

Amend ¶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. “He gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. His purpose was to equip God’s people for the work of serving and 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, 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, but are not limited to, 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 management.
- h) Ensure legal and ethical integrity.
- i) Enhance the agency’s public standing.

The following provisions shall govern the nomination... .

¶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

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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; and The United Methodist Publishing House; ~~Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships; General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications; ~~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. 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.

¶705.3.f) The total central conference membership, including central conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: nine (9) members on each of the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) and the General Board of Discipleship (GBOD), ten (10) members on the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM), eleven (11) members on the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM), seven (7) members on the Connectional Table (CT), three (3) members on the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA), three (3) members on the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits (GBOPHB), three (3) members on each of the United Methodist Publishing House (UMPH), the United Methodist Men (UMM), and ten (10) members on United Methodist Communications (UMCOM).

For each of the following agencies, one of the central conference members shall be a bishop: GBCS, GBOD, GBGM, GBHEM, GBOPHB, UMPH, UMM, UMCOM.

The central conference membership shall be allocated to the central conferences by the Council of Bishops. Europe and the Philippines shall each be allocated eight (8) of the sixty-eight (68) members with the remaining fifty-two (52) members to be distributed among the African central conferences as determined by the Council of Bishops. The sixty (60) central conference members who are not bishops shall be assigned to the general agencies as determined by the Council of Bishops.

As allocated to them by the Council of Bishops, central conferences shall elect members to general agencies from a pool of candidates supplied by their annual conferences by a method to be determined by each central conference as appropriate to its culture and circumstances.

¶705.4. General Program Board Membership—a) Each general program board shall have the number of members herein specified in ¶¶ 1006, 1105, 1311, and 1407.

b) Jurisdictional Membership—Each jurisdiction shall elect the number of persons herein specified 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 of these general program boards 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 ¶¶ 1105.1, 1311.2; see also ¶¶ 1311.6, 1407).~~ The episcopal members shall not be counted in the computation of the clergy membership. For each program board, including the 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, clergy, laywomen, and laymen shall be elected to the board by the jurisdictional conferences upon nomination from the annual conferences based on the following formula:

General Board of Church and Society: North Central—3, Northeastern—2, South Central—3, Southeastern—5, and Western—1.

General Board of Discipleship: North Central—3, Northeastern—2, South Central—3, Southeastern—5, and Western—1.

General Board of Global Ministries: North Central—2, Northeastern—1, South Central—2, Southeastern—4, and Western—1.

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry: North Central—2, Northeastern—2, South Central—3, Southeastern—4, and Western—1.

~~e) 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; 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; three each on the General Council on Finance and Administration; 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; four (at least one from each region from the Philippines, Europe, and Africa) on the General Board of Discipleship; and 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 the program boards 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.~~

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 with two (2) bishops to serve on each of the following agencies, one of whom shall be from a central 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). the 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.

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 ¶705.3.f) ~~¶705.4e, 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. 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 provided herein is the prevailing principle when rounding numbers is required ~~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 of the following general program boards shall elect six (6) additional members, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction: the 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. ~~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.

Add a new sub paragraph following existing ¶705.4.e) as follows:

¶705.4.NEW Other Membership—The General Board of Global Ministries shall have five members selected by the United Methodist Women.

Add a new sub paragraph following all that remains in ¶705.4 as follows:

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¶705.4.NEW Total Membership—Each of the following general agencies shall have a total membership, including jurisdictional members, central conference members, and episcopal members, as follows:

General Board of Church and Society: thirty (30)

General Board of Discipleship: thirty (30)

General Board of Global Ministries: thirty-two (32)

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry: thirty (30)

Delete the existing text of ¶705.5.a) and b) and replace it with the following text:

¶705.5. Other General Agencies—a) From the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States the jurisdictional conferences shall elect to each of the Connectional Table, General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the United Methodist Publishing House, and United Methodist Communications clergy, laywomen, and laymen as members, based on the following formula:

Connectional Table: North Central—3, Northeastern—3, South Central—3, Southeastern—6, and Western—1.

General Board of Pension and Health Benefits: North Central—3, Northeastern—3, South Central—5, Southeastern—8, and Western—1.

United Methodist Publishing House: North Central—3, Northeastern—2, South Central—3, Southeastern—6, and Western—1.

United Methodist Communications: North Central—3, Northeastern—3, South Central—4, Southeastern—4, and Western—2.

b) Additional members—The number of additional members to be elected by each other agency, with the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, 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 executing this responsibility the secretary has authority to make adjustments in the allocation of members so that the total number

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of members who are not bishops of each agency as specified herein 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). 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. Each of the following general agencies shall have the following number of additional members:

Connectional Table: five (5). One of these additional members shall be named by each of the recognized racial and ethnic caucus groups of The United Methodist Church, which are Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Methodists Associated Representing the Cause of Hispanic Americans, Native American International Caucus, National Federation of Asian American United Methodists, and Pacific Islanders National Caucus United Methodist.

General Board of Pension and Health Benefits: eight (8)

United Methodist Publishing House: six (6)

United Methodist Communications: (7)

Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, membership on the United Methodist Publishing House shall be by classes based on term of office for one, two, or three quadrennia, attention being given to the principle of rotation so that, as far as practicable, one third of the membership shall be elected each quadrennium. The principle of rotation is also applicable to the executive committee of that agency.

