


The Beauty of HOLINESS

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GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH GENERAL CONFERENCE 2026

Thursday, September 3

DAILY JOURNAL

Legislative Committees · Plenary Session
Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg

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KUDO



Plenary Session

TODAY'S SCHEDULE — THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

6:30 AM – 7:00 AM	GC26 Shuttle Off-Site Lodging
6:45 AM – 9:30 AM	GC26 Shuttle Hotels
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	Arrival Break
7:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Opens
7:00 AM	Agenda Committee
7:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Registration and Hospitality
7:30 AM	Shuttle pick-up to Clergy & Leadership Training (Mission Experience)
7:45 AM	Consecration Prayer
7:45 AM	Doors open to Worship
8:15 AM – 9:20 AM	Worship • Rev. Luciano Pereira Da Silva preaching • ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION: FORGIVEN AND FREE • 1 Corinthians 2:9-3:4
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Clergy & Leadership Training (Mission Experience) — Soweto
9:20 AM – 9:30 AM	Transition
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	Plenary
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Break
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Plenary
11:30 AM	Shuttle to School Supply Distribution and Prayer Ministry (Mission Experience)
11:30 AM	Shuttle to Children's Bible Camp (Mission Experience)
11:30 AM	Shuttle to Christian Discipleship Discussions (Mission Experience)
12:00 PM	Covenant Signing with the Korean Methodist Church
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Bishops' Luncheon for Ecumenical Guests and Covenant Partners
12:30 PM – 1:45 PM	Lunch provided on-site for those with the meal plan
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	GC26 Shuttle Hotels
1:00 PM	Shuttle returns from Clergy & Leadership Training
1:00 PM – 4:30 PM	School Supply Distribution and Prayer Ministry (Mission Experience)
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Children's Bible Camp (Mission Experience)
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Christian Discipleship Discussions (Mission Experience)
1:15 PM	Consecration Prayer
1:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Council on Appeals
1:45 PM – 3:15 PM	Plenary
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Break
3:45 PM – 5:30 PM	Plenary
4:30 PM	Shuttle return from School Supply Distribution and Prayer Ministry
5:00 PM	Shuttle return from Children's Bible Camp
5:00 PM	Shuttle return from Christian Discipleship Discussions
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Celebration of Bishops including Retiring Bishops Scott Jones, Kimba Evariste, Jeff Greenway, and Kenneth Levingston
6:00 PM	Reception for Bishops
6:00 PM – 9:30 PM	GC26 Shuttle Hotels
6:30 PM	Dinner on own or Delegation Dinners
7:30 PM	Consecration Rehearsal
8:00 PM	GC26 Shuttle Off-Site Lodging

CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

CORRECTION TO PETITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Three petitions reported in earlier editions carry a committee action that has since changed. In each case the action printed was correct as recorded at the time; the record has moved since.

Petition 1077 — Clarify Inclusive Interpretation of Wesley's Sermons and Notes (Report page 46)

- Reported in Tuesday's Daily Journal as Supported as Amended, with a vote of 45 Yes / 3 No / 2 Abstentions. Correctly: Supported as Original. The vote is unchanged, and the petition's text is unchanged: the committee's change was to the petition's rationale, which is not part of the enacted text.

Petition 1131 — Educational Requirements for Ordination (Report page 253)

- Reported in Tuesday's Daily Journal as Supported as Amended, with a vote of 57 Yes / 1 No / 1 Abstention. Correctly: Supported as Amended, with a vote of 31 Yes / 13 No / 4 Abstentions.
- The committee has also further amended the petition since that report. Two changes have been made to the amendment printed on Tuesday; the rest of it stands as printed.
- Removed since that report — the following areas of study: History of Christianity Through the Reformation; History of Christianity, Reformation to the Present; Apologetics; Wesleyan Discipleship and Spiritual Formation; Christian Leadership and Conflict Resolution; an additional Old Testament class; an additional New Testament class; Ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- Added since that report: "Board of Ministry to exercise discretion to grant equivalency to these requirements based on applicable life experience or education. These exceptions shall not exceed 20% of the overall education requirements. Under rare exceptions, candidates may petition their local Board of Ministry for equivalency credit based upon applicable life experience or education regarding course of study requirements. Requests for course of study equivalency may only be made in the areas of leadership, church administration, or pastoral care and may not exceed more than 10% of the total the Course of Study requirements. The Ministry and Higher Education commission shall provide guidelines to local Boards of Ministry regarding equivalency by May 1, 2027. Candidates are encouraged to consult with Global Methodist approved educational partner to discern if their prior education including undergraduate course work may satisfy credit requirements toward a degree program which will help them attain a higher level of learning and formation for ministry."

Petition 1409 — Covenantal Connections (Report page 61)

- Reported in Wednesday's Daily Journal as Supported as Amended, with a vote of 51 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions. Correctly: Supported as Amended, with a vote of 53 Yes / 1 No / 0 Abstentions. The amendment printed on Wednesday is unchanged and stands as printed.

