference serves as the chair of the Connectional Table. The following officers shall be elected from the jurisdictional and central conference members: chair, vice chair, treasurer and secretary.

(c) The presidents of the following agencies: General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, General Commission of Religion and Race, General Commission on Status and Role of Women, General Commission on United Methodist Men, General Commission on

Communications, and General Commission on Archives and History, program-related agencies that are accountable to the Connectional Table (as expressed in ¶ 702.2), and the president of the General Council on Finance and Administration shall also sit with voice and vote on the Connectional Table so long as the agency remains an independent entity of the church.

~~(d) One youth and one young adult from the Division on Ministries With Young People shall serve on the Connectional Table.~~

~~(e) One member from each of the racial ethnic caucuses as elected by the Connectional Table upon nomination from: Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Methodists Associated to Represent Hispanic Americans, Native American International Caucus, National Federation of Asian American United Methodists and Pacific Islanders National Caucus United Methodist.~~

(f) The general secretaries of the above named agencies and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits and the president and publisher of The United Methodist Publishing House shall sit at the Table and have the right to voice but not vote so long as the agency remains an independent entity of the church.

(g) Jurisdictional, central conferences, and other groups involved in the nominating and election of persons to the Connectional Table shall ensure the diversity objectives of, insofar as possible, fifty percent clergy, fifty percent laity, fifty percent female, fifty percent male, not less than thirty percent members of racial/e ethnic groups (excluding central conference members) and not less than ten percent youth and young adults, ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in ¶ 705.5b.

(h) Vacancies of members elected from central and jurisdictional conferences occurring between sessions of the general conference shall be filled by the College of Bishops where the vacancy occurred, in so far as possible from the same annual conference.

(i) Members shall meet all the membership qualifications as expressed in ¶ 710 and shall possess knowledge of the operations of the general church and/or experience in corporate governance and executive leadership.

Amend: ¶906.5

Staff – The Connectional Table shall elect an executive officer who shall provide leadership to the table and coordinate the operations of the program agencies of the church in accordance with directives of the General Conference and policies set by the Connectional Table. The general secretary of the General Council of Finance and Administration shall serve as the financial officer of the Connectional Table

with voice but not vote. The Connectional Table shall determine the support staff that is deemed appropriate to facilitate its work.

Rationale:

The Connectional Table brings program ministry and funding together through goal setting, performance evaluation and general oversight for agencies. These provisions will enable the Connectional Table to exercise stronger executive leadership, fiscal responsibility and encourage effective and efficient programs focused on the needs of the local church and annual conference.

¶906.

Petition Number: 20675-GA-¶906.1-\$-G; Shultz, Paul - Iowa City, IA, USA.

Young Adult on CT

Amend ¶ 906.1 as follows:

Add new paragraph (e)

1. Membership –

The voting members of the Connectional Table shall consist of 47 persons as follows:

(a)...

(d) One youth and one young adult elected by the Connectional Table upon nomination by the membership of the Division on Ministries With Young People from among its members shall serve on the Connectional Table.

(e) One young adult named by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall serve on the Connectional Table.

¶1101.

Petition Number: 20257-GA-¶1101-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - Responsibilities

Add new sub-paragraphs following ¶ 1101.2:

3. Members of the General Board of Discipleship shall assume fiduciary, strategic, and generative governing functions. Fiduciary responsibilities include ensuring financial, legal, and ethical stewardship of tangible assets; accountability for stated performance standards; ensuring the annual evaluation of the general secretary; and providing counsel to the general secretary regarding

evaluation and deployment of staff. Strategic responsibilities include ensuring that priorities, goals, achievement markers, and agency resources are aligned with the mission, vision, and values of the agency. Generative responsibilities include long-range analysis and planning in accordance with agency mission, vision, and values; setting direction and priorities for the agency; and exploring options in order to amend priorities when needed.

4. Members of the General Board of Discipleship are to be dedicated Christian leaders who have a heart for the local church and a passion for making disciples. They must be willing to invest time and skills to support the work of the board, including interpreting and articulating the GBOD strategy in a variety of contexts. They must engage in regular and intentional conversation with networks and individuals throughout the church to ensure that the wide diversity of people and perspectives present in The United Methodist Church are considered as the board carries out its responsibilities. They must be committed to supporting and implementing the mandates and foci of the general church as well as the General Board of Discipleship.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors, this clarifies the fiduciary, strategic, and generative responsibilities of board members.

¶1105.

Petition Number: 20258-GA-¶1105-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - Organization

Delete current ¶ 1105 and substitute with the following:

Organization—1. The board shall consist of twenty-two members constituted in accordance with ¶ 705.3 of the General Provisions. It shall be organized to accomplish its work through elected officers as prescribed in ¶ 708. The membership shall be constituted as follows:

a) Jurisdictional Members— Each jurisdiction shall elect one member to the board in accordance with ¶ 705.3a. Before election, nominated members will be informed of the fiduciary, strategic, and generative responsibilities they will be assuming upon election so that they may clearly understand the time and resource commitment they are making. Other paragraphs of the

Discipline notwithstanding, the secretary of the General Conference shall offer to each jurisdiction a suggested member allocation to ensure that, when combined with the board members from the central conferences, the resulting membership will reflect a balance of clergy, laywomen, and laymen. The secretary will also establish an equitable rotation to ensure that over the course of several quadrennia each jurisdiction will have the opportunity to elect a laywoman, a layman, and a clergy member.

b) Central Conference Members—The Council of Bishops shall elect three members from the central conferences in accordance with ¶ 705.4c, one each from Africa, Europe, and Philippines.

c) Episcopal Members—The Council of Bishops will nominate two bishops to be members in accordance with ¶ 705.4d.

d) Division on Ministries With Young People—The Division on Ministries with Young People will elect two members, one youth and one young adult as defined by the age qualifications for the Division on Ministries With Young People in accordance with ¶ 1207. Members who do not meet the requirements of ¶ 2506.1 shall serve with voice and vote, except in matters related to the fiduciary responsibilities of the board in which they shall have voice only, in accordance with the laws of the state of incorporation (Tennessee).

e) Additional Members—Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, the members of the board shall elect ten additional members based on expertise needed to accomplish the fiduciary, generative, and strategic work of the board. Particular attention will be given to ensuring an inclusive board membership that is sensitive to the wide diversity of people and perspectives throughout The United Methodist Church. The board may select these members from any jurisdiction or central conference in The United Methodist Church. Before election, nominated members will be informed of the fiduciary, strategic, and generative responsibilities they will be assuming upon election so that they may clearly understand the time and resource commitment they are making.

2. Liaison Representative—The board will name a liaison representative according to ¶ 705.4f and may name other individuals as liaison representatives to provide networking and advice related to areas of mutual concern. When invited to board meetings, they shall have voice but not vote.

3. The board shall determine and establish the appropriate organization of the board and its staff in order to best carry out the work of the board.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of

Directors, this creates a twenty-two member board, allows organizational flexibility, and clarifies the relationship of liaison representatives.

¶1106.

Petition Number: 20259-GA-¶1106-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - Organizational Units

Delete ¶ 1106.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors, this allows the GBOD the flexibility to organize in whatever ways are needed at a particular time to best carry out its work.

¶1125.

Petition Number: 20265-GA-¶1125.1c-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - CRC Chair on GBOD Executive Committee

Delete ¶ 1125.1c.

Rationale:

As part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors, this removes requirement for CRC chair to be a member of the executive committee. (The requirement for the chair to be a member of GBOD is covered in ¶ 1127.1d.)

¶1127.

Petition Number: 20264-GA-¶1127-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - CRC Membership

Amend ¶ 1127:

Membership of the Curriculum Resources Committee—1. The Curriculum Resources Committee

shall consist of ~~twenty one~~ eight voting members elected quadrennially by the General Board of Discipleship as follows:

a) A bishop, not serving on the General Board of Discipleship and with experience in teaching and learning ministries, who is a voting member of the General Board of Discipleship, to be nominated by the ~~executive committee of the board~~ Council of Bishops.

b) ~~Twenty Seven~~ members, nominated by the ~~executive committee~~ of the board, at least three of whom are members of the General Board of Discipleship. Up to four additional members shall be selected for expertise in educational ministries and knowledge of the various concerns of congregations in teaching and learning ministries. seven of whom shall be pastors, at least three of whom shall be voting members of the board, and at least one of whom shall be at the time of election serving a church of two hundred members or less; at least seven shall be laypersons actively participating as member, leader, or teacher in the educational ministry in the local church; at least three of whom shall be voting members of the board; at least one of whom shall be at the time of election a member of a church of two hundred or fewer; six additional members shall be nominated, three of whom shall be members of the board, with due consideration to the diversity in theological perspectives, educational attainments, sex, age, racial, and ethnic differences, and sizes of local churches, and in consultation with the directors of councils on ministries or boards of discipleship in each of the annual conferences.

c) The president and publisher of the United Methodist Publishing House and the general secretary of the General Board of Discipleship shall be ex officio members of the Curriculum Resources committee with the privilege of voice but without vote. Twenty persons from the program boards shall participate in Curriculum Resources Committee meetings with the privilege of the floor without vote. These persons shall be: the general secretaries of the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Church and Society, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, or someone designated by them; the editor of Church School Publications; the president and publisher and the vice president in charge of publishing of The United Methodist Publishing House; and with due consideration to providing for diversity in sex, age, racial, and ethnic differences, five staff members of Church School Publications and eight other staff members representing the broad concerns of the General Board of Discipleship.

d) The chairperson of the committee shall be a member of the General Board of Discipleship.

2. The Curriculum Resources Committee shall include staff of Church School Publications and of the General Board of Discipleship, with the privilege of voice but without vote. may select other persons to assist in its work, including persons nominated by the boards, agencies, and general commissions of the Church. The Curriculum Resources Committee may select other people to assist in its work, including people nominated by other boards, agencies, and general commissions of the Church. Members of other boards, agencies, and general commissions will serve at their own expense.

3. The committee may prepare such bylaws and operating guidelines as are necessary to facilitate the work of the committee.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors this creates a smaller CRC with fewer board members and more flexibility as to which board members can serve on CRC. Places a non-GBOD bishop on the committee.

¶1205.

Petition Number: 20263-GA-¶1205-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Agency/Board Restructure - DMYP

Amend ¶ 1205:

Relationship of the Division on Ministries With Young People to the General Board of Discipleship—The Division on Ministries with Young People shall be related to the General Board of Discipleship as follows: ~~Three members~~ Two members of the Division on Ministries with Young People shall be elected to the board, one youth and one young adult as defined by the age qualifications for the Division on Ministries with Young People in accordance with ¶ 1207. one of whom shall sit on the executive committee, one of whom shall sit on the finance committee and one of whom shall sit on the personnel committee of the General Board of Discipleship.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBOD Board of Directors, this calls for two members of DMYP to serve on the GBOD Board of Directors, aligning with proposed ¶ 1105.

¶1207.

Petition Number: 20244-GA-¶1207.1-G; Greenwaldt, Karen - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Membership on the Division on Ministries with Young People

Amend ¶ 1207.1 by deleting current sections a, b, c and d and replacing them with the following:

1. Membership shall be as follows:

a) ~~Twenty two youth 1 youth elected by the youth organization of each central conference (according to the age definition of each central conference, but not to exceed the age of 24); 2 youth from each jurisdiction elected by the jurisdictional youth convocation (¶ 533) who are 16 or younger at the time of appointment; 1 youth appointed by each racial/ethnic caucus who is 16 or younger at the time of appointment;~~

b) ~~Seventeen young adults 1 young adult elected by the young adult organization of each central conference (according to the age definition of each central conference, but not to exceed the age of 35); 2 young adults from each jurisdiction (as follows): 1 young adult elected by the jurisdictional conference, and 1 undergraduate student from each jurisdiction elected at the United Methodist Student Movement's Student Forum (¶ 1412.2g). Jurisdictional and UMSM representatives shall be 28 or younger at the time of election, with attention given to the diverse audiences of young adults.~~

e) ~~Eight adult workers with young people 1 adult from each central conference region (Africa, Asia, and Europe), appointed by the central conference nominating committee; 1 adult from each jurisdiction, elected by the jurisdictional conference;~~

d) Additional Members:

~~(1) Five members of the General Board of Discipleship (2 clergy, 2 lay, 1 bishop, one of whom serves on the Executive Committee);~~

~~(2) Two members of the United Methodist Student Movement steering committee (¶ 1412.2g);~~

~~(3) Up to 5 additional members who, as determined by the General Board of Discipleship, may be nominated by the Division to ensure inclusiveness and expertise.~~

a) Twelve youth—1 youth elected by the youth organization of each central conference (according to the age definition of each central conference, but not to exceed the age of 35); 1 youth elected by the jurisdictional youth convocation (¶ 533) who are 16 or younger at the time of election;

b) Twelve young adults—1 young adult elected by the young adult organization of each central conference (according to the age definition of each central conference, but not to exceed the age of 35); 1 young adult elected by the jurisdictional conference;

c) Twelve adult workers with young people—1 adult from each central conference, appointed by the central conference nominating committee; 1 adult from each jurisdiction, elected by the jurisdictional conference;

d) Additional Members:

(1) One member of the General Board of Discipleship;

(2) Two members of the United Methodist Student Movement steering committee (¶ 1412.2g);

(3) Up to 5 additional members who, as determined by the General Board of Discipleship, may be nominated by the Division to ensure inclusiveness and expertise;

(4) One bishop selected by the Council of Bishops.

Rationale:

This legislation is submitted to ensure equitable representation of jurisdictional and central conference youth, young adults, and young adult workers, as well as to create an efficient, focus driven division with the capability to offer creative and efficient young people's ministry. This includes reducing number of GBOD members on DMYP.

¶1300.

Petition Number: 20049-GA-¶1300-G; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Add a second new paragraph after ¶ 1324 as follows:

United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group - United Methodist Women shall organize a Program Advisory Group to provide input at regular intervals to the board of directors about the program and planning of the organization. The Program Advisory Group shall have between 70 and 80 members including all members of the board directors of United Methodist Women, the Jurisdiction Presidents, a representative from each Conference organization of United Methodist Women not already represented on the board (elected on nomination of the Conference nominating committee), two members of the Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner elected by the Order, seven to ten directors

from other agencies of the United Methodist Church including five members elected by the General Board of Global Ministries and up to five members selected by the board of directors of United Methodist Women for diversity of age, experience, cultural background, race, physical ability and employment status. United Methodist Women's regional missionaries, a representative from the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women and a representative of its North America Region shall be ex officio members, with voice and not vote. The national President of United Methodist Women shall convene the sessions of this group, which may be organized in committees, groups or teams as needed to accomplish its work.

Rationale:

Establishes new group to provide connection between Conference United Methodist Women's organizations in the United States and the national organization for matters of program development. Includes representation of global work and relationship with United Methodist and Methodist women, and provides for representatives from other relevant program areas of the church...

¶1311.

Petition Number: 20391-GA-¶1311-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

GBGM Membership

Amend ¶1311 as follows:

¶1311. *Membership*—The policies, plans of work, management, business, and all affairs of the ~~General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church~~ board shall be governed and administered by the board, which shall be composed of it according to the following conditions:

Amend ¶1311.1 as follows:

1. The basic members (clergy, laymen, and laywomen) are elected by the jurisdiction upon the nomination of the annual conferences. ~~Each annual conference shall have representation from this category on the General Board of Global Ministries at least once within a three quadrennia period.~~

The jurisdictions shall use the following formula when electing members: Northeastern Jurisdiction—73; Southeastern Jurisdiction—84; Western Jurisdiction—42; North Central Jurisdiction—73; and South Central Jurisdiction—93 ~~(at least one of whom shall be from~~

~~either the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference or the Rio Grande Annual Conference).~~ Each central conference shall ~~elect~~ nominate one member to the basic membership of the board for a total of seven. The additional members of the board ~~are~~ shall be nominated by a ~~committee composed of three persons from each jurisdiction—a clergy member, a layman, and a laywoman—~~ elected within each jurisdiction. The committee is to be ~~convened by the president of the board, or if there be none, the secretary of the Council of Bishops and~~ elected in accordance with the board's bylaws. There shall ~~may~~ be ~~one~~ up to five additional members from each of the five jurisdictions ~~(the member from the South Central Jurisdiction one of whom shall be from~~ either the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference or the Rio Grande Annual Conference, unless they are already represented in the basic membership of the board). There shall be ~~five~~ two additional members from the central conferences, ~~elected from those nominated according to ¶ 705.4c. An intentional effort shall be made to rotate representation among the central conferences.~~

Amend ¶1311.2 as follows:

The ~~Women's Division~~ United Methodist Women's membership procedures are ~~an exception to those described in ¶¶ 705.3a, 709 and 1325 of the General Provisions. Women's Division membership is defined in ¶1325.~~ Members of the ~~Women's Division~~ United Methodist Women who are members of the board shall also serve on the membership of the board's other units and committees ~~of the board.~~

Amend ¶1311.4 as follows:

Members of the board shall be distributed across the component units and standing committees ~~of the board~~ in accordance with the board's bylaws.