Add a new §705.5.c) as follows:

§705.5.c) Episcopal members—The following general agencies shall have the number of episcopal members as follows:

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General Board of Pension and Health Benefits: two (2)

United Methodist Publishing House: two (2)

Connectional Table: one (1)

United Methodist Communications (3)

Add a new ¶705.5.d) as follows:

¶705.5.d) Other Members—1) The Connectional Table shall have as members 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 Council on Finance and Administration

United Methodist Communications

2) The Council of Bishops shall elect one bishop to serve as a member of the Connectional Table.

3) The Connectional Table shall have as nonvoting advisors the general secretary or other employed chief executive officer of each of the following 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 Council on Finance and Administration

United Methodist Communications

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Women

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General Board of Pension and Health Benefits

United Methodist Publishing House

Add a new ¶705.5.e) as follows:

¶705.5.e) Total Members— Each of the following general agencies shall have a total membership, including jurisdictional members, central conference members, episcopal members, and nonvoting advisors as follows:

Connectional Table: forty-five (45)

General Board of Pension and Health Benefits: thirty-two (32)

United Methodist Publishing House: twenty-five (25)

United Methodist Communications: thirty-five (35)

Amend ¶713 as indicated following:

¶ 713. Election of General Secretaries of ~~Program~~ Agencies—The general secretary of each of the four general program boards agency that is accountable to the Connectional Table shall be elected quadrennially by ballot of the board of the Connectional Table following nomination by the board of directors of the program board, and she or he shall be accountable programmatically to the board of the agency which establishes priorities, goals, and objectives for the agency. He or she will report administratively to the Executive General Secretary of the Connectional Table who, after evaluation and review, which shall be conducted annually, shall make recommendations to the board of the Connectional Table on the employment and dismissal of each program board's general secretary based in large part on the degree of cooperation and collaboration with other agencies toward the goal of making disciples of Jesus Christ. Since the Connectional Table is responsible to direct the flow of attention and energy 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 and for providing strategic guidance to increase understanding and implementation of the vision,

mission, and ministries of the global Church, consideration shall be strongly given in this process of evaluation and review as to how successful each agency has been toward this goal. Other general agencies shall elect general secretaries quadrennially by ballot. of the board of the agency involved. 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.

Amend ¶805.1 as follows:

¶ 805. Organization—1. Membership—a) The twenty-one voting members of the council shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference, -

~~a) Sixteen voting members of the council shall be elected by the General Conference and they shall~~ be nominated as follows:

(1) two bishops from the jurisdictions ~~including one from a central conference,~~ nominated by the Council of Bishops;

(2) eleven persons from the jurisdictions, nominated by the college of 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, and according to the following formula:~~ North Central 2; Northeastern 2; South Central 2; Southeastern 4; Western 1. At least one of these members in the aggregate should be a youth between the ages of twelve and seventeen, and at least one should be a young adult not over twenty-eight years of age at the time of election.

(3) ~~three persons from the central conferences—one member from Africa, one from Europe, and one from the Philippines—nominated by the Council of Bishops.~~ five members at large who shall be selected for special skills. These at large members shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops based upon an allocation by the Secretary of the General Conference so as to ensure, to the extent possible, that the jurisdictional membership of the Council, exclusive of the episcopal membership, reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in the Book of Discipline.

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(4) Three (3) Central Conference members as specified in ¶705.3.f).

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 one-third be clergy in full connection, one-third be laymen, and one-third be laywomen.

~~e) 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.~~

Amend ¶805.4.a) as follows:

¶805.4. Committees—~~a) Committee on Audit and Review—The council shall appoint a Committee on Audit and Review, no members of which shall be officers of the council, and at least half of whom shall not be members of the council, whose Three (3) of the members shall be members of GCFA, three (3) members shall be members of the Connectional Table, and three (3) members shall be professionals in auditing and finance who are members of neither GCFA nor the CT. The duty of the Committee shall be to review audits of all treasuries receiving general Church funds....~~

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, t~~ The Connectional Table shall be assigned the primary responsibilities, general policies and practices found in the relevant 700 paragraphs.

2. The Connectional Table (CT) shall have responsibility for monitoring and reviewing the work of all program agencies of The United Methodist Church. The CT shall work in partnership with other agencies and the Council of Bishops to conduct necessary research efforts as needed to support strategic thinking and planning and the implementation of mission critical ministries.

3. In the exercise of its responsibility prescribed in §2 hereof, the Connectional Table shall have authority during the 2017 to 2020 quadrennium to guide and work with all program and administrative agencies and connectional bodies, to include the general secretaries, of The United Methodist Church to plan for and implement the overall restructure and reorganization approved by the 2016 General Conference for those agencies and bodies. One of the goals is the consolidation of program and administrative leadership to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort as provided in ¶806.13 and ¶811.2 while ensuring that critical and important connectional ministries are functional and adequately carried forward.

4. The Connectional Table's responsibility, shared with the General Council on Finance and Administration, to monitor and review the work of the agencies shall include authority for the consolidation of administrative services to the extent practicable for all general church activities into the appropriate agency on a fee for service basis as it affects agencies receiving general church funds.

Amend ¶905 as follows:

¶ 905. Objectives—The essential functions of the Connectional Table are:

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.
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 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.

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, 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 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. In the process of preparing budgets for General Conference consideration and approval primary responsibility for providing the assessment of the resource potential of the Church rests with the General Council on Finance and Administration, and primary responsibility for determining the optimum distribution of those resources among the various needs and opportunities rests with the Connectional Table.

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.