MINUTES OF THE PLENARY SESSION

WEDNESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2026

Prior to the Plenary Session, the Conference gathered for worship. Rev. David Sablan, Jr. (Mega Manila) delivered the message, "Scriptural Holiness: Called to a Holy Life," from Leviticus 19:2 and 20:7 and 1 Peter 1:15-16.

Bishop Jeff Greenway called the plenary session to order at 9:59 AM and read Philippians 2:1-11. Rev. Bulelani Nontshakaza (South Africa), Conference Superintendent of the South Africa Conference, welcomed the first General Conference of the Global Methodist Church to sit in Africa, and the opening prayer was offered in isiXhosa.

Norma Morrison (Upper Midwest), chair of the Agenda Committee, presented the day's agenda: petitions from the legislative committees, the covenant of understanding with the Korean Methodist Church, an order of the day at 12:00 for an introduction to the episcopal election process, the beginning of the episcopal elections in the afternoon, and adjournment at 4:30 PM for the Celebration of Africa. **The agenda for the day was approved by a showing of hands.**

Rev. Thadius Sales (Northeast), chair of the Ministry Legislative Committee, moved the adoption of Petition 1309, Clarifying the Nature of Ordained Ministry and Clergy Relationship to the Church, removed from Consent Agenda MIN-1A on Tuesday. Rev. Laura Saffell (Allegheny West) moved to amend the committee's text by inserting "authorizes bishops to ordain" for "ordains" in the sentence affirming the call to ministry, and by amending the following sentence to read, "The bishop appoints clergy to serve and clergy remain accountable to the doctrine, discipline and mission of the Global Methodist Church." **The Saffell Amendment was approved by a showing of hands. Petition 1309, as amended, was approved, 354 to 0.**

Rev. Erik Grayson (South Carolina) offered the following motion:

I move to suspend the rules so we may consider the proposed covenant of understanding between the Global Methodist Church and the Korean Methodist Church.

The rules were suspended by a showing of hands. Bishop Carolyn Moore, chair of the Ecumenical Relationships Commission, explained that the Korean Methodist Church presents the same opportunity for a covenant relationship as the Methodist Church of Costa Rica did in 2024, and that an envoy of eight of its bishops would be present on Thursday for a signing ceremony. Debbie Smalley (Alabama Emerald Coast) offered the following motion:

I joyfully move that we accept the adoption of the covenant of understanding between the Global Methodist Church and the Korean Methodist Church as found on page six of today's daily journal.

Rev. Leo Park (Northeast) spoke in favor. **The covenant of understanding between the Global Methodist Church and the Korean Methodist Church was affirmed unanimously by a showing of hands.**

Bishop Greenway invited Linda Davis, disaster response coordinator of the Kingdom Advancement Commission, the two delegates from Nepal and the members of the commission forward, and Ms. Davis prayed for the people of Nepal. Bishop Greenway declared the body in recess at 10:32 AM.

BREAK

The body reconvened at 11:00 AM. Rev. Jimmy Towson (South Georgia), chair of the Judicial Administration Legislative Committee, presented the following items for consideration:

The committee's actions on Petitions 1114, 1327 and 1045, as corrected at page 4 of the Tuesday Daily Journal, were approved by a showing of hands.

Consent Agenda JUD-2B was approved by a showing of hands, and the petitions on it were rejected.

Petition 1414 was approved, 359 to 0.

The recommendation of the committee not to approve Petition 1284 was adopted, 343 to 13.

Rev. Clark Atkins (Trinity), chair of the Constitution, Connectional Organization, and Finance Legislative Committee, presented the following items for consideration. On the request of Sam Gregory (West Plains), supported by ten delegates, **Petitions 1065 and 1217 were removed from Consent Agenda CCOF-2A.**

Consent Agenda CCOF-2A, as reduced, was approved by a showing of hands.

Consent Agenda CCOF-2B was approved by a showing of hands, and the petitions on it were rejected.

Petition 1134 was approved, 342 to 11, taking effect immediately.

The recommendation of the committee not to approve Petition 1316 was adopted, 341 to 1.

Rev. Matt O'Reilly (North Alabama), chair of the Doctrines and Sacraments Legislative Committee, presented the following items for consideration, Petition 1331 having been withdrawn from Consent Agenda DS-2A at the committee's request:

Consent Agenda DS-2A was approved by a showing of hands.

Consent Agenda DS-2B was approved by a showing of hands, and the petitions on it were rejected.

On Petition 1443, Rev. Chris Gadlage (Great Lakes) asked whether the restrictive rule applied; Rev. Tom Lambrecht (Trinity), General Conference Secretary, answered that it applies to the doctrinal standards themselves and not to the explanatory paragraphs of Part One. **Petition 1443, as amended, was approved, 359 to 5.**

Rev. Brandon Nichols (Virginia), chair of the Local Church Legislative Committee, presented the following items for consideration:

Consent Agenda LC-2A was approved by a showing of hands.

Consent Agenda LC-2B was approved by a showing of hands, and the petitions on it were rejected.