Amend ¶1311.6 as follows:

On nomination of the Council of Bishops, the General Conference shall elect ~~to the board one~~ two bishops from ~~each~~ the five jurisdictions and ~~three~~ one central conference bishops to the board. Each jurisdiction and each central conference region (Africa, Europe, Philippines) shall have representation from this category on the board at least once within a three-quadrennia period. Except as provided in ¶ 1311.5, bishops shall not be permitted to serve as members of the board.

Amend ¶1311.7 as follows:

The general secretary, the general treasurer ~~of the board~~, and the deputy general secretaries of the board shall be members without vote.

Amend ¶1311.8 as follows:

Salaried members of staff of any agency receiving appropriation funds from the board shall not be eligible

to serve as voting members of ~~said~~ the board, except in order to fulfill the provisions of ¶ 705.

Rationale:

The proposed revisions reflect proposed changes in GBGM board composition to reflect the proposed new structure for a thirty-two member board (excluding additional directors) adopted by the current GBGM board. Also reflects proposed structural separation of the Women's Division from GBGM. Other changes promote clarity and simplicity.

The process to...

¶1312.

Petition Number: 20392-GA-¶1312-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

The Advance Committee Membership

Amend ¶1312 as follows:

¶1312. *Advance Committee*—~~The Advance for Christ and His Church is the designated giving channel of The United Methodist Church. There shall be an~~ The Advance Committee, which shall have general oversight of the Advance for Christ and His Church (¶821).

Amend ¶1312.1 as follows:

The Advance Committee shall be organized under the authority and direction of the ~~General Board of Global Ministries~~ board as determined by the bylaws of the board. It shall consist of twenty (20) members as follows: Ten (10) directors of the General Board of Global Ministries; five (5) conference secretaries of global ministries (representing the five jurisdictions and elected by their jurisdictional associations) and five (5) members at large appointed by the Director of the Advance for Christ and His Church in consultation with the General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Delete ¶1312.2.

Amend ¶1312.3 by renumbering as point two (2) and deleting all sub-points (a, b, c).

Delete ¶1312.4.

Rationale:

Composition, responsibilities and functions of the Advance Committee will be described in GBGM's bylaws (as is the case with all other GBGM committees) and therefore proposed for deletion from this paragraph. Details such as job of the Director of the Advance, project approval process, and administering units are proposed for...

¶1313.

Petition Number: 20393-GA-¶1313-G; Kemper, Thomas - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries.

GBGM Program Areas

Amend ¶1313 as follows:

¶ 1313. *Program Areas*—~~Six program areas shall be assigned responsibilities within the General Board of Global Ministries~~ The program responsibilities within the General Board of Global Ministries shall be assigned to its units as it seeks to enhance the involvement of all United Methodists in Christian mission and develop ways to facilitate ~~their~~ this mission involvement. The membership of ~~this~~ the program areas shall be constituted in accordance with the bylaws of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Delete ¶1313.1-6 and substitute as follows:

The General Board of Global Ministries shall engage in mission programming around the following areas:

A. Congregational and Community Development

1. Evangelization among people who have not heard or heeded the gospel.

2. Strategic new mission initiatives and establishing new congregations where United Methodism and/or cooperative church relationships do not exist.

3. Leadership development, including identifying, preparing training and empowering persons for leadership in the church and community so that vital mission-oriented congregations may be developed.

4. Resourcing leadership training programs and administering scholarships, including the World Communion Scholarship Program.

5. Church growth, including revitalization of existing congregations and faith communities, and congregational development, particularly among racial and ethnic congregations and congregations in transitional communities/neighborhoods. Congregational development shall be carried out in cooperation with the General Board of Discipleship through a Joint Committee on Congregational Development composed of equal representation from the General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Discipleship, which shall meet at least annually to expedite cooperation between these two boards in the field of congregational development of both new congregations as well as the revitalization of existing congregations, with a priority given to racial and ethnic congregations.

6. Administration of the United Methodist Development Fund in accord with policies set by the

General Board of Global Ministries for the purpose of making first mortgage loans to United Methodist churches, districts, city societies, district unions, mission institutions, or conference church extension agencies for the purchase of sites and for the purchase, construction, expansion, or major improvement of churches, parsonages, or mission buildings.

7. Church and community development, including grants, loans and technical assistance for programs of self-development and self-determination pertaining to social needs arising from concerns for ethnic and cultural pluralism, economic and sexual exploitation, and political and racial oppression.

8. Community-based programs in areas such as agricultural mission, communications, student and youth ministries.

9. Development of strong local and regional organizations for community development with the capacity to network and become part of an internationally related program.

10. To foster and facilitate cooperative patterns of ministry, including cooperative parishes, metropolitan ministries, rural and town and country ministries.

11. Administering funding and other forms of resource sharing for projects and programs—especially those serving women, children, and youth of partner churches and ecumenical bodies.

B. Connectional and Ecumenical Relationships

1. Working with denominational, ecumenical, and secular coalitions, as appropriate, to develop new patterns of joint mission.

2. Identification and analysis of the missional concerns that shape the conditions under which the church is called to engage in God's Mission.

3. Development of and sustaining cooperative relationships and mission partnerships that include sharing of opportunities and resources, networking and collaboration. This includes the maintaining and fulfilling of connectional relationships with annual conferences, missionary conferences, and central conferences; autonomous, affiliated autonomous, and united churches; and ecumenical church bodies.

4. Developing missional relationships in countries where The United Methodist Church has no commitments by pursuing a working agreement with the church or churches, a united mission organization, or ecumenical bodies related to the area, if such exists. If these approaches are not available, the board may participate in the formation of a new United Methodist denominational structure, in which case it may request the Council of Bishops to provide any necessary episcopal oversight.

5. Liaising with each central conference and its

conferences, both annual and provisional, and each affiliated autonomous Methodist church or united church, and where applicable, requesting that these bodies make provision for liaison functions with the board.

6. Providing information and assisting in developing action and advocacy for global justice, peace, and freedom through working cooperatively with other agencies of the Church; other denominations; and ecumenical, interfaith, and secular coalitions.

7. Fostering interaction of churches and ecumenical groups for the purpose of mutuality in the definition and implementation of Christian mission and international concerns.

C. Mission Education and Interpretation

1. Providing opportunities for United Methodists to understand the global mission of The United Methodist Church and for personal and corporate witness through involvement in and support of this mission.

2. Initiating and developing programs and resources that will encourage persons of particular cultures to become receivers and bearers of the gospel across boundaries and to live faithfully within a multicultural world.

3. Engaging in programs of mission interpretation, including training mission interpreters.

4. Training of connectional mission leaders to fulfill their responsibilities.

5. Working with schools of theology and professors of mission, in cooperation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, in providing an emphasis on education for mission.

6. Cooperating with the General Board of Discipleship, especially the Curriculum Resources Committee, in providing opportunities for mission involvement and understanding of all age levels.

7. Initiating and developing special programs and resources through which children and youth may understand the mission of the Church.

8. Working with ecumenical agencies in fulfilling mission education responsibilities.

9. Providing opportunities for United Methodists to gather and witness as a global church.

D. Mission Service

1. Planning for and developing a broad range of mission volunteer opportunities for short-term assignments, including promoting and interpreting the need for volunteers with a variety of skills and abilities; working in close relationship with conference and jurisdictional officers to assist in identifying, developing, and supporting opportunities for mission volunteer service.

2. Promoting opportunities for mission service related to the General Board of Global Ministries

throughout the constituencies of the Church, through the recruitment, selection, preparation, commissioning, and assignment of all categories of mission personnel, with necessary supervision and support of these persons in assignments in the widest variety of church and ecumenical partners in the United States and around the globe.

3. Relating to persons in mission of partner churches.

Rationale:

In view of the restructuring of GBGM that has taken place during the current quadrennium, the proposed revisions reflect categories of program responsibilities rather than the former program area structure. The details of the new structure and committees, including the roles and responsibilities, will be reflected in the GBGM bylaws.

¶1318.

Petition Number: 20042-GA-¶1318-G; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

¶ 1318. Women's Division

Insert new paragraph before ¶1318:

There shall be an organization called United Methodist Women in The United Methodist Church in the United States, organized at the local church, district, conference, jurisdiction and national levels.

Amend ¶ 1318 as follows:

Purpose—The Women's Division United Methodist Women shall be actively engaged in fulfilling the mission of Christ and the Church and United Methodist Women's national organization shall interpret the Purpose of United Methodist Women for the whole organization. With continuing awareness of the concerns and responsibilities of the Church in today's world, the Women's Division United Methodist Women shall be an support ministry with and advocate for the oppressed and dispossessed with special attention to the needs of women, and children and youth; shall work to build a supportive community among women; and shall engage in activities that foster growth in the Christian faith, mission education, and Christian social involvement throughout the organization.

Rationale:

Establishes United Methodist Women as an organization in the United Methodist Church in the United

States; eliminates the name "Women's Division;" reflects United Methodist Women's emphasis on ministry *with* as well as *for* the oppressed; and updates language to include children and youth among the populations of concern.

¶1319.

Petition Number: 20043-GA-¶1319-G; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Amend ¶ 1319 as follows:

¶ 1319. Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the Women's Division United Methodist Women's national organization shall be:

1. ~~To r~~Recommend program and policies to local, district, conference and jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women.

2. ~~To i~~Interpret the role and responsibility of the division United Methodist Women in fulfilling the mission of Christ and the Church.

3. Express the concerns of women organized for mission.

~~3.~~ 4. ~~To p~~Provide resources and opportunities for women that enrich their spiritual life and increase their knowledge and understanding of the needs of the world and their responsibility in meeting those needs.

4. ~~To s~~Secure funds through the channels of United Methodist Women for God's mission in the world the support of the program of the Church through the General Board of Global Ministries, with special concern for the needs and responsibilities of women, children and youth.

~~5.~~ 6. ~~To p~~Project plans specifically directed toward leadership development of women through appropriate planning with the other units of the board, organizations of the church and ecumenical community.

6. ~~To s~~Strengthen the Church's challenge to men and women to enlist in the diaconate respond to God's call by serving as missionaries, and deaconesses or home missionaries and in all other avenues of service and leadership in the church.

7. ~~To e~~Enlist women in activities that have a moral and religious significance for the public welfare and that contribute to the establishment of a just global society.

9. Administer the office of the Deaconess and Home Missioner Order.

10. Strengthen and support direct ministries to human need, both emerging and continuing, through national mission institutions working on behalf of women, children and youth and compassionate response around the world.

11. Provide leadership and support for persons serving as regional missionaries.”

8. ~~To~~ work with other agencies of the Church and community in areas of common concern and responsibility. A United Nations Office shall be conducted in cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society.

9. ~~To~~ Give visible evidence of oneness in Christ by uniting in fellowship and service with other Christians, including the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, Church Women United, and other similar groups, thereby strengthening the ecumenical witness and program of the Church.

~~To~~ formulate concepts of contemporary mission. Participate in developing mission theology.

Rationale:

Includes work with Deaconesses and Home Missioners, National Mission Institutions and Regional missionaries within the responsibilities of United Methodist Women at the national level. Updates language regarding work in mission theology.

¶1320.

Petition Number: 20044-GA-¶1320-G; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Amend ¶ 1320 as follows:

~~Authority—4. The Women's Division Board of Directors of United Methodist Women shall have the authority to make its bylaws and to regulate its proceedings in harmony with the charter of the board, and with its approval, to develop and carry out the functions of the board as described in ¶ 1302; to buy and sell property; to solicit and accept contributions, subject to annuity under the board's regulations; and to appropriate its funds meet at least annually and at such other times as it may deem necessary and shall have the authority to:~~

1. Make its bylaws and regulate its proceedings in harmony with its charter; buy and sell property; solicit and accept contributions, and appropriate its funds; decide on policy matters pertaining to the homes for retired workers which are owned by United Methodist Women.

~~2. The division shall meet annually at the time of the meeting of the board and at such other times as it shall deem necessary. Organize jurisdiction, conference, district, and local church organizations of United Methodist Women, which shall be directly related to the national organization.~~

3. Make constitutions and recommend bylaws for United Methodist Women at local, district, conference, jurisdiction levels.

~~The Women's Division shall include in its responsibilities:~~

a) ~~Those formerly carried by the Women's Society of Christian Service of The Methodist Church, and the Women's Society of World Service of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Women's Society of Christian Service of The United Methodist Church, and those other organizations of women of similar purposes that have operated in the churches forming the United Methodist tradition, including the Women's Missionary Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; the Woman's Missionary Society of The Evangelical Church; the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Service Guild, and the Ladies' Aid Societies of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Woman's Missionary Society, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Woman's Board of Home Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Council of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and the Woman's Convention of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Protestant Church. This list shall not be construed as exclusive.~~

b) ~~All policy matters pertaining to the homes for retired workers owned by the Women's Division:~~

4. ~~The Women's Division shall have the authority:~~

a) ~~To organize jurisdictional, conference, district, and local church organizations of United Methodist Women, which shall be auxiliary to the General Board of Global Ministries, through the Women's Division, of The United Methodist Church.~~

b) ~~To recommend constitutions and make bylaws for United Methodist Women.~~

4. e) To appropriate funds received through United Methodist Women.

5. ~~To~~ Serve as the national official policy-making body of United Methodist Women, with the officers of the national organization designated as the national officers.

Add new paragraph after ¶ 1320 as follows:

Successor entity - United Methodist Women shall be the name of the organization of The United Methodist Church formerly known as Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United

Methodist Church, which shall succeed to, control and be responsible for the work formerly carried out by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of The Methodist Church, the Women's Society of World Service of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Women's Society of Christian Service of The United Methodist Church, and those other organizations of women of similar purposes that have operated in the churches forming the United Methodist tradition, including the Women's Missionary Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; the Woman's Missionary Society of The Evangelical Church; the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Service Guild, and the Ladies' Aid Societies of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Woman's Missionary Society, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Woman's Board of Home Missions, and the Woman's Missionary Council of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and the Woman's Convention of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Protestant Church. This list shall not be construed as exhaustive.

Rationale:

Reorganizes description of the authority of the Board of Directors of United Methodist Women, deletes requirement to meet prior to meeting of the General Board of Global Ministries and updates and clarifies successor entity status in a separate paragraph.

¶1321.

Petition Number: 20045-GA-¶1321; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Amend ¶ 1321 as follows:

~~¶ 1321. Organization—The Women's Division shall elect an executive committee of nineteen members, which shall exercise the powers of the division *ad interim*. The Women's Division shall name members of its executive committee to serve on the board executive committee. The number named shall be at least one-third of the board executive committee membership. Members of the Women's Division executive committee shall be elected by the Women's Division to serve on executive committees of board units and committees as defined in board bylaws. The president, general secretary, and treasurer of the board (¶ 1307) and the deputy general secretary, treasurer, and assistant general secre-~~

~~aries of the Women's Division shall be members *ex officio* without vote. The board of directors of United Methodist Women may elect an executive committee of such membership as it may determine, which shall exercise the powers of the board *ad interim*. The members of the staff cabinet of United Methodist Women shall be members of the executive committee, *ex officio* without vote. The board of directors of United Methodist Women shall be organized into sections or committees as the directors shall determine.~~

Rationale:

Allows the board of directors to create committees or sections as needed and provides for staff participation. Incorporates content of former ¶ 1322. Eliminates provision that United Methodist Women elect one-third of Executive Committee of the General Board of Global Ministries (as proposed each organization would appoint members to each...