Add a new subparagraph ¶905.7.d) as follows:

¶905.7.d) To provide, review, and evaluate program internal audits of all agencies of the Church that receive world service or general administration funds in relationship to goals, objectives, and measurable outcomes established by the General Conference, the governing board, and donor

designations. The Connectional Table shall work with the General Council on Finance and Administration in executing this audit function and shall advise GCFA on appropriate circumstances for the application of measures specified in ¶806.13. The Connectional Table is responsible to direct the flow of attention and energy 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. It shall provide strategic guidance to increase understanding and implementation of the vision, mission, and ministries of the global Church.

Add new subparagraphs ¶907.8, .9, and .10 as follows:

8. The Connectional Table and its Executive General Secretary shall annually evaluate the strategic planning, goals, objectives and quantitative commitments made by organizations and staff receiving church funds. This review shall take into account the utilization of general church funds in achieving the stated mission of the entity as defined by the General Conference, the governing board, and donor designations. After reviewing the performance of an agency and evaluating its progress toward established goals, the CT may take into account any deficiencies in recommending in the budget process any funding for any programs and activities in pursuing the CT's responsibility to ensure that all general agencies have achieved, or identified means satisfactorily to achieve, the established outcomes. This process should be an ongoing, continuing function of the CT.

9. During the quadrennium the Connectional Table shall administer funds which have been made available by General Conference as a Connectional Table Adaptive Challenge Fund within the World Service budget. The funds shall be distributed to the various agencies receiving funds from the World Service Fund based on need, evaluation and review of measurable outcomes, and facilitation of initiatives for the adaptive challenge of increasing vital congregations.

10. Executive General Secretary—a. The Connectional Table shall elect an Executive General Secretary, who shall not be a bishop.

b. The Executive General Secretary shall be limited to a total of 12 years in the same office.

c. The Executive General Secretary shall be an ex officio member of the Connectional Table with voice but without vote.

d. The Executive General Secretary shall be reviewed and evaluated by the Connectional Table based on measured effectiveness on redirecting the focus toward vital congregations.

Amend ¶906.1 a), b), and c) as follows:

¶ 906. Organization of the Connectional Table—1. Membership—Members of the Connectional Table should be effective, informed leaders who take responsibility for the good of the whole by advocating for the various parts of the Church as it seeks to respond to the demands of the gospel. The voting and non voting members of the Connectional Table shall consist of 49 persons as follows: be selected as provided in ¶¶705.3.f) and 705.5. Consideration should be given to ethnic, gender, and age inclusivity.

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 represent the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy and lay membership. Advisory members shall serve without vote. The participation on the Connectional Table of nonvoting advisory members shall be at the expense of the agencies they represent.

b) An effective bishop, selected by the Council of Bishops, serves as the chair of the Connectional Table 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.

c) The ecumenical officer of the 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 Religion

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~~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. The following officers of the Connectional Table shall be elected from the jurisdictional and central conference members: chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer.~~

Delete ¶¶906.1.d), e), and f) in their entirety.

Amend ¶¶906.1.g) and i) and ¶906.5 as follows:

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/ethnic groups (excluding central conference members), and not less than ten percent youth and young adults, ensuring diversity as otherwise provided in ¶ 705.4b.~~

i) Members shall meet all the membership qualifications as expressed in ¶ 710 and shall possess knowledge of the operations of the general church.

¶906.5. Staff—The Connectional Table shall ~~determine the support staff that it deems appropriate to facilitate its work~~ elect an Executive General Secretary with knowledge of The United Methodist Church operations and with executive management experience in church and/or not-for-profit organization who shall provide leadership to the Connectional Table in performing the duties assigned to the Connectional Table in accordance with directives of the General Conference and policies set by the Connectional Table. The Connectional Table shall determine the support staff that it deems appropriate to facilitate its work. The Executive General Secretary shall be responsible for the staff and the operations of the Connectional Table.

Delete the existing text of ¶907 and replace it with the following text:

¶907 There shall be a committee of the general secretaries of agencies specified herein following which shall be called the General Secretaries Committee. It shall report to the Connectional Table for purposes of agency collaboration and alignment. It shall not be considered to be a general agency of the Church.

1. The members of the General Secretaries Committee (GSC) shall be the general secretary or other employed chief executive officer of each of the following 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 Council on Finance and Administration

United Methodist Communications

United Methodist Men

United Methodist Women

2. The GSC shall have other duties as approved by the Connectional Table.

3. If at any time there should be a conflict between guidance to a general secretary or other chief executive officer provided by the GSC and direction provided by the board of directors of the agency she or he represents, then the affected officer should follow the direction provided by her or his board and advise the GSC of the conflict.

4. The GSC shall be chaired by the Executive General Secretary of the Connectional Table.

Delete ¶¶1006 and 1007 in their entirety

Delete ¶1105.1 in its entirety

Delete ¶1302.5 to transfer the ecumenical functions of the General Board of Global Ministries to the Council of Bishops.

Delete ¶¶1311.1 and 1311.6 in their entirety.

Delete ¶1407 in its entirety.

Amend ¶1502.1 as follows:

¶ 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 of the General Board as provided in ¶705.5 for the purpose of bringing to the general board special knowledge or background, not more than two from the same jurisdiction, shall be nominated and elected by the general board in such manner as it shall provide in its bylaws, other provisions of the Book of Discipline notwithstanding.~~

~~b) The aforementioned electing bodies shall give consideration during the nominating process to equitable representation on the basis of race, color, age, gender, and people with disabilities.~~

~~c) The general secretary of the general board shall be an ex officio member thereof, without vote.~~

~~d) The terms of all members so elected shall be four years, to take effect at the first meeting of the general board following the General Conference, hereinafter referred to as the organizational meeting.~~

~~(1) Members shall serve during the terms for which they are elected and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.~~

~~(2) Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the general board may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.~~

~~(3) In case a vacancy occurs between regular sessions of the jurisdictional conferences for any cause, the general board shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term from that jurisdiction in the representation of which the vacancy occurs, except in the case of members elected by the General Conference or the general board where such vacancies would be filled by the general board in the manner prescribed by its bylaws without regard to geographic or jurisdictional representation.~~

Delete all the existing text of ¶1602 except subparagraph ¶1602.1.i, so that ¶1602 shall read as follows:

¶1602 The publisher of The United Methodist Church (¶ 1614) shall be an ex officio member of the board without vote.