The recommendation of the committee not to approve Petition 1370 was adopted, 345 to 13.

Rev. Sales presented the following items for the Ministry Legislative Committee. On the request of Rev. Ben McGehee (Trinity), supported by ten delegates, **Petition 1126 was removed from Consent Agenda MIN-2A.**

Consent Agenda MIN-2A, as reduced, was approved by a showing of hands.

Consent Agenda MIN-2B was approved by a showing of hands, and the petitions on it were rejected.

Petition 1131, recalled and amended by the committee, was passed over to be reprinted in the Thursday Daily Journal.

The recommendation of the committee not to approve Petition 1442 was adopted, 343 to 19.

Petition 1450 was approved, 351 to 3.

Rev. Beth Ann Cook (Great Lakes), chair of the Conferences Legislative Committee, presented the following items for consideration:

Consent Agenda CONF-2A was approved by a showing of hands.

On the request of a delegate, supported by ten others, **Petition 1132 was removed from Consent Agenda CONF-2B. Consent Agenda CONF-2B, as reduced, was approved by a showing of hands, and the petitions on it were rejected.**

For the order of the day, Rev. Chris Ritter (Great Lakes), chair of the Global Episcopacy Committee, reviewed the discernment process that had produced the eight episcopal areas and the area committees' ordered lists of nominees, and noted the committee's guidance under ¶ 604.4 that Area 3 represents the best match for Bishop Mark Webb, the first choice of three areas. Rev. Lambrecht explained the balloting: eight separate ballots, one for each area, with the results withheld until all eight had been taken, and further rounds for any areas left unfilled. Questions were answered from the floor.

A lay delegate of the Grain Coast conference moved that the area committees' ranking numbers be removed from before the nominees' names on the ballot. Liz Bowlin (North Alabama), Rev. Matt O'Reilly (North Alabama) and Israel Chacon Ruiz (Mexico) spoke against the motion; Emmanuel Tomah (Grain Coast), Rev. Allen Cason (South Georgia) and Rev. Mark Vowell (Mid-Texas) spoke for it. **The motion to remove the ranking numbers from the episcopal ballots was approved, 185 to 175.**

Bishop Emeritus Ed Williamson prayed. Bishop Greenway declared the body in recess for lunch at 12:37 PM.

LUNCH BREAK

Bishop Scott Jones called the afternoon session to order at 1:49 PM and reviewed the election process, reminding delegates that they may not vote for the same person in more than one area. Olandor Boyce (Grain Coast) moved that the result of each area's ballot be announced before the next area was balloted. Rev. Beth Ann Cook (Great Lakes) spoke against; a delegate of the Northeast Nigeria conference spoke for. Rev. Jim Noble (Mid-Texas) offered an amendment that the areas be taken in random order. On the point of order of Rev. Jason Burnham (Trinity) that ¶ 604.5 requires the areas to be elected on the same ballot, **Bishop Jones ruled that announcing results between areas would make each a separate ballot, contrary to ¶ 604.5, and that the motion was out of order.** Bishop Jones led the body in prayer before the first ballot, which was taken area by area.

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 1 (215 NEEDED TO ELECT; 357 VALID VOTES)

Luther Oconer (Mega Manila) - 277

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 2 (217 NEEDED TO ELECT; 361 VALID VOTES)

NO ELECTION

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 3 (219 NEEDED TO ELECT; 365 VALID VOTES)

Bishop Mark J. Webb - 301

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 4 (217 NEEDED TO ELECT; 361 VALID VOTES)

NO ELECTION

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 5 (218 NEEDED TO ELECT; 363 VALID VOTES)

NO ELECTION

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 6 (218 NEEDED TO ELECT; 363 VALID VOTES)

Bishop Eduard Kheday (Central Russia) - 319

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 7 (220 NEEDED TO ELECT; 366 VALID VOTES)

NO ELECTION

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #1 — AREA 8 (219 NEEDED TO ELECT; 364 VALID VOTES)

Bishop Carolyn Moore (North Georgia) - 229

Bishop Greenway led the body in prayer before the second ballot, taken for Areas 2, 4, 5 and 7.

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #2 — AREA 2 (219 NEEDED TO ELECT; 365 VALID VOTES)

Jonathan Lee (Korean American) - 273

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #2 — AREA 4 (221 NEEDED TO ELECT; 367 VALID VOTES)

NO ELECTION

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #2 — AREA 5 (219 NEEDED TO ELECT; 364 VALID VOTES)

NO ELECTION

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #2 — AREA 7 (219 NEEDED TO ELECT; 365 VALID VOTES)

Paul Lawler (Mississippi-West Tennessee) - 234

Bishop Jones declared the body in recess at 3:16 PM.

BREAK

When the body reconvened, Bishop John Pena Auta rose on a point of personal privilege to withdraw from consideration on future ballots. The third ballot was taken for Areas 4 and 5.