¶1322.

Petition Number: 20046-GA-¶1322; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Delete ¶ 1322.

Rationale:

Not needed due to proposed revisions of ¶ 1321.

¶1323.

Petition Number: 20047-GA-¶1323; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Amend ¶ 1323 as follows:

~~¶ 1323. Assembly—There may be an assembly of United Methodist Women, including a delegated body termed the Assembly. The division board of directors of United Methodist Women shall determine the time and place of meeting and the purpose, composition, functions, and powers of the Assembly.~~

Rationale:

Updates description of Assembly by deleting reference to a delegated body, and makes corresponding

changes in what is to be determined by the board of directors.

¶1324.

Petition Number: 20048-GA-¶1324-G; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Amend ¶ 1324 as follows:

¶ 1324. ~~*Financial Relationship to the General Board of Global Ministries Finances*~~—The funds for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of ~~the Women's Division~~ United Methodist Women shall be derived from annual voluntary pledges, offerings, gifts, devises, bequests, annuities, or money received through special emphases and meetings held in the interest of ~~the division~~ United Methodist Women. All funds, except those designated for local purposes, shall be forwarded through the channels of ~~finance~~ giving of the organization to the treasurer of United Methodist Women's, to the treasurer of the division, national organization. Undesignated funds received by the Women's Division shall be allocated by the division, on recommendation of the appropriate section or committee, for the work of the several sections of the Women's Division and to such other units of the General Board of Global Ministries as the division shall determine for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the division. Funds appropriated for the work of the other units of the board may be given with specific designations and time limits, after which unspent funds are to be returned to the division. The board of directors of United Methodist Women shall allocate undesignated funds it receives for the work of its various sections and committees as well as for grants and allocations to other organizations within the church and the world as may be necessary or useful for the fulfillment of its Purpose.

Add new paragraph after ¶ 1324 as follows:

Relationship to the General Board of Global Ministries—The board of directors of United Methodist Women shall elect five members to serve as directors of the General Board of Global Ministries. It shall also elect members to units and committees of the General Board of Global Ministries as defined in the General Board of Global Ministries' bylaws, including at least one member to serve on its executive committee.

Rationale:

Updates language to provide for new structure and direction to United Methodist Women to collect and allo-

cate its own funds. Deletes specific references to funding work of General Board of Global Ministries, while retaining general reference to allocating funds to other church agencies. Provides for election of five directors to...

¶1325.

Petition Number: 20050-GA-¶1325; Olson, Harriett Jane - New York, NY, USA for General Board of Global Ministries - Women's Division.

UMW Organization

Amend ¶ 1325 as follows and move paragraph to precede ¶ 1321:

¶ 1325. ~~*Membership of the Board of Directors*~~—~~The Women's Division shall be composed of fifty members as follows: forty shall be laywomen elected by the jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women at quadrennial meets (¶ 536.4); five shall be the jurisdiction presidents of United Methodist Women; and five shall be elected by the Women's Division. The president, general secretary, and treasurer of the board (¶ 1307) and the deputy general secretary, treasurer, and assistant general secretaries of the Women's Division shall be members ex officio. The Women's Division shall elect from its membership to board membership a number equivalent to one third of total board membership but not less than thirty. It shall also elect members to units and committees of the board as defined inboard bylaws.~~

United Methodist Women shall have a board of directors composed of 25 members as follows: 20 shall be laywomen elected by the jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women at quadrennial meetings (¶ 536.4); and five shall be laywomen elected by the board of directors. The staff cabinet of United Methodist Women shall be members *ex officio*, without vote.

Rationale:

Provides for a smaller membership of the board of directors of United Methodist Women. Eliminates provision that United Methodist Women elect one-third of the membership of the General Board of Global Ministries. As proposed each organization would provide five members to the other's governing structures.

¶1407.

Petition Number: 20072-GA-¶1407-G; Cape, Kim - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Size of the GBHEM Board

Amend ¶ 1407

Organization—1. The membership shall be ~~twenty-two~~ ~~sixty-four~~ persons, -constituted in-accordance with ¶ 705.3a and .4 of the General Provisions.

2. The membership shall be constituted as follows:

a) *Jurisdictional Members*—~~Clergy, laywomen, and laymen shall be elected to the board by the jurisdictional conference upon nomination from the annual conference in accordance with ¶705.4, based on the following formula: North Central 8, Northeastern 8, South Central 11, Southeastern 12, and Western 3. Each jurisdiction shall elect one member to the board. Other paragraphs of the Book of Discipline notwithstanding, the secretary of the General Conference shall offer to each jurisdiction a suggested member allocation to ensure that, when combined with the board members from central conferences, the resulting membership will reflect a balance of clergymen and clergywomen, laywomen and laymen. The secretary will also establish an equitable rotation to ensure that over the course of several quadrennia each jurisdiction will have the opportunity to elect a laywoman, a layman, a clergywoman and a clergyman.~~

b) *Central Conference Members*—~~Six~~ Three Central Conference members shall be elected to the board on nomination by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c. There shall be alternate members of the Central Conferences selected to ensure consistent representation at Board meetings.

c) *Episcopal Members*—~~Six~~ Three episcopal members shall be named by the Council of Bishops, including at least one from the central conferences (see ¶ 710.11).

d) *Additional Members*—(1) *United Methodist*—Additional members are nominated by a committee composed of ~~three~~ one persons from each jurisdiction (~~one clergy, one laywoman, and one layman~~) elected by the jurisdictional conference. They shall elect up to ~~nine~~ eleven additional members from the jurisdictions to ensure inclusivity and expertise. It is recommended that at least four (4) of the additional members be racial and ethnic persons from historically underrepresented groups. (2) ~~It is recommended that the board elect at least one of the additional members without vote from among the other churches of Churches Uniting in Christ.~~

Add New sub-paragraph

f) *Liaison Representatives* – The board may name other individuals as liaison representatives to provide networking and advice related to the areas of mutual

concern. When invited to board meetings, they shall have voice but not vote.

Rationale:

Part of a comprehensive plan (see ¶ 705 recommendation) to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GBHEM Board of Directors This is a response to the Call to Action Report which recommends “...smaller competency-based boards ...” This will result in a new governance model, and cost savings

¶1502.

Petition Number: 20422-GA-¶1502.2b; Boigegrain, Barbara - Glenview, IL, USA for General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

Election of General Secretary

Amend ¶ 1502.2. b) as follows:

The general board shall elect quadrennially, in such manner as it shall provide in its bylaws and policies, ~~at its organizational meeting~~ a general secretary, who shall be the chief executive officer of the general board. (Effective at the conclusion of General Conference 2012)

Rationale:

This change would allow the election of the general secretary to take place later in the quadrennium when the board of directors is better acquainted with the general secretary and the organization.

¶1701.

Petition Number: 20532-GA-¶1701-G; Jernigan, Jeff S. - Powder Springs, GA, USA.

Move Archives and History into GCFA

Delete ¶¶1701-1712 in their entirety.

Amend ¶264 as follows:

¶264.1. Heritage Sunday—Heritage Sunday shall be observed on Aldersgate Day (May 24), or the Sunday preceding that date (see Historical Statement, page 10). The day provides an opportunity for reflection on heritage, celebration of where the Church has been, how it understands itself as it shapes us today, and the meaning of Christian conferencing. Heritage Sunday calls the Church to remember the past by committing itself to the continuing call of God. The observance of Heritage

Sunday shall be under the general supervision of the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~. Any general agency of the Church which desires to recommend a theme for a given year for this Sunday may do so one year prior to the observance for which the recommendation is made. This recommendation is to be made to the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~, and the decision of the annual theme of this Sunday shall be made by the voting members of the General Commission on Archives and History.

Amend ¶510 as follows:

¶510.1. Corrections to the Daily Christian Advocate. The editor will then file with the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~ two bound copies of the Daily Christian Advocate and corrections as the official record of General Conference. Bound copies shall also be made available at cost by The United Methodist Publishing House.

¶510.4. All original documents of a General Conference shall be filed with the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~.

Amend ¶532 as follows:

¶532. Archives and History—1. There shall be a jurisdictional commission on archives and history, ~~auxiliary to the general commission,~~

Amend ¶545 as follows:

¶ 545. Records and Archives—1. The journal of the proceedings of a central conference, duly signed by the president and secretary, shall be sent for examination to the General Conference through its secretary. Two paper copies in every translation shall be sent without charge to the ~~General Commission on Archives and History and~~ the General Council on Finance and Administration,...

3. The secretary of each central conference shall submit a hardcopy of every translation and adaptation of the general Discipline or portion thereof in use in that central conference to the ~~General Commission on Archives and History and~~ the General Council on Finance and Administration.

Amend ¶606 as follows:

¶606.2. Each annual conference shall send without charge to the General Council on Finance and Administration, the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, ~~the General Commission on Archives and History~~, the Central or Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History, and the Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History two printed copies of its annual journal and one printed copy to the

Connectional Table and to United Methodist Communications. If available, one copy of a digital version of the journal shall be sent to the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~General Commission on Archives and History~~.

3.h) Memoirs as ordered by the annual conference following the guidelines of the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~,

Amend ¶641 as follows:

¶ 641. 1. In each annual conference there shall be a conference commission on archives and history. The number of members of the commission and their terms of office shall be as the conference may determine and may include an ex officio representative of each United Methodist heritage landmark in its bounds. It shall be the duty of the commission to collect, preserve, and make accessible the historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents; to encourage and assist the local churches in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage; to provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents (see ¶ 2548.3); to maintain a fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that obviously will have value for future history are properly preserved therein; to provide for the ownership of real property and to receive gifts and bequests; to nominate to the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~ buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic sites or heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions; to establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records under standards or guidelines developed by the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~; to cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional commissions on archives and history; and to engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

Amend ¶702 as follows:

¶702.2. Between sessions of the General Conference, the following general agencies are account-

able to the Connectional Table for those functions that are outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and *Ministry*, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the ~~General Commission on Archives and History~~,

Amend ¶703 as follows:

¶703.6. Administrative General Agencies—The general boards and commissions that have primarily administrative and service functions shall be designated as administrative general agencies. These agencies are the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and The United Methodist Publishing House, ~~and the General Commission on Archives and History~~ and General Commission on Communication, ~~the last two of which also carry program related responsibilities for which they are accountable to the Connectional Table.~~

Amend ¶705 as follows:

¶705.4.c) Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa); ~~three each on the General Commission on Archives and History~~,

Amend ¶805 as follows:

¶805.4.d) Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices—The council shall organize a committee consisting of three representatives from the General Council on Finance and Administration, one of whom shall serve as chairperson, and one representative of each of the following agencies: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, ~~the General Commission on Archives and History~~,

Amend ¶906 as follows:

¶906.1.c) The presidents of the following agencies: General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, General Commission on Religion and Race, General Commission on Status and Role of Women, General Commission on United Methodist Men, ~~and General Commission on Archives and History~~,

Amend ¶1122 as follows:

¶1122.4.b) Opportunity for timely review shall be offered to teachers, leaders, and pastors in local churches of various sizes, locations, and racial, ethnic, and cultural constituencies; general secretaries of the General Boards of Discipleship, Global Ministries, Church and Society, and Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Commissions on ~~History and Archives~~,

Create a new ¶805.4.f) as follows, renumbering succeeding paragraphs as appropriate:

¶805.4.f) Committee on Archives and History—
There shall be a Committee on Archives and History that shall serve as the official historical agency of The United Methodist Church. It may be separately incorporated, as determined by the Council, and it shall be the successor in effect and in law of the General Commission on Archives and History of The United Methodist Church.

(1) Purpose—(a). The purpose of the Committee shall be to promote and care for the historical interests of The United Methodist Church at every level. It shall gather, preserve, and hold title to library and archival materials, and it shall disseminate interpretive materials on the history of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents. It shall cooperate with other bodies, especially the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church, the World Methodist Historical Society, and the World Methodist Council in areas of mutual concern. It shall maintain archives and libraries in which shall be preserved historical records and materials of every kind relating to The United Methodist Church and shall see that such holdings are available for responsible public and scholarly use. It shall provide guidance for the proper creation, maintenance, and disposition of documentary record material at all levels of The United Methodist Church (see §(8)(a)ii). It shall provide support, direction, and encouragement for the work of annual conference and jurisdictional historical agencies and organizations by developing and making available historical, interpretive, and training media. It shall develop policies and resources for the designated United Methodist Historic Sites and United Methodist Heritage Landmarks. It shall provide general supervision for the observance of Heritage Sunday (see ¶ 264.1). It shall engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

(b). The Committee shall have responsibility for and supervision of its archives and historical libraries and other depositories of similar character, if any, established by The United Methodist Church.

(c). The Committee shall promote collection and dissemination of information and materials concerning

the historic witness made individually and collectively by women, racial and ethnic peoples, and other constituencies not covered extensively in traditional historical documentation in the worldwide life of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents.

(d). The Committee shall develop and make available interpretive materials such as handbooks, services of worship and celebrations of historical events, training films, and other media helpful to annual conferences and local churches.

(e). Once each quadrennium, the Committee may hold a historical convocation, to which may be invited members of jurisdictional and annual conference historical agencies and organizations; appropriate faculty and students in institutions of higher education related to The United Methodist Church; members of the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church; members of other Wesleyan, Methodist, and Evangelical United Brethren-related historical organizations; and such other persons, groups, or organizations as may be interested.

(2) Membership—(a). The Committee shall be constituted quadrennially, and its members and all officers elected by it shall hold office until their successors have been chosen. Interim vacancies during a quadrennium where not otherwise provided by the Discipline may be filled by the Council as it may determine.

(b). The Committee shall be composed of ten members chosen by the Council, five of whom shall be members of the Council. It is recommended that careful consideration be given to selecting the other five members to be persons with special interests and skills in the history of United Methodism.

(3). Meetings—The Committee shall meet annually at such time and place as it may determine, subject to the provisions of the act of incorporation, if the committee chooses to be incorporated.

(4). Officers—The Committee shall elect from its membership a chairperson and such other officers as may be needed.

(5). Staff—The Council shall choose a general director of the Committee and such other staff personnel as may be needed. The general director shall be the executive and administrative officer and shall carry on the work of the Committee, keep the records and minutes, serve as editor of official publications of the Committee, supervise the depositories, make an annual report to the Council, and furnish such reports as are required. The general director shall attend meetings of the Committee and shall have the privilege of the floor without vote. Archivists, curators, and librarians employed by the Committee shall be responsible to the

general director. They shall attend meetings of the Committee when it is deemed necessary by the general director. When in attendance, they shall have the privilege of the floor without vote.

(6). Finances—The Committee shall be financed by appropriations of the General Conference; the sale of literature and historical materials; subscriptions to the Committee's official publications; dues from associate members; and gifts, grants, and bequests of interested individuals and organizations.

(7). Historical Society of The United Methodist Church—(a). The Committee shall endorse and encourage the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church and encourage membership therein for the purpose of promoting interest in the study, preservation, and dissemination of the history and heritage of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents. The Historical Society shall be encouraged to enlist the support and cooperation of Committee on archives and history (or equivalent) at the annual conference, jurisdictional conference, and general Church levels as well as other interested agencies and organizations in the promotion of the historical interests of the Church. The society shall be financially self-supporting through dues and other sources, except for such services as may be provided by the General Conference Committee on Archives and History.

(b). Membership in the Historical Society shall be established as the society may determine. Membership shall entail the payment of such dues as the society may direct, in return for which members shall receive publications and other benefits as are deemed suitable.

(8). (a). Archival Definitions—i) Archives, as distinguished from libraries, house not primarily books, but documentary record material.

ii) Documentary record material shall mean all documents, minutes, journals, diaries, reports, pamphlets, letters, papers, manuscripts, maps, photographs, books, audiovisuals, sound recordings, magnetic or other tapes, electronic data processing records, artifacts, or any other documentary material, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received pursuant to any provisions of The Discipline in connection with the transaction of Church business by any general agency of The United Methodist Church or of any of its constituent predecessors.

iii) General agency of The United Methodist Church or of its constituent predecessors shall, in turn, mean and include every Church office, Church officer, or official (elected or appointed)—including bishop, institution, board, Committee, bureau, council, or conference—at the national level.