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 Council on Finance and Administration ~~Commission on Archives and History~~.

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Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

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.

...

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 Pension and Health Benefits, ~~the General Commission on Archives and History~~, the Central Conference or Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History, and the Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History two printed copies of its annual journal. In addition, the annual conference shall send one printed copy of its annual journal to the Connectional Table and one printed copy 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 ~~Commission on Archives and History~~ and one copy to United Methodist Communications.

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 ¶ 2549.3); 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:

¶702.3. 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, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, ~~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:

¶703.6. Administrative General Agencies—The general boards and ~~commissions~~ agencies 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.~~

Suggested Title: Plan UMC Revised

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Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

Amend ¶805 as follows:

¶805.4.b) 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, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, ~~the General Commission on Archives and History, 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, or board, ~~or commission~~ represented from its membership. The committee shall have duties and responsibilities as defined in ¶ 807.13b.

Create a new ¶805.4.d) as follows:

¶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. In so far as practical changes required by the discontinuation of the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH) and the creation of the Committee on Archives and History in this section shall be accomplished no later than June 30, 2017 under the guidance of the Connectional Table and the General Council on Finance and Administration. Funds budgeted in the 2017 to 2020 quadrennium to carry out the operations and programs of GCAH shall follow the function.

(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, who shall be an associate general secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration, 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.

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Discipline Paragraph: Multiple paragraphs throughout the entire volume

Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

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 ¶805.4.f)(8)(c)(ii).

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.

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Global Implications: Yes

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); College of West Africa, Monrovia, Liberia (2012); 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); Mary Johnston Hospital, Manila, The Philippines (2012); McMahan’s Chapel, Bronson, TX (1972); Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, NY (1972); Newtown Indian United Methodist Church, Okmulgee, OK (2012); Old McKendree Chapel, Jackson, MO (1968); Old Mutare Mission, Zimbabwe (2012);; Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, MD (1968); Old Stone Church Cemetery

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and Site, Leesburg, VA (1968); Organization of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Louisville, KY (1984); Peter Cartwright United Methodist Church, Pleasant Plains, IL (1976); Rehoboth Church, near Union, WV (1968); Robert Strawbridge's Log House, near New Windsor, MD (1968); Rutgersville Cluster, Rutgersville, TX (1988); St. George's Church, Philadelphia, PA (1968); St. Simon's Island, GA (1968); Simpson House, Philadelphia, PA (2012); 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); Woman's Foreign Missionary Society founding site, Boston, MA (2004) Wyandot Indian Mission, Upper Sandusky, OH (1968); and Zoar United Methodist Church, Philadelphia, PA (1984).

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 ¶ 824.7 and ¶ 805.6). ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications 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.

1. Human Relations Day—Historically, Human Relations Day has been celebrated with an offering on the Sunday before the observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

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Global Implications: Yes

Congregations are to observe Human Relations Day on this date or another date appropriate to the local church. This Sunday occurs during Epiphany, the season of manifesting God's light to the world. Human Relations Day calls the Church to recognize the right of all God's children in realizing their potential as human beings in relationship with each other. The purpose of the day is to further the development of better human relations.

In connection with Human Relations Day ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications 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:

- a) Community Developers Program: 57 percent (General Board of Global Ministries);
- b) United Methodist Voluntary Services Program: 33 percent (General Board of Global Ministries) and;
- c) Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program: 10 percent (General Board of Church and Society).

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 Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, General Board of Global Ministries. 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. However, receipts shall be administered by The United Methodist Church. Net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, shall be remitted by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration to the General Board of Global Ministries.

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

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Global Implications: Yes

Communion Sunday calls the church to be the catholic inclusive church. In connection with World Communion Sunday ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Each local church shall be requested to remit as provided in ¶ 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.

Net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, shall be divided on ratio by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration to the administering agencies:

- a) World Communion Scholarships: 50 percent (General Board of Global Ministries), with at least one half of the annual amount for ministries beyond the United States;
- b) Ethnic Scholarship Program: 35 percent (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry); and
- c) Ethnic In-Service Training Program: 15 percent (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry).

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 Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, shall be remitted by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration to the administering agency.

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

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Global Implications: Yes

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 Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Church and Society.

a) The annual conference treasurer shall retain 50 percent of the receipts for Peace with Justice ministries in the annual conference, to be administered by the annual conference board of church and society 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 administering agency for Peace with Justice ministries.

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 Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

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~~ United Methodist Communications.

Add a new ¶810.3 as follows:

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Global Implications: Yes

¶810.3 United Methodist Communications shall promote all general Church funds in cooperation with other Church bodies affected by each fund.

Amend ¶812.4 as follows:

¶812.4. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall promote the World Service Fund.

Amend ¶813.5 as follows:

¶813.5. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall promote the General Administration Fund.

Amend ¶814.7 as follows:

¶814.7. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall promote the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.

Amend ¶815.3 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 Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications, the cost being a charge against the Black College Fund receipts and within a budget approved by the Division of Higher Education and the General Council on Finance and Administration.