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #3 — AREA 4 (216 NEEDED TO ELECT; 360 VALID VOTES)

Lyndol Loyd (West Plains) - 264

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #3 — AREA 5 (218 NEEDED TO ELECT; 363 VALID VOTES)

NO ELECTION

EPISCOPAL BALLOT #4 — AREA 5 (216 NEEDED TO ELECT; 360 VALID VOTES)

Jerry Kulah (Grain Coast) - 257

The General Conference having elected a bishop to each of the eight episcopal areas, Bishop Jones invited the bishops-elect and their spouses to the platform, and each was introduced to the body: Paul Lawler (Mississippi-West Tennessee), with his wife Missy; Bishop Eduard Kheday (Central Russia); Jerry Kulah (Grain Coast), with his wife Ruth; Bishop Mark J. Webb, with his wife Jodi; Bishop Carolyn Moore (North Georgia), with her husband Steve; Luther Oconer (Mega Manila), with his wife Marian; Lyndol Loyd (West Plains), with his wife Joanie; and Jonathan Lee (Korean American), with his wife. The body extended its hands in a prayer of blessing over them.

Rev. Lambrecht announced the evening's Celebration of Africa, at which a special offering would be received for ministries in South Africa, continuing the practice of blessing the church in the country hosting the General Conference. Bishop Jones led the body in prayer and declared the session adjourned at 4:27 PM.

CELEBRATION OF AFRICA

PETITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Committee Actions

Day 4 calendars. In a consent-agenda identifier the digit is the conference day and the letter its disposition, A supported and B rejected. Placement on a consent agenda is permissive, not mandatory. Committee actions taken earlier in the week and reported in previous editions are not repeated here.

Amendments are printed beneath the petitions that carry them, generated from each committee's FINAL rather than typed. Plain underline and strike are the petitioner's own markup; bold underline and strike are the committee's later layer.

CONFERENCES — 4 PETITIONS

• CONSENT AGENDA CONF-4A — PETITIONS SUPPORTED •

Petition 1028 | ¶709.6 | Page 389 **Petition Clarifying Clergy Eligible for Election as Delegates to the General Conference**

Supported as Amended: 32 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~(6) Elect clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference according to the formula and allocation determined by the General Conference and Connectional Council. (6) Elect clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference according to the formula and allocation approved by the General Conference and Connectional Council. Clergy delegates shall be members in full connection in good standing of the Global Methodist Church who have served a minimum of two years preceding their election in the Global Methodist Church or its predecessors. Clergy delegates shall be members in full connection in good standing of the Global Methodist Church who have served a minimum of two years preceding their election in the Global Methodist Church.~~ Under the provisions of ¶ 521.2a transitional local pastors who have been approved for ordination as elders or deacons shall be members in full connection and may be clergy delegates provided that they are in good standing and have served a minimum of two years preceding their election in the Global Methodist Church or its predecessors.

~~Transitional local pastors approved for ordination and under appointment to ministry or school (Par. 521.2a-b)~~
Supply pastors and transitional local pastors approved for ordination and under appointment to ministry or school (Par. 521.2a-b)

~~Senior clergy appointed at least one-quarter time or within the first seven years of taking senior status (Par. 520)~~
Senior clergy within the first seven years of taking senior status (Par. 520)

~~Clergy under administrative or judicial complaint whose complaint has been forwarded to a committee on investigation or trial process are not considered in good standing and shall not serve as delegates (Judicial Practices and Procedures 2.2.6)~~

~~Inactive clergy are not considered in good standing and shall not serve as delegates~~ Inactive clergy shall not serve as delegates ~~Lay delegates shall have been professing members of the Global Methodist Church or its predecessors for at least two years.~~ Lay delegates shall have been professing members of the Global Methodist Church for at least two years. Both clergy and lay delegates shall be elected by a simple majority of votes cast with clergy voting for clergy delegates and laity voting for lay delegates.

Delegates, alternates, and reserves shall serve in the order elected by their annual conference. Conferences may not recommend a slate of delegates, but voting must be for individuals.

Once elected, all clergy and lay delegates shall constitute the annual conference delegation for General Conference. Delegates may also choose to allow alternate and reserve delegates to serve on the annual conference delegation as well.

Petition 1228 | ¶710.1 | Page 399 Clarifying Meetings and Membership of the Annual Conference Connectional Council

Supported as Amended: 35 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~Members shall include:~~ **Members shall include, at a minimum:**

~~The annual conference lay leader(s), if any;~~ **The annual conference lay leader(s):**

Petition 1456 | ¶608 | Page 335 By Adding Paragraph 608.1 Creation of District Structure in Every Annual Conference

Supported as Amended: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~THIS PETITION AMENDS ¶608 BY ADDING A SUBPARAGRAPH ¶608.1. In every annual conference, there shall be a presiding elder with a lay leadership structure, including a lay leader, as well as coordinators for ministries for women, men, young people, and children as a lean structure to govern each circuit or district. This structure is intended to support the presiding elder's leadership in areas such as training, missions, and resource mobilization.~~

¶709.4b In some annual conferences, there may be a presiding elder with a lay leadership structure, including a lay leader, as well as coordinators for ministries for women, men, young people, and children as a lean structure to govern each circuit or district. This structure is intended to support the presiding elder's leadership in areas such as training, missions, and resource mobilization, where applicable.

- INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION — NOT ON A CONSENT AGENDA •

Petition 1245 | ¶207.4 | Page 429 Procedure for Electing Delegates General Conference

Not Approved as Original: 1 Yes / 36 No / 0 Abstentions

CONSTITUTION, CONNECTIONAL ORGANIZATION, AND FINANCE — 49 PETITIONS

- CONSENT AGENDA CCOF-4A — PETITIONS SUPPORTED •

Petition 1016 | ¶813 | Page 531 Ecumenical Relationships Commission

Supported as Amended: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~2. Each General Conference shall elect other than the bishop who chairs the Commission all of the members of the Ecumenical Relationships Commission. The Commission shall be chaired by a bishop of the Global Methodist Church appointed by the Assembly of Bishops. The Ecumenical Relationships Commission shall consist of four clergypersons and four laypersons in addition to the bishop serving as chair. The Ecumenical Relationships Commission shall consist of five clergypersons and five laypersons in addition to the bishop serving as chair. Those persons elected prior to the 2026 General Conference shall serve for two years or until their successors are elected and shall be eligible for re-election at the 2026 General Conference. Beginning with the 2026 General Conference each person shall be elected for a six-year term and is eligible to serve a second six-year term if elected. Each person shall be elected for a six-year term and is eligible to serve a second six-year term if elected. The chair and members serve until their successors are elected. The chair and members serve until their successors are elected.~~

This commission shall consist of eight members elected by the General Conference in addition to the active bishop serving as the chair assigned to that commission. The commission shall thereafter propose up to an additional four members to be elected by the Connectional Council. The chair and members serve until their successors are elected.

Petition 1048 | ¶208 | Page 431 Petition to Amend Paragraph 207 and 208 of the Book of Doctrines and Discipline.

Supported as Original: 36 Yes / 1 No / 1 Abstention

Petition 1050 | ¶807.2 | Page 497 Connectional Commissions Represented on Connectional Council

Supported as Amended: 39 Yes / 1 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

2.a. Each connectional commission identified in ~~¶¶ 808-811~~ shall elect one clergy, who is not a bishop, and one layperson, to represent the commission on the Connectional Council. Each connectional commission identified in ¶¶ 808-811 and ¶814 shall elect one clergy, who is not an active bishop, and one layperson, to serve on the Connectional Council. Members shall be elected by each commission at the first commission meeting following the General Conference and shall serve until their successors are elected or their membership on the commission ceases, whichever comes first. In case of a vacancy, a commission shall elect a replacement member.

Petition 1053 | ¶807.4 | Page 499 Filling Vacancies on the Connectional Council on Appeals and the Global Episcopacy Committee

Supported as Amended: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~¶ 807.4.n To initiate, staff, and set parameters for task forces dealing with issues beyond the scope of an individual connectional commission~~ To initiate, staff and set parameters for networks, associations, collectives, task forces, or other similar groups dealing with issues beyond the scope of an individual connectional commission.

Petition 1066 | ¶807.4 | Page 501 Removal of 90 Percent Limitation for the General Church Budget

Supported as Amended: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

d. ~~To establish the general church budget annually in accordance with the priorities and directions established by the General Conference, provided that each annual budget shall not exceed 90% of the average of general church connectional funding received in the prior two years, except that the 2025 budget shall not exceed 90% of the total sum received in general church connectional funding in 2024. To establish and approve the general church budget annually, upon consideration of the recommendations presented by the Finance, Administration, Pensions, and Benefits Commission (FAPBC), in accordance with the priorities and directions provided by the General Conference. To establish and approve the general church budget annually, upon consideration of the recommendations presented by the Finance, Administration, and Benefits Commission (FABC), in accordance with the priorities and directions provided by the General Conference.~~ In establishing the general church budget, the Connectional Council shall be guided by the following financial values: In establishing the general church budget, the Connectional Council and the FAPBC, in recommending same, shall be guided by the following financial values: In establishing the general church budget, the Connectional Council and the FABC, in recommending same, shall be guided by the following financial values:

Petition 1068 | ¶8XX | Page 463 (NEW) Global Prayer Network Committee

Supported as Amended: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~8XX. GLOBAL PRAYER NETWORK COMMITTEE. There shall be a Global Prayer Network Committee to seek God through prayer and intercession and to facilitate prayer within the denomination to fuel God's work in and through the Global Methodist Church and into the world.~~

~~The Committee shall work in cooperation with the Connectional Council for support and accountability. All processes and procedures related to composition and responsibilities of the Committee shall be posted publicly.~~

807.4 p. To affirm and collaborate with a Global Methodist Church Prayer Network

Petition 1074 | ¶807.2 | Page 498 Petition Deleting Outdated References in 800s Paragraphs

Supported as Original: 38 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1122 | ¶807.4 | Page 504 Remove “Pension” from Denominational Benefits

Supported as Original: 41 Yes / 1 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1153 | ¶803.2 | Page 484 Administrative Nominations Committee Restriction