(b). Custodianship of Records—The church official in charge of an office having documentary record material shall be the custodian thereof, unless otherwise provided.

(c). Procedures—i) The Committee shall establish a central archives of The United Methodist Church and such regional archives and record centers as in its judgment may be needed.

ii) The bishops, General Conference officers, the Judicial Council, general boards, committees, and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall deposit official minutes or journals, or copies of the same, in the archives quadrennially and shall transfer correspondence, records, papers, and other archival materials described above from their offices when they no longer have operational usefulness. No records shall be destroyed until a disposal schedule has been agreed upon by the Committee and the agency. When the custodian of any official documentary record material of a general agency certifies to the Committee that such records have no further use or value for official and administrative purposes and when the Committee certifies that such records appear to have no further use or value for research or reference, then such records may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the agency or official having custody of them. A record of such certification and authorization shall be entered in the minutes or records of both the Committee and the agency. The Committee is hereby authorized and empowered to make such provisions as may be necessary and proper to carry this paragraph into effect.

iii) The Committee shall have the right to examine the condition of documentary record material and shall, subject to the availability of staff and funds, give advice and assistance to Church officials and agencies in regard to preserving and disposing of documentary record material in their custody. Officials of general agencies shall assist the Committee in the preparation of an inventory of records in their custody. To this inventory shall be attached a schedule, approved by the head of the agency having custody of the records and the Committee, establishing a time period for the retention and disposal of each series of records. So long as such approved schedule remains in effect, destruction or disposal of documentary record material in accordance with its provisions shall be deemed to have met the requirements of ¶ 1711.3b.

iv) The Committee is authorized and directed to conduct a program of inventorying, repairing, and microfilming among all general agencies of The United Methodist Church for security purposes that documentary record material which the Committee determines

has permanent value and to provide safe storage for microfilm copies of such material. Subject to the availability of funds, such program may be extended to material of permanent value of all agencies of The United Methodist Church.

v) The general boards, committees, and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall place two copies, as they are issued, of all their publications, of whatever kind, in the archives or in lieu thereof shall file a statement with the archivist affirming that they are preserving copies of all such items in their own libraries or depositories.

vi) Official documents, or copies thereof, such as articles of incorporation, constitutions, bylaws, and other official papers of the boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall be deposited in the archives.

vii) Whoever has the custody of any general agency records shall, at the expiration of the term of office, deliver to the successor, custodian, or, if there be none, to the Committee all records, books, writings, letters, and documents kept or received in the transaction of official general agency business. This will also apply to the papers of temporary and special general Church committees.

viii) The bishops, General Conference officers, and the general boards, committees, and agencies of The United Methodist Church are urged to counsel with the central archivist concerning the preservation of all materials.

ix) Jurisdictional, central, and annual conference secretaries shall deposit, without charge, two paper copies of their respective conference journals quadrennially or annually, as the case may be, with the Committee and in the archives of the central, jurisdictional, and annual conference as appropriate. One copy of a digital version of the journal will be sent to the Committee.

x) Secretaries of jurisdictional and annual conference boards, committees, and agencies shall deposit annually, or as often as they meet, copies of their minutes (as distinguished from reports that are printed separately or in the jurisdictional and annual conference journals) in the central archives or in the appropriate regional archives.

xi) Bishops, General Conference officers, general agency staff personnel, missionaries, and those ordained ministers and laypersons in positions of leadership and influence at any level of the Church are urged to deposit or bequeath their personal papers to the archives of the Committee.

xii) Organizations and individuals may negotiate appropriate restrictions on the use of materials that they deposit in the archives.

xiii) The Committee may authorize the transfer of materials to an organization, agency, or family.

xiv) All materials in the archives shall be available for research and exhibition, subject to such restrictions as may be placed on them.

(9). Historic Sites and Heritage Landmarks—(a). i) Historic Sites—Historic sites are buildings, locations, or structures that are specifically related to a significant event, development, or personality in the history of an annual, central, or jurisdictional conference (or its antecedents). Historic sites are designated by formal action of the annual, central, or jurisdictional conference within whose regions the site is located. Such designation shall first be considered and reviewed by the respective committee on archives and history (or equivalent). After action by the annual, central, or jurisdictional conference to designate a building, structure, or location as a historic site, the president or chairperson of the committee on archives and history (or equivalent) shall advise the Committee of the action taken and provide such documentation as may be required. The Committee in turn shall provide an official historic site marker, keep a register of all historic sites, and maintain an ongoing file of pertinent information concerning them.

ii) Heritage Landmarks—Heritage landmarks of The United Methodist Church are buildings, locations, or structures that are specifically related to significant events, developments, or personalities in the overall history of The United Methodist Church or its antecedents. They must have distinctive historic interest and value for the denomination as a whole, as contrasted with local or regional historic significance. Ordinarily, buildings, locations, or structures that have achieved historic significance within the preceding fifty years shall not be considered for designation as a heritage landmark.

iii) Designation of Heritage Landmarks—All nominations for the designation of buildings, locations, and structures as United Methodist heritage landmarks shall be made by the annual, central, or jurisdictional conference committee on archives and history (or equivalent) within whose regions they are located. Such nominations shall be referred for consideration to the Committee, in accord with guidelines established by the Committee. Through its Committee on Heritage Landmarks, the Committee shall consider the merits of each nomination and shall make such recommendation as it deems appropriate to the ensuing General Conference for its action and determination.

The Committee shall recommend only a building, location, or structure for designation as a heritage landmark that has been registered as a historic site by an annual, central, or jurisdictional conference and has met

the requirements established by the Committee. The Committee shall keep a register of all duly designated heritage landmarks and maintain an ongoing file of pertinent information concerning them.

iv) Quadrennial Review—The Committee shall be responsible for making a quadrennial review of the existing duly designated heritage landmarks, according to the criteria that it shall prepare and which shall be compatible with The Book of Discipline. The Committee shall further be responsible for recommending to the General Conference the redesignation or reclassification of the designated heritage landmarks as such action may be appropriate in keeping with such criteria.

(b). Present Heritage Landmarks—The present heritage landmarks of The United Methodist Church (and the year of their designation by General Conference) are: Acuff's Chapel, between Blountville and Kingsport, TN (1968); Albright Memorial Chapel, Kleinfeltersville, PA (1968); Asbury Manual Labor School and Mission, Ft. Mitchell, AL (1984); Barratt's Chapel, near Frederica, DE (1968); Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, FL (1984); Bishop John Seybert/Flat Rock Cluster, Flat Rock and Bellevue, OH (1992); Boehm's Chapel, Willow Street, PA (1984); Cokesbury College, Abingdon, MD (1984); Cox Memorial United Methodist Church, Hallowell, ME (1992); Deadwood Cluster, Deadwood, SD (1984); Edward Cox House, near Bluff City, TN (1968); First Evangelical Association Church Building and Publishing House, New Berlin, PA (1988); First United Methodist Church, Johnstown, PA (1996); Green Hill House, Louisburg, NC (1968); Hanby House, Westerville, OH (1988); John Street Church, New York City (1968); John Wesley's American Parish, Savannah, GA (1976); Keyword Marker, Glade Spring, VA (1988); Isaac Long's Barn, Landis Valley, Lititz, PA (2008); Lovely Lane Chapel, Baltimore, MD (1972); McMahan's Chapel, Bronson, TX (1972); Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, NY (1972); Old McKendree Chapel, Jackson, MO (1968); Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, MD (1968); Old Stone Church Cemetery and Site, Leesburg, VA (1968); Organization of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Louisville, KY (1984); Peter Cartwright United Methodist Church, Pleasant Plains, IL (1976); Rehobeth Church, near Union, WV (1968); Robert Strawbridge's Log House, near New Windsor, MD (1968); Rutersville Cluster, Rutersville, TX (1988); St. George's Church, Philadelphia, PA (1968); St. Simon's Island, Brunswick, GA (1968); Wesley Foundation, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL (1996); Town of Oxford, GA (1972); United Brethren Founding Sites Cluster, Frederick,

Keedysville, and Beaver Creek, MD (2000); Wesleyan College Cluster, Macon, GA (1992); Whitaker's Chapel, near Enfield, Halifax County, NC (1972); Willamette Mission, near Salem, OR (1992); Women's Foreign Missionary Society founding site, Boston, MA (2004) Wyandot Indian Mission, Upper Sandusky, OH (1968); and Zoar United Methodist Church, Philadelphia, PA (1984).

Rationale:

All the functions of the General Commission on Archives and History should be transferred to the General Council on Finance and Administration.

¶1801.

Petition Number: 20547-GA-¶1801; Millar, Karen L. - Searcy, AR, USA.

Move Communications into GCFA

Delete ¶¶1801-1808 in their entirety.

Amend ¶263 as follows:

¶ 263. Six churchwide special Sundays with offerings shall be celebrated in each United Methodist Church.

Purpose—General Conference shall determine the purpose of the churchwide offerings upon recommendation of the General Council on Finance and Administration, after consultation with the Council of Bishops and the Connectional Table. The purpose of these offerings shall remain constant for the quadrennium, and the net receipts shall be distributed on ratio to the administering agencies by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration (see ¶ 823.7 and ¶ 805.6). The General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall promote these offerings in cooperation with the agencies responsible for the administration of these funds. (See ¶ 1806.12.) Each offering shall be promptly remitted in full by the local church treasurer to the annual conference treasurer, who shall transmit the funds in full, except where noted differently below, to the General Council on Finance and Administration within thirty days of receipt in the office of the annual conference treasurer.

¶263.1... In connection with Human Relations Day the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal. Net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, shall be allocated on ratio by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration, to the administering agencies:

¶263.2. One Great Hour of Sharing—Historically, One Great Hour of Sharing has been celebrated with an offering on the Fourth Sunday in Lent. Congregations are to observe One Great Hour of Sharing on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. Lent is the season of repentance, self-examination, and awareness of the hurts of the peoples of the world. One Great Hour of Sharing calls the Church to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. In connection with One Great Hour of Sharing, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal....

¶263.3. World Communion Sunday—Historically, World Communion Sunday has been celebrated with an offering on the first Sunday of October. Congregations are to observe World Communion Sunday on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. World Communion Sunday calls the church to be the catholic inclusive church. In connection with World Communion Sunday the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶263.4. United Methodist Student Day—Historically, United Methodist Student Day has been celebrated with an offering on the last Sunday in November. Congregations are to observe United Methodist Student Day on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. United Methodist Student Day calls the Church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. The offering supports United Methodist scholarships and the United Methodist Student Loan Fund. In connection with United Methodist Student Day, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶263.5. Peace with Justice Sunday—Historically, Peace with Justice Sunday has been celebrated with an offering on the First Sunday After Pentecost. Congregations are to observe Peace with Justice Sunday on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. Pentecost celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit calling for God's shalom. Peace with Justice witnesses to God's demand for a faithful, just, disarmed, and secure world. In connection with Peace with Justice Sunday, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶263. 6. Native American Ministries Sunday—Historically, Native American Ministries Sunday has been celebrated with an offering on the Third Sunday of Easter. United States congregations are to observe Native American Ministries Sunday on this date or on

another date appropriate to the local church. This Sunday serves to remind the Church of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. In connection with Native American Ministries Sunday, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a church-wide appeal.

Amend ¶606 as follows:

¶606.2. Each annual conference shall send without charge to the General Council on Finance and Administration, the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, the General Commission on Archives and History, the Central or Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History, and the Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History two printed copies of its annual journal and one printed copy to the Connectional Table ~~and to United Methodist Communications~~.

Amend ¶609 as follows:

¶609.a)(9) To provide the connectional relationship between the conference and the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~United Methodist Communications~~.

Amend ¶633 as follows:

¶633.4.b)(22) To appoint annual conference disaster response coordinators to assist the United Methodist Committee on Relief by encouraging the formation of an annual conference disaster response committee that relates to the annual conference board of global ministries and includes, when possible, members of the General Board of Global Ministries from the annual conference. The membership of the Disaster Response Committee may include district disaster response coordinators and the conference director of communications ~~or member of the commission on communications~~.

Amend ¶702 as follows:

¶702.2. Between sessions of the General Conference, the following general agencies are accountable to the Connectional Table for those functions that are outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Commission on Archives and History, and the General Commission on United Methodist Men, ~~and the General Commission on Communication~~ in matters pertaining to their program responsibilities.

Amend ¶703 as follows:

¶703.6. Administrative General Agencies—The general boards and commissions that have primarily administrative and service functions shall be designated as administrative general agencies. These agencies are the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, The United Methodist Publishing House, and the General Commission on Archives and History ~~and General Commission on Communication, the last two of which also carry program-related responsibilities for which they are accountable to the Connectional Table.~~

Amend ¶705 as follows:

¶705.1. Nominations by Conferences—a) Each annual and missionary conference in the United States, upon recommendation from a committee composed of the bishop and the general and jurisdictional conference delegation, and having allowed opportunity for nominations from the floor, shall elect persons to be submitted to a jurisdictional pool. The jurisdictional nominating committee shall select persons for election to the following general Church bodies: Connectional Table; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; The United Methodist Publishing House; General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; ~~General Commission on Communication~~;

¶705.4.c) Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa); three each on the General Commission on Archives and History, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~;

¶705.5. Other General Agencies—a) Each jurisdictional conference shall elect members from the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States (¶ 705.1) in accordance with the specific membership provisions of those agencies as set forth in the Book of Discipline: General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (¶ 1502.1a), The United Methodist Publishing House (¶ 1602), General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (¶ 1906), ~~General Commission on Communication (¶ 1807)~~;

Amend ¶805 as follows:

¶805.4.d) Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices—The council shall organize a committee consisting of three representatives from the General Council on Finance and Administration, one of whom shall serve

as chairperson, and one representative of each of the following agencies: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, ~~the General Commission on Communication,~~

Amend ¶807 as follows:

¶807.10. To supervise the use of the official United Methodist insignia and preserve the integrity of its design, ~~in cooperation with the General Commission on Communication.~~

Delete §812.4 in its entirety.

Delete §813.5 in its entirety.

Delete §814.7 in its entirety.

Amend ¶815 as follows:

¶815.3. Promotion of the Black College Fund shall be by the Division of Higher Education and in consultation with the Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges, in cooperation with and with the assistance of the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication,~~

Delete §816.4 in its entirety.

Amend ¶817 as follows:

¶ 817. Purpose—1. The Episcopal Fund, raised in accordance with ¶ 817.3, shall provide for the salary and expenses of effective bishops²⁴ from the date of their consecration and for the support of retired bishops and surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops. Subject to the approval of the General Council on Finance and Administration, the treasurer shall have authority to borrow for the benefit of the Episcopal Fund such amounts as may be necessary for the proper execution of the orders of the General Conference. ~~The General Commission on Communication shall promote the Episcopal Fund.~~

Delete §819.7 in its entirety.

Amend ¶820 as follows:

¶820.3. Promotional expenses for World Service Specials shall be borne by the respective participating agencies in proportion to the amount received by each in World Service Specials. The causes of World Service Specials shall be coordinated with other financial appeals ~~and shall be promoted by the General Commission on Communication.~~

¶820.4. The appeals for World Service Specials shall be channeled through bishops, district superintendents, and pastors. Details of the procedure shall be determined by the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ in consultation with representatives of the recipient agencies or entities.

¶820.5. In each annual conference, World Service Specials and One Great Hour of Sharing shall be promoted by the appropriate conference agency with the appropriate general agency ~~and the General Commission on Communications.~~

Amend ¶822 as follows:

¶822.3. Promotional expenses for Advance Specials shall be borne by the respective participating units in proportion to the amount received by each in Advance Specials. The causes of the Advance shall be coordinated with other financial appeals and shall be promoted by the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication.~~

¶822.4. The appeal for Advance Specials shall be channeled through bishops, district superintendents, and pastors. Details of the procedure shall be determined by the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ in consultation with the designated unit of the General Board of Global Ministries and the Advance Committee.