Amend ¶816.4 as follows:

¶816.4. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall promote the Ministerial Education Fund.

Amend ¶818 as follows:

¶ 818. Purpose—1. The Episcopal Fund, raised in accordance with ¶ 818.3, shall provide for the salary and expenses of effective bishops 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~~ United Methodist Communications shall promote the Episcopal Fund.

Amend ¶820.7 as follows:

¶820.7. General promotion of this program, for purposes of name identification and visibility, shall be the responsibility of ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications.

Amend ¶821 as follows:

¶821.3. 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~~ United Methodist Communications.

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~~

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~~Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications 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 General Commission on Communications~~ United Methodist Communications.

Amend ¶823 as follows:

¶823.3 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 Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications.

4. The appeal for Advance Specials shall be channeled through bishops, district superintendents, pastors and other individuals. Details of the procedure shall be determined by ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications in consultation with the designated unit of the General Board of Global Ministries and the Advance Committee.

Amend ¶824 as follows:

¶824.1. ... In connection with Human Relations Day, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

2. b) ... In connection with One Great Hour of Sharing, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

3. ... In connection with United Methodist Student Day, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

4. ... In connection with World Communion Sunday, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal ...

5. ... In connection with Peace with Justice Sunday, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal....

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Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

6. ... In connection with Native American Ministries Sunday, ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal. ...

7. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications 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~~ United Methodist Communications after consultation with participating agencies. In the promotion of these offerings, the spiritual implications of Christian stewardship shall be emphasized.

Amend ¶1120.4 as follows:

¶1120.4. 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 United Methodist Communications, United Methodist Women; one active or retired bishop representing the Council of Bishops, and one central conference representative; five older adults, one to be selected by each jurisdictional College of Bishops; and no more than three members to be selected by the committee for expertise and/or professional qualifications, and no more than three additional members to be selected by the committee for inclusiveness (racial/ethnic, disability, age, gender, laity, clergy, or geographic distribution). Staff and/or board members will provide appropriate liaison and reports to their respective agencies. Board members and central conference and jurisdiction representatives shall serve no more than two consecutive terms (one term equals four years). Each board and agency will be responsible for travel, lodging, and other

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Discipline Paragraph: Multiple paragraphs throughout the entire volume

Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

expenses incurred by representatives attending meetings of the Committee on Older Adult Ministries.

Amend ¶1207.2 as follows:

¶1207.2....These representatives shall attend at the expense of the sending agency and shall relate the priorities of the division to their agency and serve as resource people to the division:

- a) General Board of Church and Society
- b) General Board of Discipleship
- c) General Board of Global Ministries
- d) General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
- e) ~~General Commission on Religion and Race~~
- f) ~~General Commission on the Status and Role of Women~~
- g) ~~General Commission on United Methodist Men~~
- h) General Council on Finance and Administration
- i) Connectional Table
- j) United Methodist Communications
- k) United Methodist Publishing House
- l) United Methodist Women

Amend ¶1330 as follows:

¶1330.1.c)(5) (5) work cooperatively with ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications in promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering;

Amend ¶1405.21 as follows:

¶1405.21. To promote, in cooperation with ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications, churchwide special Sundays and funds: Africa University Fund,

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Discipline Paragraph: Multiple paragraphs throughout the entire volume

Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

Black College Fund, Ministerial Education Fund, Native American Ministries Sunday, United Methodist Student Day, World Communion Sunday, and other funds and special days ordered by the General Conference.

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 Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications, and the Connectional Table with regard to their publishing needs in order to avoid unnecessary overlapping and duplication.

Amend ¶¶1801-1808 as follows:

¶ 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 of the Church. Within this total responsibility, there are certain functions that the General Conference has assigned to ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ United Methodist Communications, to be performed in behalf of all through the talents and resources at its command.

¶ 1802. Name—There shall be an organization ~~a General Commission on Communication~~ of The United Methodist Church, ~~which for communication and public relations purposes may be~~ designated as United Methodist Communications (UMCom).

¶ 1803. Incorporation—United Methodist Communication is successor to The General Commission on Communication, ~~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~~ UMCom deems appropriate to carry out its functions.

¶ 1804. Amenability and Accountability—~~The General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com shall be amenable to the General Conference. As an administrative general agency that carries significant program functions in addition to its many service and support responsibilities, ~~the commission~~ UM Com shall be accountable to, report to, and be evaluated by the Connectional Table in program matters and shall be accountable to and report to the General Council on Finance and Administration in financial matters.

¶ 1805. Purpose—~~The General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com 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.

¶ 1806. Responsibilities—Communication is a strategic function necessary for the success of the mission of The United Methodist Church. Specific responsibilities and functions of ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com and its staff are as follows:

...

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 commission~~ UMCom shall include program production and

placement, and relationships to commercial broadcasters at the national level in the United States.

...