Supported as Amended: 39 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~Members of the Administrative Nominations Committee or the Advisory Team shall not nominate themselves, nor be nominated by the committee, to serve on any connectional commission during the term in which they serve on or with the Administrative Nominations Committee; however, members and advisors of the Administrative Nominations Committee shall remain eligible to be nominated from the floor of the General Conference.~~

If a voting member of the Administrative Nominations Committee was selected by their Annual Conference delegation to serve on a Connectional Commission, Connectional Council, Council on Appeals, or Global Episcopacy Committee, that individual shall not nominate themselves, nor be nominated by the Administrative Nominations Committee, to serve on any Connectional Commission, Connectional Council, Council on Appeals, or Global Episcopacy Committee for the specific General Conference for which the Nominations Committee is formed. However, such voting members shall remain eligible for re-nomination in accord with the Plan of Organization by their Annual Conference delegation for inclusion on the ballot at General Conference.

Petition 1172 | ¶443.4 | Page 168 Clarify Review of Housing and Benefits

Supported as Original: 42 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1216 | ¶449.2 | Page 452 Clarify Calculation of Connectional Funding

Supported as Amended: 27 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

Each local church of the Global Methodist Church shall contribute financially to the ministry of the church beyond the local church through connectional funding. ~~The annual conference shall calculate the amount to be remitted from each local church in accordance with ¶ 449.5. The annual conference may calculate the amount to be remitted from each local church in accordance with ¶ 449.5 To facilitate this calculation, each local church shall report their prior year’s operating income by January 30 of each calendar year in accordance with ¶ 449.4. Annual conferences may also choose to allow local churches to calculate their connectional funding in accordance with ¶¶ 449.4 and .5 and report that amount to the annual conference. To facilitate this calculation, each local church shall report their prior year’s operating income by January 30 of each calendar year in accordance with ¶ 449.4 or annual conferences may choose to allow local churches to calculate their connectional funding in accordance with ¶¶ 449.4 and .5 and report that amount to the annual conference.~~

3. Connectional funding shall include amounts due from the local church for insurance benefits and pension contributions for its pastor(s) and any additional staff who are part of such plans of the Global Methodist Church. Such payments for insurance benefits and pension contributions for plan participants are due in addition to connectional funding remittances by the local church. ~~Connectional funding shall not be used by the annual conference or general church to fund benefits plans, including insurance and retirement plans, for any local church pastor or staff.~~ Connectional funding shall not be used by the general church to fund benefits plans, including insurance and retirement plans, for any local church pastor or staff. Any such payments for benefit plans shall be made by local churches in addition to connectional funding remittances.

4. ~~In calculating the amount of connectional funding to be remitted, a. the following items are to be included in local church operating income: giving from identified and unidentified donors, investment income utilized for operations, building use fees and rental income, and other unrestricted operating income. In calculating the amount of connectional funding to be remitted, a. the following items are to be included in local church operating income: giving from identified and unidentified donors, investment income utilized for operations, building use fees and rental income, and other unrestricted operating income collected by local church~~

organizations.-b. the following items are to be excluded from local church operating income: giving designated for benevolences (outside ministries supported by the local church); capital campaign receipts; borrowed funds; fundraisers for nonoperating expenses; receipts for reduction of indebtedness; memorials, endowments, and bequests whether restricted or nonrestricted; receipts for Global Methodist Church special mission programs; grants and support from other organizations; sales of land, buildings, or other church assets; receipts from any school or daycare operated by the local church; and other nonoperating income received.

Petition 1249 | ¶1010 | Page 555 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Reduction of ¶1010

Supported as Amended: 25 Yes / 0 No / 2 Abstentions

Amendment:

¶1010. AUDITS OF CHURCH OFFICERS. ~~All persons holding trust funds, securities, or moneys of any kind belonging to a unit of the Global Methodist Church (not including a local church) shall have audits of such units at least annually in a manner satisfactory to the Connectional Council or the unit they designate. All persons and entities holding trust funds, securities, or moneys of any kind belonging to a unit of the Global Methodist Church (not including a local church) shall have audits of such units at least annually in a manner satisfactory to the Connectional Council or the unit they designate.~~

Petition 1283 | ¶8XX | Page 468 (NEW) Conflicts of Interest for Connectional Commissions

Supported as Amended: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~**Definition of Conflict of Interest.** A conflict of interest exists whenever a member, or a member of the member's immediate family (spouse, parent, child, sibling, or any person residing in the member's household), has:~~

~~A direct or indirect financial interest (including compensation, investment, ownership, or potential gain or loss) in any entity, contract, grant, program, or matter under consideration by the commission or other body; or Any other personal, professional, or relational interest that could reasonably be expected to impair the member's objectivity or independence of judgment.~~

Purpose. All members of connectional commissions, councils, assemblies, committees, and subcommittees of the Global Methodist Church shall conduct themselves with the highest standard of integrity and shall avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest that could compromise their ability to serve the best interests of the church impartially. The Connectional Council and Assembly of Bishops shall develop and approve a Conflicts of Interest and Recusal Policy within 90 Days of the close of the 2026 General Conference. Following approval of the policy by the Connectional Council and Assembly of Bishops all members of connectional commissions, councils, assemblies, committees, and subcommittees of the Global Methodist Church shall sign an acknowledgment of the policy upon their election, appointment, or adoption of said policy.