Amend ¶823 as follows:

¶823.1...In connection with Human Relations Day, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶823.2... In connection with One Great Hour of Sharing, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶823.3...In connection with United Methodist Student Day, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶823.4...In connection with World Communion Sunday, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal...

¶823.5...In connection with Peace with Justice Sunday, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶823.6...In connection with Native American Ministries Sunday, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

¶823.7. The General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ shall promote all authorized churchwide special Sundays with offerings in consultation with participating agencies. Promotional expenses for each offering shall be a prior claim against the receipts of the offering promoted. In each case, such expenses shall be within a budget

approved by the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~upon recommendation of the General Commission on Communication~~ after consultation with participating agencies. In the promotion of these offerings, the spiritual implications of Christian stewardship shall be emphasized.

Amend ¶906 as follows:

¶906.1.c) The presidents of the following agencies: General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, General Commission on Religion and Race, General Commission on Status and Role of Women, General Commission on United Methodist Men, ~~General Commission on Communications~~,...

Amend ¶1121 as follows:

¶1121.4. Membership—The committee shall be composed of one board member and one staff member from each of the following agencies: the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; one member (board or staff) from each of the following: the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on United Methodist Men, The United Methodist Publishing House, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~,...

Delete §1207.2.k) in its entirety.

Amend ¶1208 as follows:

¶1208.3. A minimum of 70 percent of the general portion of the Youth Service Fund shall be used to fund Youth Service Fund projects; the remaining amount shall be used for office resourcing and Youth Service Fund promotion and interpretation. ~~The General Council on Finance and Administration United Methodist Communications~~ shall assist the Division on Ministries With Young People in the promotion and interpretation of the Youth Service Fund.

Amend ¶1327 as follows:

¶1327.2.a)(5) To work cooperatively with The General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~ in promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

Amend ¶1405 as follows:

¶1405.21. To promote, in cooperation with the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~, churchwide special Sundays and funds:...

Amend ¶1637 as follows:

¶ 1637. Service of the Entire United Methodist Church—There shall be one complete, coordinated system of literature published by the board for the entire United Methodist Church. This literature is to be of such type and variety as to meet the needs of all groups of our people. The board president and publisher shall consult with the general program agencies, the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Communication~~, and the Connectional Table with regard to their publishing needs in order to avoid unnecessary overlapping and duplication.

Create a new ¶805.4.f) as follows, renumbering succeeding paragraphs as appropriate:

¶ 805.4.f). Committee on Communication—There shall be a Committee on Communication of the Council. The Committee is successor to the General Commission on Communication and to the Joint Committee on Communications, incorporated in the State of Ohio. It is authorized to create such corporate structures as the Council deems appropriate to carry out its functions.

(1). Purpose—The Committee shall lead the Church in communication. It shall meet the communication, public relations, and marketing needs of the entire Church, reflecting the cultural and racial diversity within The United Methodist Church. It shall provide communication resources and services to local churches and annual conferences. It shall have a consultative relationship with all general agencies of the Church and with any structures for communication and public relations at the jurisdictional, episcopal area, annual conference, district, or local church level.

(2). Responsibilities—Specific responsibilities and functions of the Committee are as follows:

(a). It shall be the official newsgathering and distributing agency for The United Methodist Church and its general agencies. In discharging its responsibilities, in keeping with the historic freedom of the press, it shall operate with editorial freedom as an independent news bureau serving all segments of church life and society, making available to both religious and public news media information concerning the Church at large.

(b). It shall have major responsibility on behalf of The United Methodist Church in the United States to relate to the public media in presenting the Christian faith and work of the Church to the general public through broadcast, the press, and multimedia. It may develop such structures for broadcast and multimedia communication purposes as are deemed helpful to the Church in its witness through the media. It shall unify and coordinate public media messages and programs of United Methodist general agencies.

(c). It shall give special attention to television, including broadcast television, cable, videotape, videodisc, and satellite. It shall provide counsel and resources to annual conferences—and through conferences, to districts and local churches—to develop and strengthen their television ministries. Responsibilities of the commission shall include program production and placement, and relationships to commercial broadcasters at the national level in the United States.

(d). It shall represent The United Methodist Church in the Department of Communication of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and in other national and international interdenominational agencies working in mass communications. Budget allocations and other funds granted to these ecumenical agencies shall be administered in accordance with ¶ 814.

(e). It shall have responsibility to work toward promotion and protection of the historic freedoms of religion and the press, and it shall seek to increase the ethical, moral, and human values of media structures and programs.

(f). It shall have general supervision over the conduct of public relations activities for The United Methodist Church in the United States, planning and doing public relations work at the denomination-wide level, and counseling the various units of the Church in regard to their public relations needs. It shall interpret to the constituency of the Church the significance of the denomination and its various programs.

(g). It shall develop and oversee a unified and comprehensive program of multimedia materials for the Church. It shall plan, create, produce or cause to be produced, and distribute or cause to be distributed multimedia materials that are informative and vital to the religious life of all United Methodists. It shall unify and coordinate the multimedia programs of all United Methodist agencies dealing with projected pictures, recordings, videotape, and other multimedia or electronic materials.

(h). It shall oversee a comprehensive communication system for the Church, providing a total view of communication structure and practices, including telecommunications. It shall create networks of communicators at all levels, including local church, district, conference, jurisdiction, and general church. These networks may include periodic consultations for such purposes as idea exchange, information sharing, joint planning, and monitoring and evaluating the total Church's communication enterprises. With respect to the use of computers for communication purposes, the Committee shall cooperate with other structures within

the General Council on Finance and Administration (see ¶ 807.9).

(i). It shall provide guidance, resources, and training for the local church coordinator of communications (¶ 255[3]), provided that training at the local level shall be through and in cooperation with annual conferences.

(j). It shall educate and train in communication principles and skills, including the following: (i) national workshops and training experiences in communication skills related to various media; (ii) consultation with and assistance to annual conferences, districts, and racial and ethnic groups in training local church persons, especially the local church coordinator of communications; (iii) training experiences for bishops, personnel of general Church agencies, and other groups on request; (iv) providing and facilitating apprenticeship, internship, and scholarship programs for church communicators; and (v) counseling schools of theology and other institutions of higher education about the training of faculty, candidates for the ordained ministry, and laypersons in the principles and skills of communication, media resource development, and media evaluation.

(k). It shall determine and implement policy for the marketing of all financial causes demanding churchwide promotion or publicity.

(l). It shall responsibility for marketing throughout the Church all general Church funds as well as any emergency appeals authorized by the Council of Bishops and the General Council on Finance and Administration (¶ 818). In the marketing of these causes, the Committee shall consult with and is encouraged to use content material provided by the program agency responsible for the area and with the agency responsible for the administration of the funds. Charges for the cost of marketing the funds shall be as determined by the General Council on Finance and Administration.

(m). It shall undertake the marketing of any cause or undertaking, financial or otherwise, not herein mentioned demanding churchwide promotion or publicity, provided such action is approved by the Council of Bishops and the General Council on Finance and Administration, or their respective executive committees. The General Council on Finance and Administration shall determine the source of the funding for any such authorized promotions.

(n). It shall represent United Methodist interests in new technological developments in the field of communication, including research, the evaluation of new devices and methods, and the application of technological developments to the communication services of the Church.

(o). It shall provide resources, counsel, and staff training for area, conference, and district communication programs and develop guidelines in consultation with persons working in areas, conferences, and districts.

(p). It shall produce materials for program interpretation in cooperation with the Connectional Table and the general program boards, including the official program calendar of the denomination.

(q). The General Commission on Communication shall be charged with planning and implementation of the official United Methodist presence on and use of the Internet, the World Wide Web, or other computer services that can connect United Methodist conferences, agencies, and local churches with one another and with the larger world.

(3). Organization—(a). Membership—There shall be ten members of the Committee elected by the General Council on Finance and Administration. Five of the members shall be members of the Council. The other five members should be persons with expertise in the field of communication.

(b). Meetings—The Committee shall hold at least one meeting in each calendar year.

(c). Officers—The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and such other officers as it determines.

(d). Staff—The General Council on Finance and Administration may choose a general director of the Committee, and such other staff as the Council may determine.

(4). Finance—The General Conference shall provide for the financial needs of the Committee upon recommendation by the General Council on Finance and Administration.

Rationale:

All the functions of both the General Commission on Communication should be transferred to the General Council on Finance and Administration, and it should be made clear that it is an administrative body.

¶1901.

Petition Number: 20325-GA-¶1901-G; Sidorak, Stephen J. Jr. - New York, NY, USA for General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.

Consolidate Ecumenical Ministries within COB

Delete ¶¶1901-1912, the entirety of Section XIII of Chapter Five of Part V of the *Book of Discipline*.

Modify all paragraphs of the *Book of Discipline* in which there are references to the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns as follows:

¶347.2.a)...~~The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ Council of Bishops shall provide the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry with a list of denominations that meet this definition.

¶504.3...After consultation with the Council of Bishops ~~and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~, the secretary shall issue invitations to ecumenical representatives.

¶573.1.c) For The United Methodist Church, oversight of the covenantal relationships is the responsibility of the Council of Bishops, ~~with the assistance of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~, while participation in specific projects is the responsibility of the appropriate general agency or agencies.

¶642. 1. Each annual conference shall create appropriate structures related to a conference commission or committee on Christian unity and interreligious relationships concerns or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships with the Council of Bishops ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~.

¶642.2...Ex officio members of the annual conference structures for Christian unity and interreligious relationships concerns shall include the conference ecumenical officer(s), if elected, and any United Methodists residing within the conference bounds who are members of the Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships of the Council of Bishops ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~,

¶642.4. The duties of the annual conference structure commission or committee shall be to act in cooperation with the annual conference council on ministries; ~~in coordination with the duties of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, as outlined in ¶¶ 1902-1903,~~

¶643.3.k) Coordinating, ~~in consultation with the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~, the conference programs of cooperation with African American and other racial and ethnic denominations, especially those of the Methodist family.

¶702.2. Between sessions of the General Conference, the following general agencies are accountable to the Connectional Table for those functions that are outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church

and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, ~~the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns;~~

¶703.5 These agencies are amenable to the General Conference, and between sessions of the General Conference are accountable to the Connectional Table for those functions outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; ~~the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns,~~

¶705.1.a)... The jurisdictional nominating committee shall select persons for election to the following general Church bodies: Connectional Table; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; The United Methodist Publishing House; ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns;~~

¶705.3.b) ...The Council of Bishops ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ shall assist general agencies in their compliance with this provision.

¶705.4.c) Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa); three each on the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the General Commission on United Methodist Men, and The United Methodist Publishing House; four ~~each~~ on the General Council on Finance and Administration ~~and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns;~~

¶805.4.d) Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices—The council shall organize a committee consisting of three representatives from the General Council on Finance and Administration, one of whom shall serve as chairperson, and one representative of each of the following agencies: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Archives and History, ~~the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns,~~

¶ 814. Interdenominational Cooperation Fund—
1. This fund shall provide United Methodist support of the basic budgets of those organizations that relate to the ecumenical responsibilities of the Council of Bishops ~~and of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.~~

¶814.2 The ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns,~~ in consultation with the Council of Bishops; shall recommend to the General Council on Finance and Administration the amounts of the several annual allocations from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget.

¶814.3. The Council of Bishops ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ shall determine annually, ~~in consultation with the Council of Bishops,~~ the designations of all funds for ecumenical agencies to be paid from the following year's Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget that have not been specifically designated by the prior General Conference. The Council of Bishops ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ shall communicate such designations to the General Council on Finance and Administration prior to the beginning of the fiscal year made the subject of such designations.

¶814.4. The fund shall also provide for the expenses of representatives chosen by the Council of Bishops ~~or by the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ to attend meetings and committees of such ecumenical agencies. The General Council on Finance and Administration shall reimburse such expenses from vouchers approved by persons designated by the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops, ~~general secretary of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns or by the general secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration.~~

5. Disbursement of Funds to Ecumenical Organizations—
a) The General Council on Finance and Administration shall remit monthly to each organization included in the approved Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget an on-ratio share of the fund's net receipts, after the payment of any fixed charges.

b) In the interim between sessions of the General Conference, exceptions to this directive may occur under one of the following circumstances:

(1) If the organization is unable to fulfill, or ceases to fulfill, the purpose or purposes which were the basis for the Council of Bishops' ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns'~~ original recommendation for funding.

(2) If the organization ceases to exist.

c) If the ~~Commission, in consultation with the~~ Council of Bishops; determines that such circumstances warrant, it may recommend to the General Council on Finance and Administration that funding for the organization be suspended or reduced, either indefinitely or for a specified period of time. The Council shall then reduce or suspend remittance of fund receipts to the organization until such time as the ~~Commission, in consultation with the~~ Council of Bishops; determines that the circumstances which led to reduction or suspension of payments no longer exist. The Commission Council of Bishops shall then recommend to the General Council on Finance and Administration whether remittances to the organization are to be resumed in amounts based on current Interdenominational Cooperation Fund receipts only, or whether amounts previously withheld should be disbursed along with the amounts payable from current receipts.

d) If funding to an organization is reduced or suspended, the funds which otherwise would have been disbursed shall be held by the General Council on Finance and Administration until the ~~Commission, in consultation with the~~ Council of Bishops; recommends that they be restored to the organization or used to support a similar ecumenical organization. If the funds are not expended prior to the next session of the General Conference, the General Council on Finance and Administration, after consultation with the Council of Bishops ~~Commission~~, shall report to the General Conference the amount of funds being held and may recommend, for General Conference action, the disposition of the funds.

6. Before the beginning of each calendar year, the General Council on Finance and Administration shall determine and communicate to the Council of Bishops ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ the sum available from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund Contingency Reserve to be allocated ~~by the commission~~ to meet emerging needs of ecumenical agencies.

¶906.1.c) The Ecumenical Officer of Council of Bishops and the presidents of the following agencies: General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~,

1207.2 d) General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

e) ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~

f) General Commission on Religion and Race

¶2008.19. Maintaining a close relationship with the General Board of Church and Society ~~and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~,

¶ 2401. Liaison Role of the Council of Bishops—
1. In formal relations with other churches and/or ecclesial bodies, the Council of Bishops shall be the primary liaison for The United Methodist Church. The Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops shall be responsible for these relationships ~~and shall work in cooperation with the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns in the fulfillment of these functions.~~

¶2401.2. a) The Council of Bishops shall have the authority to enter into interim and provisional ecumenical agreements with other Christian bodies, ~~following consultation with and the concurrence of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious concerns.~~ However, all agreements of full communion and permanent membership in ecumenical organizations shall be ratified by General Conference, before they become effective.

¶2401.3. ~~The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns shall consult with the Council of Bishops in establishing the guide lines for the administration of the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund (see ¶¶ 814 and 1903.17).~~

4. The United Methodist representatives to ecumenical organizations in the following paragraphs shall be selected by the Council of Bishops ~~from nominations reviewed by the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.~~ Such representatives shall be inclusive in terms of gender, race and ethnicity, age, persons with disabilities, and region. Representatives shall reflect consideration of balances required both by The United Methodist Church and the respective ecumenical organization. Consideration shall be given to persons named to jurisdictional and central conference pools (see ¶ 705.1.b, c).

When proxies are needed to substitute for United Methodist representatives to a specific ecumenical organization, ~~the general secretary of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, in consultation with~~ the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops; is authorized to name such proxies. Consideration shall be given to United Methodists residing in the area of the ecumenical organization's meeting, and to the inclusivity of the delegation. The names of proxies shall be reported at the next meeting of the Council of Bishops.

Representatives and proxies from The United Methodist Church to various working groups of any of

the ecumenical organizations in the following paragraphs shall be named by ~~the general secretary of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, in consultation with~~ the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops.

5. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, should structural changes be voted between sessions of the General Conference by any of the ecumenical organizations in the following paragraphs, necessitating election of a new group of United Methodist delegates, the Council of Bishops is authorized to elect, ~~based on recommendations from the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns,~~ such delegates as may be required.