12. It shall be the central agency marketing throughout the Church the following general Church funds: World Service Fund (§812.1), Africa University Fund (§ 806.2), Black College Fund (§815), Episcopal Fund (§ 818.1), General Administration Fund (§ 813), Interdenominational Cooperation Fund (§ 819), Ministerial Education Fund (§ 816), Human Relations Day (§§ 824.1 and 263.1), One Great Hour of Sharing (§§ 821, 824.2 and 263.2), Native American Ministries Sunday (§§ 824.6 and 263.6), Peace with Justice Sunday (§§824.5 and 263.5), World Communion Sunday (§§ 824.4 and 263.3), United Methodist Student Day (§§ 824.3 and 263.4), the Advance for Christ and His Church (§§ 822 and 823), World Service Special Gifts (§ 820), Christian Education Sunday (§ 265.1), Golden Cross Sunday (§ 265.2), Rural Life Sunday (§ 265.3), Disability Awareness Sunday (§ 265.4), Youth Service Fund (§ 1208), and all other general Church funds approved by the General Conference, as well as any emergency appeals authorized by the Council of Bishops and the General Council on Finance and Administration (§ 819). 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 in cooperation with the General Council on Finance and Administration. In cases where the General Conference assigns a portion of the marketing responsibility to some other agency, such marketing work shall be subject to coordination by ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com. 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 (§ 823.3), and the cost of marketing World Service Special Gifts shall be borne by administering agencies (§ 820.6). The administration of the money thus set aside for marketing shall be the responsibility of ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com.

...

14. Appeals for giving that are made to United Methodists shall be consistent with the aims of Christian stewardship. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com and the General Board of Discipleship will cooperate in order that programs and resource materials of the two agencies may be in harmony in their presentation of Christian stewardship.

...

21. ~~The General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com 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.

~~¶ 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 named by the Council of Bishops.~~

~~d) Seven additional members elected by the commission to ensure membership of persons with expertise in communication.~~

~~e) The additional members shall be nominated by a committee composed of one commission member designated from each jurisdiction and one of the member bishops.~~

~~f) In order to ensure inclusiveness, the composition of the commission shall reflect the major recognized categories of Church members (see ¶ 705.3e).~~

2. Meetings—~~The commission~~ UMCom shall hold at least one meeting in each calendar year. Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum.

3. Officers—~~The commission~~ UMCom shall elect a president, at least one vice president, a recording secretary, and such other officers as it determines.

There may be an executive committee comprised of not more than one-third of the total membership of ~~the commission~~ UMCom and elected by ~~the commission~~ UMCom. The membership of the executive committee shall be representative of the composition of ~~the commission~~ UMCom.

4. Internal Organization—~~The General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com is empowered to create internal structures as it deems appropriate for effective operation.

5. Staff—~~The commission~~ UMCom shall elect 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 shall cooperate with the Connectional Table for program services and with the general secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration for financial services.

¶ 1808. Finance—The General Conference shall provide for the financial needs of ~~the General Commission on Communication~~ UM Com upon recommendation by the General Council on Finance and Administration. ~~The commission~~ UMCom shall consult with the Connectional Table in the area of program matters in development of an annual budget, which shall be reported to the General Council on Finance and Administration for approval.

Amend ¶¶437 and 438 as follows:

¶ 437. 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~~6~~. The purpose of the OCUIR will be to deepen and expand the ecumenical and interreligious ministries of the United Methodist Church.

¶ 438. 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 and it shall be chaired by the ecumenical officer of the Council of Bishops. ~~One of the episcopal members shall be from a central conference~~

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~~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 percent% laity.~~

~~4. Two members with voice and vote from our Full Communion Ecumenical Partners In addition the following twenty-one (21) persons shall be members of the OCUIR: a) Members from each jurisdiction, based on the following formula: North Central—2, Northeastern—2, South Central—3, Southeastern—5, and Western—1. Each jurisdictional conference will nominate three times the number candidates as it has members allocated, and the Council of Bishops will elect these members from this pool of candidates.~~

~~b) Seven (7) members who are not bishops from the central conferences. Europe and the Philippines shall together be allocated one (1) member which shall alternate between the two areas from quadrennium to quadrennium with the remainder of six (6) members to be allocated among the three (3) African central conferences on a rotating basis as determined by the Council of Bishops.~~

~~c) One (1) member from one of the other churches in Churches Uniting in Christ.~~

~~d) At least 50% of the members of OCUIR who are not bishops shall be lay, and other recommendations for inclusivity as provided in ¶705.3.d) shall apply to the selection of members.~~

Following existing ¶441 insert new paragraphs as follows for the purpose of reestablishing as a formal part of the structure of the Church the Committee on Faith and Order inadvertently deleted by General Conference 2012. Paragraph numbers are provided in this section solely for the purpose of internal ordering of the material presented and are not intended to indicate

position within the Book of Discipline, which will be determined by the Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision:

¶ 450. There shall be a Committee on Faith and Order that, while functioning with the authority of an independent committee (¶ 701.2), shall be amenable to the Council of Bishops.

¶ 451. 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. Upon request of the Council of Bishops, to support and provide resources in its 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.

¶ 452. 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.

b) The committee may, with approval of the Council of Bishops, carry out 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.

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.

¶ 453. 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. The Committee on Faith and Order shall be amenable to the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 454. 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 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. The budget for the Committee on Faith and Order shall be proposed by the Council of Bishops, and it shall be part of the Episcopal Fund.

4. All twenty-four members of the committee shall be 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. It is recommended that one third of the membership 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 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.

¶455. 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 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.
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.

¶456. 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.

¶457. The Committee on Faith and Order shall not be considered to be a general agency of The United Methodist Church.

For the purpose of merging the General Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and moving those monitoring functions into becoming a committee of the Connectional Table, the following action is taken:

Delete ¶¶2001-2008 and 2101-2109 in their entirety.

Amend ¶643 as follows:

¶ 643. 1. There shall be in each annual conference including central conferences 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~~ of the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness.

2. ... Members of the ~~General Commission on Religion and Race~~ United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness residing in the annual conference shall be ex officio members of the Annual Conference Commission on Religion and Race with vote.

Amend ¶644 as follows:

A person or persons serving as member(s) of the ~~General Commission on the Status and Role of Women~~ United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness 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 710.56~~).