Petition 1458 | ¶805.1 | Page 493 Operational Excellence: Granting Commissions Direct Personnel Responsibility and Authority

Supported as Amended: 37 Yes / 0 No / 2 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~**¶805. OPERATIONS.** Except as provided herein, each connectional commission shall have the authority to structure its own work and business.~~

~~**1. Staff.** Each connectional commission may request such staff as is required for the pursuit of its mission. All staff positions must be approved by the Connectional Council, subject to the budget limits it sets. Except for the connectional operations officer, all staff are hired, assigned, and evaluated by the connectional operations officer (¶815) and serve as at-will employees.~~

All staff serving a connectional commission shall be hired, supervised, and evaluated by that commission or its designated leadership, in alignment with policies and procedures established by the Connectional Council. Such staff shall serve as at-will employees of the Global Methodist Church. The Connectional Operations Officer shall provide administrative support and ensure compliance with denominational policies but shall not exercise

direct supervisory or evaluative authority over commission staff.

“¶ 805. OPERATIONS. Except as provided herein, each connectional commission shall have the authority to structure its own work and business.

1. Staff. Each connectional commission may request such staff as is required for the pursuit of its mission. All staff positions must be approved by the Connectional Council, subject to the budget limits it sets. Except for the connectional operations officer, all staff are hired, assigned, and evaluated by the connectional operations officer (¶ 815) or his or her designee and serve as at-will employees.

a. Special grants, or gifts designated for staffing, may be used for the hiring and retention of additional staff on a temporary basis, subject to the availability of said monies and with approval of the Connectional Council. Such staff shall be hired and supervised by the connectional operations officer or his or her designee, respecting the purpose of the grant or designated gift.

2. Connectional commissions may on behalf of the church employ staff and contract with organizations, missions, and denominational entities within the denomination, other ecclesiastical bodies, or parachurch organizations and ministries for the purpose of fulfilling their mission or coordinating on a particular project, provided that no employment agreement or contract will be made with a person or an organization whose mission and/or theological position is inconsistent with those of the connectional commission or of the Global Methodist Church. Contracts that have financial implications beyond the commission’s budget must be approved in advance by the Connectional Council”.

• CONSENT AGENDA CCOF-4B — PETITIONS REJECTED •

Petition 1049 | ¶210.3 | Page 443 **Petition to Amend Paragraph 210 of the Book of Doctrines and Discipline.**

Not Approved as Original: 41 Yes / 1 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1073 | ¶804.1 | Page 486 **Petition Deleting Outdated References in 800s Paragraphs**

Rejected in Favor of: 45 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1110 | ¶813.2 | Page 535 **Removal of Extraneous Language from of Ecumenical Relations Commission**

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1116 | ¶813.5 | Page 537 **Clarifying the Role of the Ecumenical Relationships Commission**

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1117 | ¶813.7 | Page 540 **Clarifying the Plan of Union Process in Ecumenical Relationships Commission**

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1121 | ¶807.4 | Page 503 **Delete Connectional Council Role in Denominational Benefits**

Rejected in Favor of: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1143 | ¶803.3 | Page 485 **Membership of General Commissions**

Not Approved as Original: 37 Yes / 0 No / 1 Abstention

Petition 1241 | ¶1208 | Page 433 **Avoid Conflicts of Interest at General Conference**

Rejected in Favor of: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1242 | ¶808.2 | Page 510 **Continued Commitment to Unreached People Groups**

Rejected in Favor of: 38 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1254 | ¶813.6 | Page 539 **Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Elimination of a Sentence from ¶813.6**

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1255 | ¶813.5 | Page 538 **Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Reduction of ¶813.5**

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1268 | ¶808.2 | Page 511 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Elimination of Part of ¶808.2c and All of ¶808.2d

Rejected in Favor of: 38 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1269 | ¶808.2 | Page 512 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Elimination of ¶808.2.A.1-5 and ¶808.2.b

Not Approved as Original: 38 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1270 | ¶807.4 | Page 505 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Elimination of ¶807.4.i

Rejected in Favor of: 46 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1271 | ¶807.4 | Page 506 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Elimination of ¶807.4. D. 4-5

Not Approved as Original: 38 Yes / 2 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1275 | ¶449.9 | Page 459 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Eliminating ¶449.9

Not Approved as Original: 49 Yes / 1 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1279 | ¶208.13 | Page 440 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Cleaning Language of ¶208.13

Not Approved as Original: 36 Yes / 1 No / 1 Abstention

Petition 1280 | ¶208.10 | Page 439 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Cleaning Language of ¶208.10

Not Approved as Original: 36 Yes / 1 No / 1 Abstention

Petition 1317 | ¶207.1 | Page 427 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Removal of ¶207.1