¶ 2402. Financial Support—United Methodist financial support of the ecumenical organizations in the following paragraphs shall be remitted from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund through the General Council on Finance and Administration in accordance with ¶ 814. The general agencies of the Church may make such payments to these ecumenical organizations as they deem to be their responsibility and proportionate share in the cooperative programs. Such payments shall be reported to the General Council on Finance and Administration, and that Council shall include a summary report of United Methodist financial support in its annual financial report to the Church. United Methodist financial support of ecumenical dialogues and multilateral conversations, approved by the ~~Council of Bishops General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns,~~ shall also be remitted from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund in the same manner.

2404.2.b) Other National or Regional Ecumenical Organizations—~~The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, in consultation with~~ the Council of Bishops; shall be in dialogue with United Methodists in whatever countries they may reside, and shall coordinate, explore, and advocate United Methodist participation in regional ecumenical and ~~interfaith~~ interreligious organizations and shall address the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund funding of ~~committee of the GCCUIC on~~ financial needs and the advisability of support of these organizations.

c) The United Methodist Church shall seek observer status in the National Association of Evangelicals. United Methodist observers to these bodies shall be appointed by the Council of Bishops.

3. The World Council of Churches and Other International Ecumenical Organizations—a) World Council of Churches-The United Methodist Church is a member of the World Council of Churches, its predeces-

sor Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches having been charter members of such body.

b) Other International Ecumenical Organizations—~~The General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, in consultation with~~ the Council of Bishops; shall be in dialogue with United Methodists in whatever countries they may reside, and shall coordinate, explore, and advocate United Methodist participation in international ecumenical and ~~interfaith~~ interreligious organizations and shall address the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund funding of ~~committee of the GCCUIC on~~ financial needs and the advisability of support of these organizations.

Add a new Section IX to Chapter Three of Part V of the *Book of Discipline*, ¶¶441-447 as follows:

Section IX. Ecumenical and Interreligious Ministries

¶441. As provided in ¶2401, “In formal relations with other churches and/or ecclesial bodies, the Council of Bishops shall be the primary liaison for The United Methodist Church.” Further, as provided in ¶403.1.e), “The role of the bishop is to be the shepherd of the whole flock.” Therefore, the bishops of The United Methodist Church are called to lead the Church in its ecumenical and interreligious ministries.

¶442. In pursuit of its ecumenical and interreligious responsibilities the Council of Bishops shall create an Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships (OCUIR) effective upon adjournment of General Conference 2012. The purpose of the OCUIR will be to deepen and expand the ecumenical and interreligious ministries of the United Methodist Church.

¶443. Membership—Members of the OCUIR shall be elected by the Council of Bishops as follows:

1. The OCUIR shall be composed of two episcopal members as determined by the Council of Bishops, including the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops. One of the episcopal members shall be from a central conference.

2. One person from each jurisdiction, one person from the central conferences in Africa, one person from the central conferences in Europe, and one person from the central conference in The Philippines. The bishop who is not the Ecumenical Officer shall be counted as one of these eight persons. Each jurisdictional or central conference will nominate two candidates and the Council of Bishops will elect seven members from this pool of nominees.

3. It is recommended that the Council of Bishops ensure that the United Methodist membership persons be inclusive of ethnic representation, youth, young adults, and women, with a goal of 50% laity.

4. Two members with voice and vote from our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners

¶444. Staff—1. There shall be an Ecumenical Staff Officer of The United Methodist Church to be selected by the Council of Bishops. The work of the OCUIR shall be facilitated by the Ecumenical Staff Officer who shall be in charge of the day to day work of the OCUIR. The Ecumenical Staff Officer shall be the OCUIR's principal administrative and executive officer.

2. Additional staff shall be selected in number and responsibility as determined by the Council of Bishops.

3. The Ecumenical Staff Officer shall report to the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops. All other staff members shall report to and serve at the pleasure of the Ecumenical Staff Officer.

4. The staff of the OCUIR shall be positioned in locations to be determined by the Council of Bishops.

¶445. Funding—Beginning no later than January 1, 2017, funding for the ecumenical and interreligious ministries of the Church shall be provided by the Council of Bishops in one or more line items of the Episcopal Fund to be clearly identified in its budget request to General Conference.

¶446. Responsibilities and powers—Responsibilities and powers of the OCUIR shall be as assigned by the Council of Bishops.

¶447. Full Communion with other Churches

1. To fulfill the vision of full communion between The United Methodist Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, there shall be a Joint Commission on ELCA/UMC Full Communion. The commission shall serve the following functions:

a) Coordinate the implementation of action taken by the two churches to achieve full communion.

b) Assist joint planning for mission.

c) Facilitate consultation and common decision making through appropriate channels in fundamental matters that the churches may face together in the future.

d) Report regularly and appropriately to each church.

The United Methodist membership of this commission shall be the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops and one lay and one clergy member of OCUIR elected by OCUIR.

2. The Council of Bishops shall receive reports of the ongoing partnership of the UMC in the Central Conferences which are in full communion with Lutheran Churches and other denominations in order to learn from each other how to “provide leadership toward the goal of understanding, reconciliation and unity within the Church—the United Methodist Church and the church universal” (Art. 403.1e).

Rationale:

¶¶1901-1912 are the paragraphs that create the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns as an independent commission of the UMC. The purpose of this legislation is to relocate those ministries under the unified oversight of the Council of Bishops, which is done in other parts of this petition...

¶1907.

Petition Number: 20111-GA-¶1907-G; Yemba, David Kekumba - Kinshasa II, nu, Democratic Republic of the Congo for Committee on Faith and Order.

Committee on Faith and Order

Delete existing ¶¶1907 through 1912, inclusively, and insert new ¶¶436 through 443 as follows:

¶ ~~1907. 436.~~ There shall be a Committee on Faith and Order that, while functioning with the authority of an independent committee (¶ 701.2, ~~2004 Book of Discipline~~), shall, ~~for purposes of staffing, budgeting, and financial affairs, reside under the auspices of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns~~ be amenable to the Council of Bishops.

¶ ~~1908. 437.~~ Purpose—The Committee on Faith and Order shall give leadership to The United Methodist Church in reflecting upon, discerning and living out matters of faith, doctrinal teaching, order, and discipline in the midst of mission and ministry in the church and the world. The committee shall be a visible expression of the commitment of The United Methodist Church to carry on informed theological reflection for the current time in dynamic continuity with the historic Christian faith, our common heritage as Christians grounded in the apostolic witness, and our distinctive Wesleyan heritage. The committee shall be charged with three broad responsibilities:

1. To lead and coordinate studies commissioned by the General Conference in matters related to the faith, doctrine, order and discipline of the church.

2. ~~To~~ Upon request of the Council of Bishops, to support and provide resources upon request to the Council of Bishops in its ~~their~~ responsibility to “guard, transmit, teach, and proclaim, corporately and individually the apostolic faith as it is expressed in Scripture and tradition, and as they are led and endowed by the Spirit, to interpret that faith evangelically and prophetically.” (¶414.3)

3. To prepare and provide resources and study materials to the General Church as deemed appropriate upon request from the General Conference, or the Council of Bishops, or Connectional Table.

¶ ~~1909.~~ 438. Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the Committee on Faith and Order shall be:

1. To provide a venue and context for ongoing conversation on matters of faith, doctrine, order and discipline.

2. To draw upon scholars and scholarship in biblical studies, biblical theology, systematic theology, historical theology, Christian ethics, Wesleyan studies, practical theology, missiology, and other areas thereby providing expertise and knowledge to lead and assist the church in addressing matters of faith and order critical to the life, ministry and mission of the church.

3. To receive and administer mandates from General Conference for studies on matters that require significant inquiry into and application of the faith and order of the church.

a) The committee shall nominate from its own membership and from others those who are to serve on various study committees and teams, ~~and present these nominations to the Council of Bishops for approval.~~

b) The committee may, with approval of the Council of Bishops, carry out ~~the any~~ mandated study internally or may create such committees and teams using members from within the committee and others from beyond the committee as may be required by the volume and complexity of work.

c) The committee itself and all committees and teams empowered by the committee shall include racial/ethnic and gender diversity; and regional representation, and it shall model effective representation of the theological diversity of The United Methodist Church.

4. To coordinate and provide for effective interaction and communication among various study committees, commissions and teams when multiple studies have been mandated.

5. Upon request to provide research and resourcing for the Council in Bishops in matters related to faith, doctrine, order and discipline.

6. To make provision for the preparation and dissemination of study documents and materials for the church upon request of the General Conference, or the Council of Bishops or Connectional Table.

7. To bring all studies, materials or publications as appropriate to the Council of Bishops or the General Conference as directed by the Council of Bishops for approval and action.

¶ ~~1910.~~ 439. Authorities and Powers—The Committee on Faith and Order shall have the authority

and power to fulfill all the responsibilities noted in ¶¶ 437 and 438 ~~1908 and 1909.~~ The Committee on Faith and Order shall be amenable to the Council of Bishops General Conference of ~~the~~ The United Methodist Church. ~~Between sessions of the General Conference, the Committee shall be accountable to the Connectional Table by reporting and interpreting activities designed to fulfill the purpose of the Committee and by cooperating with the Connectional Table in fulfillment of its legislated responsibilities.~~

¶ ~~1911.~~ 440. Membership—The Committee on Faith and Order shall be organized each quadrennium and shall be composed of twenty-four persons chosen as follows:

1. Six bishops shall serve as members including the ecumenical officer of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church and five other bishops assigned by the Council of Bishops. At least one of the bishops shall be from a central conference.

2. Six members shall be nominated by the Association of United Methodist Theological Schools chosen from the faculties of seminaries affiliated with The United Methodist Church. The Association of United Methodist Theological Schools shall rotate nominations from among the seminaries on a basis established by itself.

3. Twelve members who are not bishops shall be chosen by the Council of Bishops upon nomination by the ~~General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns and The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ Six of the twelve chosen by the Council of Bishops shall come from the nominations of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, and six shall be chosen from those nominated by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Three of the members nominated by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall be nominated from the faculties of seminaries affiliated with The United Methodist Church in the Central Conferences. ~~Funding for this will be provided within the regular budgets for the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.~~ The budget for the Committee on Faith and Order shall be proposed by the Council of Bishops, and it shall be part of the General Administration Fund.

4. All twenty-four members of the committee shall be ~~approved and~~ elected by the Council of Bishops at its fall meeting following the General Conference each quadrennium. Election shall be for a term of eight (8) years, and no person shall serve as a member of the

Committee on Faith and Order for more than sixteen (16) years in succession. The classes of membership established upon the initial organizational meeting of the Committee shall be maintained so that the terms of service of 50% of the membership expire when their successors are seated at the organizational meeting of the Committee following each General Conference.

5. At least three (3) of the members of the committee shall be clergy actively serving full-time in the local church and at least three (3) shall be laity. ~~One~~ It is recommended that one third of the membership ~~shall~~ be persons of minority racial/ethnic identity.

6. In its capacity of providing spiritual and doctrinal leadership, the Council of Bishops shall exercise oversight in the nomination and election of members with regard to Central Conference inclusion, geographic diversity, and age representation; it shall also ensure that the committee ~~models effective representation of the theological diversity of The United Methodist Church~~ complies with the inclusivity guidelines of ¶438.3.c).

7. Membership on the board of directors of any other general agency does not make one ineligible to serve as a member of this committee, ¶¶ 710.5 and 714.6 to the contrary notwithstanding, and the limitations specified in ¶710.4 for membership on general agencies shall not apply to anyone as a result of membership on this committee.

~~¶ 494.2.~~ 441. Organization—The Committee on Faith and Order shall be organized as follows:

1. The committee shall elect from its episcopal membership a chairperson and from its total membership other officers as it may determine.

2. There shall be an executive committee of the committee with powers as determined by the committee.

~~3. The initial election of members for the Committee on Faith and Order shall include twelve persons elected for four years and twelve persons elected for eight years. Thereafter, all persons elected to the Committee on Faith and Order shall be elected to eight year terms.~~

~~4.~~ 3. The committee shall meet for organizational purposes each quadrennium prior to the end of the first quarter of the year following the year in which the General Conference is held.

~~5.~~ 4. The committee shall meet at least annually and at such other times as it shall deem necessary. A majority of members of the committee shall constitute a quorum. The committee may conduct meetings by telephone conference or video conference, or make decisions by mail ballot or other method, provided that notification of all members is ensured and the provision of quorum is met.

¶442 Staffing—Staff for the work of the Committee on Faith and Order shall be provided as determined by the Council of Bishops in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Committee on Faith and Order. The Council of Bishops shall have authority to request staff assistance and consultation from agencies and other bodies of the Church, such as, but not limited to, the Office for Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

¶443 . The Committee on Faith and Order shall not be considered to be a general agency of The United Methodist Church.

This legislation or any portion of it approved by General Conference shall take effect at the close of General Conference 2012.

Rationale:

There is no other ongoing forum in the UMC for systematic, inclusive conversation about matters of faith, doctrine, and order on behalf of the whole Church than is provided by the Committee on Faith and Order. It is imperative that this ministry be continued for the foreseeable future.

¶2001.

Petition Number: 20536-GA-¶2001-G; Kersey, Betsy - Cleveland, TN, USA.

Move Monitoring into GBCS

Delete ¶¶2001-2008 and 2101-2109 in their entirety. Amend ¶643 as follows:

¶ 643. 1. There shall be in each annual conference a conference commission on religion and race or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships. ~~It shall follow the general guidelines and structure of the General Commission on Religion and Race as outlined in ¶¶ 2002 and 2008, where applicable.~~

~~¶643.2... Members of the General Commission on Religion and Race residing in the annual conference shall be ex officio members of the annual conference commission on religion and race with vote.~~

¶643.3.p) Maintaining a close relationship with the General Board of Church and Society ~~Commission on Religion and Race~~, seeking its guidance, utilizing its training and resources, and interpreting to the annual conference the programs, plans, and policies of the General Board of Church and Society ~~Commission on Religion and Race~~.

Amend ¶644 as follows:

¶644.2...In an annual conference where there is not a sufficient number of clergywomen to meet the recommended balance, additional laywomen shall be elected beyond the one-third proportion to bring the total membership to a majority of women. ~~A person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women from that annual conference shall, by virtue of their office, be member(s) of the conference commission on the status and role of women (see ¶¶ 609.6 and 710.5).~~

Amend ¶702 as follows:

¶702.2. Between sessions of the General Conference, the following general agencies are accountable to the Connectional Table for those functions that are outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, ~~the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women,~~

Amend ¶703 as follows:

¶703.5. Program-Related General Agencies—The general boards and commissions that have program and/or advocacy functions shall be designated as program-related general agencies. These agencies are amenable to the General Conference, and between sessions of the General Conference are accountable to the Connectional Table for those functions outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, ~~the General Commission on Religion and Race,~~ and the General Commission on United Methodist Men, ~~and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.~~ In all matters of accountability, episcopal oversight as provided in ¶ 427 is assumed.

Amend ¶705 as follows:

¶705.1.a) ...The jurisdictional nominating committee shall select persons for election to the following general Church bodies: Connectional Table; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; The United Methodist Publishing House; General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns; and General Commission on Communication; ~~General Commission~~

~~on Religion and Race; and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.~~

¶705.4.c) Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: ~~two members on the General Commission on Religion and Race; at least one from each region (Philippines, Europe, Africa); three each on the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Communication, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women,~~

¶705.5. Other General Agencies—a) Each jurisdictional conference shall elect members from the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States (¶ 705.1) in accordance with the specific membership provisions of those agencies as set forth in the Book of Discipline: General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (¶ 1502.1a), The United Methodist Publishing House (¶ 1602), General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (¶ 1906), and General Commission on Communication (¶ 1807), ~~General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (¶ 2104), and General Commission on Religion and Race (¶ 2003).~~

Amend ¶805 as follows:

¶805.4.d) Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices—The council shall organize a committee consisting of three representatives from the General Council on Finance and Administration, one of whom shall serve as chairperson, and one representative of each of the following agencies: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, the General Commission on Communication, ~~the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women,~~ and the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

Amend ¶807 as follows:

¶807.13.b) The Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices (¶ 805.4d) shall: (1) prepare quadrennially, review annually, and recommend to the council an appropriate salary schedule, based upon responsibilities, for personnel of the councils, boards, and commissions represented on the committee; (2) develop and recommend to the council a schedule of benefits for an employee benefit program for personnel of agencies represented on the committee and any changes required thereto from time to time; (3) receive from agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 810.2)

statements regarding their compliance with the policy stated in ¶ 811.1; and (4) receive from all general agencies information necessary to evaluate pay equity. Based on these statements, and in consultation with and upon the advice of the General ~~Board of Church and Society Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women~~, the committee shall prepare for the General Council on Finance and Administration reports and recommendations deemed appropriate by the committee.