Amend ¶807.12.c) as follows:

¶807.12.c) The Committee on Audit and Review shall (1) receive from agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 810.2) statements regarding their compliance with the policies stated or referenced in ¶¶807.12a and 811.1; and (2) 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~~ United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness,

the committee shall prepare for the General Council on Finance and Administration reports and recommendations deemed appropriate by the committee, in accordance with the procedures set forth in ¶ 806.12.

Amend ¶811.1 as follows:

¶811.1 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 shall submit to the council in writing its established policies of: (a) recruiting, employing, utilizing, recompensing, and promoting professional staff and other personnel without regard to race, ethnicity, age, or gender; (b) fulfilling its duties and responsibilities in a manner that does not involve segregation or discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, age, or gender; 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: (1) collaborate with the ~~General Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women~~ United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness in the development of a certification form to be submitted to the council by agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds; (2) review copies of such certifications with the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness ~~two commissions~~; (3) in consultation with the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness ~~two commissions~~ determine adequate recommendations regarding possible noncompliance with these policies by agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds; and (4) in collaboration with the ~~General Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women~~ United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness, the General Council on Finance and Administration shall determine fair and just recommendations for withholding funds from agencies and church-related institutions that are non-compliant.

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,~~ United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness and the Appalachian Development Committee as they seek...

Add new paragraphs ¶¶908-910 as follows:

¶908. In order to fulfill the monitoring roles previously performed by the General Commission on Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, there shall be a United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness, reporting to the Connectional Table. The CT shall establish effective structures and processes with sufficient independence to ensure accurate monitoring across the church. In performing such monitoring functions, these structures shall have a direct reporting relationship to the Connectional Table and General Conference. The monitoring structures and processes shall be designed to monitor the entire Church, with specific attention given to the General Conference, the Council of Bishops, all general church agencies (including the Connectional Table), annual conferences, and other connectional structures.

¶909.1. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee 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.

2. Further it shall be the responsibility of the Committee 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 Committee 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.

3. In so far as practical changes required by the discontinuation of the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR) and of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCOSROW) and the accompanying relocation of the monitoring function of those agencies to the Committee on Inclusiveness in this section shall be accomplished no later than June 30, 2017 under the guidance of the Connectional Table and the General Council on Finance and Administration. Funds budgeted in the 2017 to 2020 quadrennium to carry out the operations and programs of GCORR and GCOSROW shall follow the functions.

¶910. The United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness shall have staff as determined by the Connectional Table and shall be located in offices as directed by the Connectional Table.

For the purpose of establishing United Methodist Men as an independent agency of the Church that is not a general commission, the following action is taken:

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 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 General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men. All local church men's organizations shall provide a dedicated ministry for building men spiritually and involving men in the total ministry of the Church (¶ 2302).

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 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 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 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 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 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 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 General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men.

Article 4. Membership—The conference organization of United Methodist Men shall be composed of all men of local churches or charges (chartered or unchartered) within the bounds of the conference and all clergy.

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

b) The resident bishop shall serve as the honorary president and be a member of the conference organization and its executive committee.

c) The conference lay leader (or designated representative) shall be a member of the conference organization and its executive committee.

d) Additional officers (including civic youth-serving agencies/scouting coordinator) and committees shall be elected or appointed in accordance with the guidelines of ~~the 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 General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men, and members of the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men residing within the bounds of the conference.

Article 7. Relationships—a) The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Men is a member of the annual conference, as set forth in ¶ 32.

b) The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Men shall represent the conference organization on the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men. In the absence of the president a designated vice president may represent the conference organization.

c) Designated officers or members shall represent the conference organization on the various agencies, councils, commissions, and committees of the annual conference as the constitutions, bylaws, and rules of such agencies provide.

d) The conference organization shall encourage men to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall encourage them to assume positions of responsibility and leadership as part of their discipleship.

Article 8. Finances—The Conference United Methodist Men shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. All funds from whatever source secured by the Conference United Methodist Men belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and/or by-laws and by its order.

a) Conference United Methodist Men may have their own bank accounts.

b) It is recommended that there be an annual financial audit.

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

b) Each annual conference shall submit an annual report to ~~the 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.

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Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

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 General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men to include the annual conference UMM's appraisal of ~~the commission's~~ United Methodist Men's goals and ~~the commission's~~ United Methodist Men'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 General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men and each conference report shall be shared with the annual conference leadership by the Conference President.

Amend ¶671 as follows:

¶ 671. 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 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 general commission on~~ United Methodist Men. The district organization shall also encourage and promote the chartering and annual recertification of local units through ~~the 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 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 general commission on~~ United Methodist Men and/or the bylaws of the district organization of United Methodist Men.

c) The district superintendent shall be a member of the district organization and of its executive committee.

d) The district lay leader (or designated representative) shall be a member of the district organization and of its executive committee.

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

Article 7. Relationships—a) Designated officers or members shall represent the district organization of United Methodist Men on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the district as the constitutions, bylaws and rules of such agencies provide.

b) The district president shall be a member of the conference executive committee.

c) The district organization shall encourage men to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall encourage them to assume positions of leadership as part of their discipleship.

Article 8. Finances—The District United Methodist Men shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. All funds from whatever source secured by the District United Methodist Men belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and/or by-laws and by its order.

a) District United Methodist Men may have their own bank accounts.

b) It is recommended that there be an annual financial audit.

Suggested Title: Plan UMC Revised

Discipline Paragraph: Multiple paragraphs throughout the entire volume

Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

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

Article 10. Connectional Reporting—a) Each district shall file a current copy of their constitution with the conference organization of United Methodist Men.

b) Each district shall submit an annual report to the conference organization of United Methodist Men prior to its annual meeting.

Amend ¶705.3.e) as follows:

¶705.3.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~~ United Methodist Men holding membership by virtue of office may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

Amend ¶¶2301-2303 as follows:

¶ 2301. There shall be a ~~General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men in The United Methodist Church, and it shall be a general agency of the Church.

~~The general commission~~ United Methodist Men 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 (¶ 702.3).~~

¶ 2302. Purpose—~~The General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men shall have primary oversight responsibility 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 on United Methodist Men.

...

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

...

¶ 2303. Membership—1. ~~The commission~~ United Methodist Men shall consist of ~~twenty-three~~ (203) voting members as defined in ¶ 705.3.f in the General Provisions and ¶ 537. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of ~~the Commission~~ United Methodist Men 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) two central conference members, who are not bishops, named by the Council of Bishops;

d) six members at large elected by United Methodist Men for inclusiveness, expertise, and balance, which should include one young person under the age of 30, the national president of United Methodist Men, the president of the United Methodist Men Foundation, and at least two members of the national organization from the previous quadrennium;

e) ~~eight (8) members at large elected by the 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 Commission from the previous quadrennium;~~ Each Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men (¶537) shall elect, from among the United Methodist men of the jurisdiction, members, including the jurisdictional presidents as specified in subparagraph b) above, according to the following formula:

North Central—2; Northeastern—2; South Central—3; Southeastern—4; Western—1.

f) ~~The Commission may include one representative from a men's ministry from a Pan-Methodist Church.~~

Suggested Title: Plan UMC Revised

Discipline Paragraph: Multiple paragraphs throughout the entire volume

Financial Implications: Savings related to consolidation

Global Implications: Yes

2. Vacancies—~~Vacancies in the general commission membership shall be filled by procedures defined in ¶ 712 of the General Provisions.~~ Vacancies in membership shall be filled by United Methodist Men in a manner that preserves the representational requirements of the membership provisions herein specified, by a process to be defined by United Methodist Men, other provisions of the Book of Discipline notwithstanding.

3. Officers—~~The 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 General Commission on~~ United Methodist Men shall elect annually by ballot its general secretary, who shall provide executive, administrative, and programmatic leadership (¶ 713). ~~The Commission~~ United Methodist Men shall elect such other staff members as needs require within the General Conference mandates and the authority vested in ~~the Commission~~ United Methodist Men to develop policies and programs directed toward the realization of its purpose.

5. Meetings—~~The general commission~~ United Methodist Men 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 commission~~ United Methodist Men 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 representatives.

7. Advisory panel—~~The Commission~~ United Methodist Men may create an advisory panel consisting of representatives of affiliated organizations.

For purposes of promoting cooperation in the promotion and awarding of higher education scholarship programs among the agencies of the Church, the following action is taken:

Modify existing ¶¶824.4.b), 1110.3, 1313.1.d), 1408.2, and 1419 as follows:

¶824.4.b) The treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration shall allocate net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, to be divided as follows: 50 percent ~~Crusade~~ World Communion Scholarships; 35 percent Ethnic Scholarship Program, and 15 percent Ethnic In- Service Training Program. Funds shall be administered by the General Board of Global Ministries and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, in consultation with various ethnic groups (¶ 263.3).

¶1110.3. The board shall have authority to cooperate with other agencies of the Church, with defined organizations, and with ecumenical agencies to promote the ministry of Christian education. The agency shall collaborate with other United Methodist scholarship giving agencies and foundations to develop and maintain a common web portal which will include links to each agency and foundation scholarship program, with information about general criteria and guidelines for applications.

¶1313.1.d) Resourcing leadership training programs and administering scholarships, including the World Communion Scholarship Program. The agency shall collaborate with other United Methodist scholarship giving agencies and foundations to develop and maintain a common web portal which will include links to each agency and foundation scholarship program, with information about general criteria and guidelines for applications.

¶1408.2. Offices—The board, in implementing the objectives (¶¶ 1403, 1405), shall have authority to establish and maintain the following offices: (a) Interpretation; and (b) Loans and Scholarships. The agency shall collaborate with other United Methodist scholarship giving agencies and foundations to develop and maintain a common web portal which will include links to each agency and foundation scholarship program, with information about general criteria and guidelines for applications.

¶1419. The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation is incorporated in the State of Tennessee as a nonprofit, charitable organization with permanent ties to the Division of Higher Education, 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. The foundation shall collaborate with other United Methodist scholarship giving agencies and foundations to develop and maintain a common web portal which will include links to each agency and foundation scholarship program, with information about general criteria and guidelines for applications.

For purposes of including tables among the agencies of the Church, amend ¶701 as follows:

¶701.2. We experience this connection in many ways, including our systems of episcopacy, itineracy, 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 for Jesus Christ; organizing our whole Church to enable local congregations, the primary arena for mission, faithfully and fruitfully to make disciples for Jesus Christ; 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, tables, 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 and ministries beyond the scope of individual local congregations and annual conferences through services and ministries that are highly focused,

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flexible, and capable of rapid response. The general agencies of The United Methodist Church are the regularly established councils, boards, commissions, committees, tables, or other units with ongoing responsibilities that have been constituted by the General Conference and which report directly to 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. 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.

This legislation, or any portion of it approved by General Conference, shall take effect at the close of General Conference 2016.

Date: 15Apr15

Signature of Petitioner

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