Amend ¶811 as follows:

¶ 811. General Policies—1. The General Council on Finance and Administration is authorized to withhold approval of a portion or all of the budget of any agency or any Church-related institution receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 810.2) until such agency or Church-related institution certifies to the council in writing that it has established and complied with a policy of: (a) recruiting, employing, utilizing, recompensing, and promoting professional staff and other personnel without regard to race, color, age, or sex; (b) fulfilling its duties and responsibilities in a manner that does not involve segregation or discrimination on the basis of race, age, or sex; and (c) insofar as possible, purchasing goods and services from vendors who are in compliance with such policies as are described in sections (a) and (b) of this paragraph. In the fulfillment of this directive, the council shall take the following steps to ensure that inclusiveness concerns of the General ~~Board of Church and Society Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women~~ are represented: (1) consult with the board ~~two commissions~~ in the development of a certification form to be submitted to the council by agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds; (2) share copies of such certifications with the board ~~two commissions~~; (3) receive and consider recommendations from the board ~~either of the two commissions~~ regarding possible noncompliance with these policies by agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds; and (4) when recommendations for withholding funds are received from the board ~~one or the two commissions~~, consult further with it ~~them~~ in order to jointly determine final resolution.

Amend ¶906 as follows:

¶906.1.c) The presidents of the following agencies: General Board of Church and Society, General Board of Discipleship, General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, ~~General Commission on Religion and Race, General Commission on Status and~~

~~Role of Women~~, General Commission on United Methodist Men, General Commission on Communications, and General Commission on Archives and History, program-related agencies that are accountable to the Connectional Table (as expressed in ¶ 702.2), and the president of the General Council on Finance and Administration shall also sit with voice and vote on the Connectional Table.

Amend ¶1004 as follows:

¶1004. The board shall maintain close relationships with ~~the General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women,~~ and the Appalachian Development Committee as it seeks ~~they seek~~ to coordinate denominational support and cooperation with various movements for racial, sexual, and social justice, according to guidelines stated in the Book of Discipline. In cooperation with ecumenical agencies and other appropriate boards and agencies, the board shall encourage and promote ministries and models of mediation and conflict resolution, both ecumenically and within the agencies and institutions of The United Methodist Church.

Amend ¶1121 as follows:

¶1121.4. Membership—The committee shall be composed of one board member and one staff member from each of the following agencies: the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; one member (board or staff) from ~~each of the following: the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the Commission on Religion and Race,~~ the General Commission on United Methodist Men,

Amend ¶1122 as follows:

¶1122.4.b) Opportunity for timely review shall be offered to teachers, leaders, and pastors in local churches of various sizes, locations, and racial, ethnic, and cultural constituencies; general secretaries of the General Boards of Discipleship, Global Ministries, Church and Society, and Higher Education and Ministry, and the General Commissions on History and Archives, Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, ~~the Status and Role of Women, and~~ United Methodist Men, ~~and Religion and Race~~; professors of educational ministries in United Methodist colleges and seminaries; professional Christian educators; and others who may have interest, experience, and skills to aid the perfection of the plans.

Delete §1207.2.f) and §1207.2.g) in their entirety.

Amend ¶1903 as follows:

¶1903.14. To maintain a close relationship with the General Board of Church and Society ~~and the General~~

~~Commission on Religion and Race as they seek~~ as it seeks to coordinate denominational support and cooperation in eradicating racism, promoting social justice, and enhancing Christian unity.

Amend ¶1004 by adding new subparagraphs as follows:

¶ 1004. Responsibilities—1. The prime responsibility of the board is to seek the implementation of the Social Principles and other policy statements of the General Conference on Christian social concerns....

2. In addition it shall be the responsibility of the board to challenge and equip the general agencies, institutions, and connectional structures of The United Methodist Church to a full and equal participation of its racial and ethnic constituency in the total life and mission of the Church through teaching, advocacy and by reviewing and monitoring the practices of the entire church so as to further ensure racial inclusiveness as we make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

3. Further it shall be the responsibility of the board to challenge The United Methodist Church, including its general agencies, institutions, and connectional structures, to a continuing commitment to the full and equal responsibility and participation of women in the total life and mission of the Church, sharing fully in the power and in the policy-making at all levels of the Church's life.

Such commitment will confirm anew recognition of the fact that The United Methodist Church is part of the universal church, rooted in the liberating message of Jesus Christ, that recognizes every person, woman or man, as a full and equal part of God's human family.

The board shall function as an advocate with and on behalf of women individually and collectively within The United Methodist Church; as a catalyst for the initiation of creative methods to redress inequities of the past and to prevent further inequities against women within The United Methodist Church; and as a monitor to ensure inclusiveness in the programmatic and administrative functioning of The United Methodist Church.

Rationale:

All the functions of both the General Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women should be transferred to the General Board of Church and Society.

¶2001.

Petition Number: 20726-GA-¶2001-G; Pogue, Creed - Estell Manor, NJ, USA.

Transfer GCRR to GBCS

Eliminate current ¶¶ 2001 - 2008 and replace with the following:

Any assets of the General Commission on Religion and Race are transferred to the General Board of Church and Society.

Rationale:

In times of austerity, decisions should be made on the basis of who is bearing fruit. GCRR is a regulatory agency whose primary foci are non-European church staff and public policy pronouncements. Neither serves to bring sinners to Christ. Even after decades of funding, the UMC is still 90% European.

¶2002.

Petition Number: 20069-GA-¶2002-G; Hawkins, Erin M. - Washington, DC, USA for General Commission on Religion and Race.

Purpose and Responsibilities of GCORR

Delete ¶ 2002 and ¶ 2008 and substitute the following:

¶ 2002.Purpose—The primary purpose of the General Commission on Religion and Race shall be to challenge, lead and equip the people of The United Methodist Church to be and become the intentionally diverse body of Christ affirmed in Scripture and reflected in the global community. Responding to a growing awareness of the impact of privilege and power in the global community, the Commission shall mobilize individuals to live out the Wesleyan ideals of personal and social holiness while leading the Church in systemic transformation. Through equipping, holding accountable and partnering with all of the connectional structures of The United Methodist Church, the Commission will further racial equity, justice and the making of prophetic disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

¶ 2008. Responsibilities—The general commission will assume general Church responsibility for such matters as:

1. Advocating for visible and prophetic leadership at every level of the Global Church and mobilizing all people for action in the Church and in the world around issues of racial justice and inclusion, so that access to power and resources along with the gifts and graces of historically marginalized people can be used to bring about God's reign.

2. Ensuring racial equity, justice and inclusion on matters such as but not limited to: resolving racially and culturally based disputes and provide accountability in creating and enacting policies, programs and processes so that every level of the Global Church is more effective in ministry to increasingly diverse communities.

3. Conducting research and analysis for the purpose of engaging lay and clergy leadership in the complex social cultural realities facing congregations and conferences globally thereby deepening the relationships necessary to fulfill the mission of the United Methodist Church in a diverse world.

4. Provide training, resources and consultation at all levels of the Global Church in order to:

- A. Increase culturally competent leadership.
- B. Expand vital and relevant local church ministry.
- C. Challenge white privilege and promote anti-racism efforts.

D. Further racial/ethnic/tribal justice, equity and reconciliation.

So that members of the Church become self-aware, learn to value and accept cultural differences and to become agents of change in the Church and world.

5. Identifying and responding to salient denominational matters such as culturally competent leadership development, cross-racial/cross-cultural and multicultural ministry, renewal of ethnic ministry, global racism, ethnocentrism, and tribalism in order for the Church to more effectively move its mission forward in a diverse and global society.

6. Administering CORR (Commission on Religion and Race) Action Fund. The CORR (Commission on Religion and Race) Action Fund is established by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church for the empowerment of diversity, inclusion and racial justice work within and outside the Church. The fund is available through grants to congregations, community agencies, and other groups. The Fund shall be administered by the General Commission on Religion and Race on behalf of The United Methodist Church. The General Commission shall be responsible for developing guidelines and policies regarding grants, and for evaluation of projects receiving support.

Rationale:

Through clarity of purpose and ministry, GCORR is moving beyond simply being a “monitoring agency” to one that resources congregations globally towards relevance and vitality in diverse communities while supporting connectional leaders and structures to develop and employ cultural competence and equity in process, policy and decision making.

¶2003.

Petition Number: 20056-GA-¶2003-G; Hawkins, Erin M. - Washington, DC, USA for General Commission on Religion and Race.

Board Membership

Delete ¶ 2003 and substitute the following:

¶ 2003. Membership—The total membership of the commission shall be twenty-one board members constituted in accordance with ¶ 705.3 of the General Provisions of the *Book of Discipline*. The board shall be organized to accomplish its work through elected officers as prescribed in ¶ 708. The membership shall be composed of:

1. Three bishops, including one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops in accordance with ¶ 705.4d.

2. Each jurisdiction shall elect one member to the board in accordance with ¶ 705.3a. It is recommended that persons elected by each jurisdiction include persons who have demonstrated expertise in the areas of finance, program planning and evaluation, education, advocacy, and racial justice; and have indicated a desire to actively support the work assigned to the General Commission on Religion and Race. Other paragraphs of the *Discipline* notwithstanding, the secretary of the General Conference shall offer to each jurisdiction a suggested member allocation to ensure that when combined with the board members from the central conferences, the resulting membership will reflect a balance of clergy and laity, men and women. The secretary will also establish an equitable rotation to ensure that over the course of several quadrennium each jurisdiction will have the opportunity to elect a laywoman, a layman, and a clergy member.

3. One central conference member named to the board by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

4. Other paragraphs of the *Discipline* notwithstanding, the members of the board shall elect twelve additional members based on the expertise needed to accomplish the fiduciary, generative, and strategic work of the board. It is recommended that of the additional members, at least two members shall be elected from the following racial and ethnic groups (Asian, Black, Hispanic/Latino(a), Native American, Pacific Islander, and White). There should be at least four young people under the age of forty. Consideration should be given to achieving jurisdictional, lay/clergy, gender and age balance.

Rationale:

In response to the current budget realities and a desire to capture expertise and passion among General Commission on Religion and Race board members, this legislation reduces the size of the board and provides flexibility in the selection process of board members.

¶2104.

Petition Number: 20120-GA-¶2104-G; Burton, M. Garlinda - Chicago, IL, USA for General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

Membership of GCSRW

Amend ¶ 2104:

Membership—1. The policies, plans, and administration of the work of the general commission shall be determined by its membership, which shall be composed of ~~forty three~~ nineteen persons in accord with the following guidelines:

a) Jurisdictional membership shall be nominated and elected by the jurisdictional conferences, ensuring that the pluralism and diversity of the Church's membership is reflected in the representation of racial and ethnic minorities and various age categories. Each jurisdiction shall elect one persons for membership. ~~based on the following formula: North Central 5, Northeastern 5, South Central 7, Southeastern 7, Western 3. It is recommended that where possible, the members include at least one laywoman, one layman, one clergywoman, and one clergyman. Of the persons elected by each jurisdictional conference, at least one should be from a racial and ethnic group and at least one should be under thirty one years of age at the time of election. Before election, nominated members will be informed of the fiduciary, strategic, and generative responsibilities they will be assuming upon election so that they may clearly understand the time and resource commitment they are making. Other paragraphs of the *Discipline* notwithstanding, the secretary of the General Conference shall offer to each jurisdiction a suggested member allocation to ensure that, when combined with the board members from central conferences, the resulting membership will reflect a balance of clergywomen and clergymen, laywomen and laymen. The secretary will also establish an equitable rotation to ensure that over the course of several quadrennia each jurisdiction will have the opportunity to elect a laywoman, a layman, a clergywoman and a clergyman.~~

b) There shall be ~~eight~~ seven additional members elected by the general commission, in accord with the provisions of ¶ 705.3a. The election of the additional members shall take into account the need to provide adequate representation of racial, ~~and~~ ethnic, and national origin groups; persons with disabilities; ~~and~~ persons from ~~of~~ the various age categories; and to include persons of special competence, and striving for proportional representation among the jurisdictions. It is recommended that the addition of the at-large membership ensure that the total membership maintains ~~the one third laymen, one third laywomen, one third clergy~~ a balance 50% clergy (including the range of clergy as defined in ¶141) and 50% lay, as well as majority membership of women. It is further recommended that such additional members shall maintain a membership total of at least 10 percent youth and 10 percent young adults. Before election, nominated members will be informed of the fiduciary, strategic, and generative responsibilities they will be assuming upon election so that they may clearly understand the time and resource commitment they are making.

c) There shall be ~~three~~ two women named by the Women's Division ~~from its members or staff~~ to serve as ex officio members with vote.

d) There shall be ~~three~~ two bishops, including at least one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops.

e) There shall be ~~two~~ three central conference members, not including the central conference bishop, named to the board by the Council of Bishops according to the provisions in ¶ 705.4c.

~~f) In the total membership: (1) Persons over sixty-five years of age should be included. (2) There should be no less than four persons (two women and two men) from each of these five racial and ethnic groups: Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, and Pacific Islanders. (3) There shall be at least one member who is a diaconal minister.~~

g) The general commission shall be authorized to fill vacancies in its membership during the quadrennium.

h) Members who do not meet the requirements of ¶ 2506.1 shall serve with voice and vote, except in matters related to the fiduciary responsibilities of the board, in which they shall have voice only and not vote in accordance with the laws of the state of incorporation (Illinois).

i) The board may name other individuals as liaison representatives to provide networking and advice related to the areas of mutual concern. When invited to board meetings, they shall have voice but not vote.

2. Members of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women shall assume fiduciary, strategic, and generative governing functions. Fiduciary responsibilities include ensuring financial, legal, and ethical stewardship of tangible assets; accountability for stated performance standards; ensuring the annual evaluation of the general secretary; and providing counsel to the general secretary regarding evaluation and deployment of staff. Strategic responsibilities include ensuring that priorities, goals, achievement markers, and agency resources are aligned with the mission, vision, and value of the agency. Generative responsibilities include long-range analysis and planning in accordance with agency mission, vision, and values; setting direction and priorities for the agency; and exploring options in order to amend priorities when needed.

3. Members of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women are to be dedicated Christian leaders who have a passion for ensuring the full and equal participation of women at all levels of the Church. They must be willing to invest time and skills to support the work of the board, including interpreting and articulating GCSRW strategy in a variety of contexts. They must engage in regular and intentional conversation with networks and individuals throughout the church to ensure that the wide diversity of people and perspectives present in The United Methodist Church are considered as the board carries out its responsibilities. They must be committed to supporting and implementing the mandates and foci of the general church as well as the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

Rationale:

As a part of a comprehensive plan to increase the effectiveness and reduce the size of the GCSRW Board of Directors, this creates a nineteen member board, allows organizational flexibility, seeks to ensure diverse representation, clarifies the relationship of liaison representatives, and specifies board member responsibilities.

¶2201.

Petition Number: 20402-GA-¶2201-G; Streiff, Patrick - Zurich, Switzerland for General Council on Finance and Administration.

Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters

Amend the first sentence of ¶2201.2 as follows:

Section XVI. Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters

¶2201. General Provisions—

2. The standing committee shall meet at least twice within the quadrennium in order to review, consider, and develop resolutions and petitions related to central conferences and may be called into session during General Conference as needed.

Delete ¶2201.3 and substitute as follows:

3. The standing committee shall be composed of one bishop from each jurisdiction and from each central conference named by the Council of Bishops; one ordained minister and one layperson from each jurisdiction and from each central conference who are delegates to the General Conference and named by the Council of Bishops; one bishop, one ordained minister, and one layperson who are elected members of the General Board of Global Ministries and named by the Council of Bishops. The central conference bishop assigned to the General Council on Finance and Administration shall also be a member of this committee. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women, lay, clergy, youth and young adults. The chairperson of the committee shall be a central conference bishop, and shall also serve as a member of the Connectional Table.

Insert new sub-point after ¶2201.3 as follows:

4. The Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters will convene at the conclusion of the General Conference at which it was elected and continue its work through the following General Conference. To facilitate transition, incoming members shall participate in the deliberations of the Committee during such General Conference, having voice but no vote until the organizing meeting.

Insert new sub-point after ¶2201.5 as follows:

This legislation will take effect upon the conclusion of the 2012 General Conference.

Rationale:

The members of the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters are named by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference. The ability of the new members to join the previous committee will enable an intentional transition, and preparation for the coming quadrennium. The presence of the committee...

¶2303.

Petition Number: 20112-GA-¶2303-G; Hanke, Gilbert C. - Nashville, TN, USA for General Commission on United Methodist Men.

Commission on UMM Membership

Amend Paragraph 2303

2303.1 The commission shall consist of ~~twenty five~~ twenty (20)...

2303.1 (b) the five (5) jurisdictional presidents of United Methodist Men and the national president

~~2303.1(c) six members elected by the National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men, including the national president and five members at large (including at least two members of the commission from the previous quadrennium, for continuity) chosen for expertise and jurisdictional balance if possible;~~

~~2303.1(f) the president of the National Association of United Methodist Men Scouters~~

2303.1(g) ~~six eight (8)~~ members at large elected by the commission for inclusiveness, expertise and balance, which should include at least one young person under age 30 and at least two members of the commission from the previous quadrennium.

~~2303.1(h) one representative from a men's ministry from a Pan Methodist church~~

2303.6 Funding—The General Council on Finance and Administration shall make provisions for the necessary support of the work of the commission by providing World Service funds to complement the direct revenue and contributions from United Methodist Men. ~~This shall include meeting and related expenses for central conference representative.~~

2303.7. Advisory panel — The commission may create an advisory panel consisting of representatives of affiliated organizations.

Rationale:

In keeping with recommendations from the Call to Action Committee, GCUMM recommends a reduction in the size of their governing board. The proposed reduction will not change the representation or expertise required for effective ministry to and with men. The president of the National Association of United Methodist Scouters will...

¶2401.

Petition Number: 20509-GA-¶2401-G; Sidorak, Stephen J. Jr. - New York, NY, USA for General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.

Ecumenical Relationships

Move existing ¶2401.2, as it may be amended, from where it is currently located as Section V of Chapter

Four, "The Conferences," to become a new section of Chapter Three, "The Superintendency," with a proposed title of Section VIX. Ecumenical Relationships.

Move ¶¶2401.1, 2401.3, 2401.4, 2401.5 and 2402-2405, as they may be amended, from where they are currently located to follow ¶2401.2, as moved to Section VIX of Chapter Three.

Move ¶1905.8, as it may be amended, from where it is currently located to follow ¶2405 in its new location in Chapter Three.

Renumber the resulting paragraphs, as appropriate.

Rationale:

Ecumenical relationships are primarily the responsibility of the bishops, so these paragraphs properly belong in the portion of the Discipline on superintendency.

◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇

Proposed Non-Disciplinary Legislation

Petition Number: 20437-GA-NonDis-G; Pasion, Earlie - Cauayan City, Philippines for Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly.

Consideration of Schedules of Young People

General Boards and Agencies, the Connectional Table, Jurisdictional/Central, Annual Conference, District, and Local Church groups within The United Methodist Church that have young people in membership should consider the school schedules of young people.

This will take effect immediately upon passage of the General Conference.

Rationale:

Youth and young adults are members of many General Boards and Agencies as well as the Connectional Table, and other groups within the United Methodist Church. The General Boards and Agencies as well as the Connectional Table and other groups within the United Methodist Church that have youth and young...

Petition Number: 20545-GA-NonDis-!-G; Royappa, Samuel J. - Sun Prairie, WI, USA.

Task Force for New Structure and New BOD

The General Conference 2012 of the United Methodist Church appoints, through appropriate bodies, a Task Force on A New Book of Discipline that would keep next forty years in focus with not more than two

hundred simple paragraphs. The New Book of Discipline would include but not limited to visionary and competent leadership of clergy and lay, strategic planning, building relationships with God and people, higher expectations of clergy and lay, team ministry, development of grace-filled community, engaging culture, church-planting ministries, de-centralization of power and resources, restorative justice, mission and ministry-oriented leadership teams/groups, empowerment of laity at all levels, advocacy of mutual trust, open communication, ways to generate resources, enabling structure at all levels, and good reward system. The Task Force Membership would include but not limited to bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors, and representations from Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, youth, young adults and racial and ethnic persons. The Task Force may be limited to twenty-one members – one-third clergy, one-third lay and one-third persons of color. The Task Force, upon its organization, would determine their work time-table and annually report to the Council of Bishops and the Connectional Table of their progress and needs, and a detailed report to the General Conference 2016, preferably a draft of an outline of New Book of Discipline and a draft of an action-plan for the following quadrennium.

Rationale:

The current Book of Discipline is not helpful for health and growth of the Church at all levels in spite of amending it every four years. It is also not relevant and contextual in terms of its language and approach to doing church. It is too legalistic, lengthy processes, and...

Petition Number: 20907-GA-NonDis-G; Alegria, Raul, USA for Methodists Associated to Represent the Cause of Hispanic Americans. 1 similar petition.

Support of UMC-MCPR Concordat

The 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church affirms that any change in the structure of the general agencies of the United Methodist Church shall retain the liaison representatives or representative of the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico.

Rationale:

The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico and the United Methodist Church entered into a concordat in 2004. The provisions of the aforementioned concordat established for the sake of facilitating mutual mission support is now codified and states in *Discipline* ¶ 705.4f that “The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico will have...

Petition Number: 20959-GA-NonDis-!-G; Carlsen, Jonathan - Arcadia, FL, USA.

Restructure Task Force

Restructure Task Force

The General Conference directs the Council of Bishops, the Connectional Table, and the General Council on Finance and Administration to form a Restructure Task Force to study the worldwide Church structure and draft legislation for restructuring general church agencies to be considered at the 2016 General Conference.

Membership. The task force shall consist of one hundred members. Thirty-four shall be appointed by the Council of Bishops and thirty-three each by the Connectional Table and the General Council on Finance and Administration. Representation of central conferences and jurisdictions shall be proportional to the share each has in the total church membership. To the extent possible with this principle of proportionality, the Connectional Table and General Council on Finance and Administration appointments shall follow the recommendations of ¶ 705 in the *Discipline*.

Funding. The General Council on Finance and Administration shall determine the task force’s funding needs and provide for them.

Mission. The task force shall research and report to the general Church the changes in the Church Constitution and the *Discipline* necessary to:

- merge the jurisdictions into one USA-wide central conference, eliminating the jurisdictions.
- merge the Connectional Table with the Commission on Central Conference Affairs.
- dissolve the General Commission on the General Conference and transfer its duties to a unit of the General Council on Finance and Administration.
- make the General Board of Church and Society a unit of the General Board of Discipleship.
- merge the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women with the General Commission on United Methodist Women (if the 2012 General Conference follows the Women’s Division of the General Board of Global Ministries’ proposal to reconfigure as a separate commission) or create a General Commission on United Methodist Women by merging the Women’s Division and General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

The task force shall also research the extent to which general agency activities are concerned exclusively with concerns of the Church in the United States,

forcing central conferences to create independent, parallel structures, and shall weigh the wisdom of such arrangements and recommend transferring some to USA central conference control, while expanding the duties of others to include non-US needs.

Schedule and Reporting. The task force's initial report shall be published by January 31, 2014. The General Council on Finance and Administration shall be the clearinghouse for feedback from across the Church concerning this initial report. The task force shall make its final recommendations incorporating this feedback, where relevant. These recommendations shall take the form of General Conference petitions made in accordance with ¶ 507. Task force members shall be available for interpreting their recommendations at the 2016 General Conference.

Dissolution. The task force shall dissolve at the adjournment of the 2016 General Conferences. Its records shall be deposited with the General Commission on Archives and History.

Rationale:

The principle is downsizing. A USA central conference (first proposed in 1999), replacing the jurisdictions, would cut bureaucratic expenses. The Jurisdictions (born in racism) entrench and empower a divisive, anti-Wesleyan minority. Wesley taught that social and personal holiness are inseparable; therefore, Church and Society and Discipleship should merge.

Petition Number: 20976-GA-NonDis-G; Juergensmeyer, John - Elgin, IL, USA.

Basic Principle of Equality

The Council of Bishops, The Connectional Table, and the Committee to Study the Worldwide Nature of the UM Church or its successor, in any "proposed new model" for a Worldwide UMC, shall propose any Constitutional Amendments for consideration of the 2016 General Conference only according the following concepts of fundamental equality:

1. All UMC members and churches worldwide shall have equal representation and vote in the General Conferences and Annual Conferences of the UMC, and all geographical areas shall have the same Annual Conference and Jurisdiction Conference structure, organization and regulations.

2. All aspects of the Book of Discipline and Resolutions shall apply world-wide, equally, to all UMC churches and members. There shall be no separate Book of Discipline or Resolutions for different geographical regions of the UMC.

Rationale:

The Council of Bishops has established a Worldwide Nature of the Church Study Committee, which is reporting to this 2012 General Conference, and has proposed a "new model" for a Worldwide UMC.

We are already a "Worldwide UMC"; our 2005 statistics showed 3,227,162 professing UMC members in Africa, and 3,316,955...

Petition Number: 20979-GA-NonDis-G; Hopkins, John - Evanston, IL, USA for Connectional Table.

Reallocation of Funds by Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry Board

The General Conference shall authorize the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry to determine and revise during the 2013-2016 quadrennium the most effective ways to fulfill the mission of the UMC including general church programs and spending plans:

- The Board shall evaluate spending across the seven general church funds to assess work in order to identify significant opportunities for improved effectiveness and for achieving efficiencies and economies, reducing spending wherever feasible.

- The Board shall recommend methods and allocations in light of cost-benefit assessments and to support the transition of general agency functions through the formation of the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry and to support the ministries of all annual conferences (in both jurisdictions and central conferences).

- Following their assessment and evaluation, the Board of Directors shall recommend for joint approval by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and the Council of Bishops a plan for reallocation of spending within each of the seven general church funds with the goal of redirecting spending plans for a sum up to \$60 million in the 2013- 2016 quadrennium for purposes related to the overall work of the UMC and to increase the number of vital congregations.

- The first \$5 million shall be allocated to young people's lay leadership development, administered through the Division on Ministry with Young People or its successor body.

- The second \$5 million shall be allocated to Central Conference theological education, administered through the GBHEM Global Theological Education Fund or its successor body.

- Additional funds shall be invested for recruiting and training United Methodist ministerial students under the age of 35. A goal is to fund their seminary education

at UM seminaries, thus reducing the student debt obligation.

- Additional funds may also be used for other work to increase the number of vital congregations as determined by the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry Board of Directors, the General Council for Strategy and Oversight, and the Council of Bishops.

Rationale:

To implement Call to Action recommendations endorsed by the Connectional Table and Council of Bishops that reorder general church resources, governance and structures giving increased focus, flexibility and efficiency for work supporting annual conferences to increase and sustain the number of vital United Methodist congregations.

Petition Number: 20984-GA-NonDis-!-G; Brim, Jay - Austin, TX, USA.

Program Agency Transition Team - Implement Call to Action Proposal

The Program Agency Transition Team, composed of a convening chair-bishop selected by the Council of Bishops, three General Conference delegates selected by the current Connectional Table membership, and three members of the current General Council on Finance and Administration, shall organize immediately following General Conference 2012 and begin assisting all of the boards which will be winding up their affairs as a result of legislation passed by General Conference 2012.

The Program Agency Transition Team is authorized to employ legal counsel to assist it in its work and the Team is authorized to provide direction to each of the program boards concerning the termination of their activities.

The Program Agency Transition Team, on behalf of General Conference, shall insure that all necessary legal steps are taken before January 1, 2014, to complete the transition of all authority from the program agency boards to the Center for Connectional Mission and Ministry and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight, as appropriate.

Rationale:

The changes proposed by the Call to Action recommendations will need to be overseen by a team put together just for that purpose, to insure that all legal and technical problems are solved expeditiously and in conformity with the will of General Conference.

Petition Number: 21083-GA-NonDis-!-G; Williams, Joe - Tullahoma, TN, USA.

Instructions to Connectional Table Pending Passage of Proposed 16.16

Upon receiving certification from the College of Bishops of the passage of new ¶16.16 Constitutional Amendment the Connectional Table shall carry out the specific restructure and reorganization changes authorized by the 2012 General Conference and shall have authority to proceed as determined in the best interest of the church in the following matters:

- 1 Form a Transition Team to guide the actions under the supervision of the CT. This team shall be composed of a lay member chair who is a present member of the CT plus 2 clergy and 2 laity who are not presently members of any agency board, the CT or COB. All members shall have experience and knowledge of the structure and operations of The UMC.

- 2 Oversee the merger of GCAH into GCFA.

- 3 Oversee the merger of GCSROW and GCORR into GBCS.

- 4 Oversee the merger of GCOC into GCFA.

- 5 Oversee the merger of GCCUIC into COB.

- 6 Oversee the transfer of CFO to COB.

- 7 Transfer HEALTH PROGRAMS of GCOC to GBGM.

- 8 Transfer all general church higher education scholarship programs, such as, but not limited to, those currently operated by GBGM and GBOD to GBHEM.

- 9 Transfer GBGM ecumenical programs to COB.

- 10 Transfer GBGM church growth programs as appropriate to GBOD.

- 11 Bring about as quickly as feasible the consolidation of general services on a fee basis for all organizations of The United Methodist Church as determined to be advantageous in areas such as travel, procurement, human resources, legal, accounting and reporting, investing and insurance.

- 12 Establish UMM and UMW as associations of The UMC.

- 13 Transfer audit committee from GCFA to CT

- 14 Study the possible transfer of UMDF to GCFA.

- 15 Review the organizational structure and business models of UMPH, the Upper Room and GBPHB to determine the optimum structure to serve the church.

- 16 Evaluate spending across the seven general church funds to identify opportunities and efficiencies and economies.

- 17 Explore data and learning from the recent work of the Church Systems Task Force and the Sustainability Advisory Group and collaborate with annual conferences about their financial practices.

(This set of instructions shall become effective only upon certification of passage of the new constitutional provisions of ¶16.16)

Rationale:

An efficient and effective major restructuring of the

Church will require significant transition time. This resolution would instruct the Connectional Table, or such other body as designated by General Conference, in the specific structural changes authorized by the General Conference upon passage of new ¶16.16.

Proposed Resolution

R9999.

Petition Number: 21106-GA-R9999-G; Vines, Darrell L. - Lubbock, TX, USA for St. John's UMC - Lubbock, TX.

Toward Full Inclusiveness

Whereas, in numerous official statements The United Methodist Church expresses its unqualified commitment to having an inclusive Church, as may be seen in ¶ 243 of *The Book of Discipline* (2008), where the “primary task and mission” of the local church includes “reaching out and receiving with joy all who will respond” and where one of its “basic responsibilities” is “seeking inclusiveness in all aspects of its life”; and

Whereas, The United Methodist Church, in affirming its commitment to inclusiveness, often specifies certain characteristics that cannot be used to exclude persons, as with Article IV of our Constitution,

“Inclusiveness of the Church,” which lists “race, color, national origin, status, or economic condition” (*Discipline*, 2008, ¶ 4);

Whereas, The United Methodist Church has at times made official statements that are exclusionary in nature, an important example being the denial of ministerial candidacy and ordination to “self-avowed practicing homosexuals” (*Discipline*, 2008, ¶ 304.3);

Therefore, be it resolved that The United Methodist Church:

1. affirm its unqualified statements about inclusiveness as representing our highest vision of the nature of the Church;

2. express its understanding that those statements that specify different categories of persons in no way suggest or imply that other persons should be excluded;

3. declare its intent to continue to work toward the day when exclusiveness shall no longer be a part of our official declarations or a part of the life of our Church.