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1318 | ¶207.2 | Page 428 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Removal of Part of Sentence in ¶207.2

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1319 | ¶207.8 | Page 430 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Removal of ¶207.8

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1320 | ¶208 | Page 434 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Removal of Part of a Sentence in ¶208

Rejected in Favor of: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1417 | ¶1012.9 | Page 560 Charge Conference Authority and Church-Wide Votes

Rejected in Favor of: 39 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1422 | ¶808.2 | Page 513 New Commission: GMC Disaster Relief and Humanitarian Aid Ministry Commission

Rejected in Favor of: 38 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1444 | ¶212.1 | Page 446 Allow GC to Clarify Understanding of Wesley's Sermons and Notes

Not Approved as Original: 43 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1447 | ¶212.1 | Page 447 Allow Adopting Clear Doctrinal Standard on Marriage

Not Approved as Original: 42 Yes / 2 No / 0 Abstentions

• INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION — NOT ON A CONSENT AGENDA •

Petition 1025 | ¶610.5 | Page 344 Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural Training

Referred: 8 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1088 | ¶207 | Page 425 Clarifying the Work and Purpose of the Annual Conference

Supported as Amended: 41 Yes / 0 No / 1 Abstention

Amendment:

Article VI. Annual Conferences—Annual conferences shall be formed for the purpose of connecting clergy and laity for shared ministry and accountability. The annual conference shall be composed of clergy and laity. All clergy who meet the requirements in the Book of Doctrines and Discipline shall be members. ~~At least an equal number of lay members shall be elected by charges. At least an equal number of lay members shall be elected by charges or by the district or conference.~~ Annual Conferences may choose to elect additional lay members through districts or the conference. Each charge shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are appointed clergy.

4. To elect clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference. To elect clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference as per the number determined by the General Conference. Clergy delegates shall be members in full

connection and in good standing. Lay delegates shall be professing members of the Global Methodist Church. Both clergy and lay delegates shall be elected by a simple majority with clergy voting for clergy delegates and laity voting for lay delegates.

8. To establish minimum standards for the well-being of its clergy which may include minimum compensation, parsonages and housing standards, health insurance, and other benefits if desired. To establish minimum standards for the well-being of its clergy which may include minimum compensation, housing, health insurance, and other benefits if desired.

9. To approve by simple majority vote, the transfer of a congregation into or out of the annual conference to or from another annual conference. To approve by simple majority vote, the transfer of a congregation into or out of the annual conference.

10. To maintain the records of the annual conference, including the record of closed churches and annual reports from all charge conferences. To maintain the records of the annual conference.

Petition 1089 | ¶208 | Page 432 Clarifying Meetings of the General Conference

Supported as Amended: 37 Yes / 3 No / 2 Abstentions

Amendment:

*Article VII. The General Conference—*As per the Methodist tradition of “conferring together,” there shall be a General Conference of the Global Methodist Church that shall meet once every six years. It shall be composed of no fewer than 200 nor more than 700 delegates, one half of whom shall be clergy and one half of whom shall be laity, elected by the annual conferences on a proportional basis as determined by the General Conference. **No active bishop, member of the Connectional Council on Appeals, or general church staff may serve as General Conference delegates.** The General Conference may at its discretion include within its number a limited number of delegates, with or without voice and vote, from other autonomous Methodist bodies. A special session of the General Conference to deal with a particular issue or need may be called by a majority vote of the General Conference or of its Assembly of Bishops. Such special session of the General Conference shall be composed of the delegates to the preceding General Conference or their lawful successors. Where necessary, the General Conference may meet virtually with the approval of Assembly of Bishops and the Connectional Council.

Petition 1094 | ¶211 | Page 444 Amend Right to Appeal to Include Language from Restrictive Rule and Delete a Rule

Supported as Amended: 43 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

¶211. Article X. Right of Appeal—The General Conference shall establish for the Church a judicial system that shall guarantee to our clergy and to our members a right to trial and appeal and shall not revoke the privileges of our clergy right to trial by a committee and of an appeal; neither shall it revoke the privileges of our members of right to trial before the church, or by a committee, and an appeal.

Petition 1095 | ¶212.1 | Page 445 Amend Rule to Harmonize it with the Doctrinal Standards Being Proposed at 2026 General Conference

Supported as Original: 43 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1097 | ¶213 | Page 448 Clarifying the Amendment Process and Removing Antiquated Language

Supported as Amended: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

Article XII. Amendments—Amendments to the Constitution may originate in the General Conference or an annual conference.

A proposed amendments to the constitution may originate form any of the following sources, a general conference, a general conference legislative committee, annual conference session, an annual conference delegation, a local church, or a professing member.

¶213. Article XII. Amendments— A proposed amendment to this Constitution may be submitted to the General

Conference only through one of the following: an annual conference, upon approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a duly convened session; an annual conference delegation, upon approval by a two-thirds vote of the delegation, with the vote certified by its chairperson and secretary; or the General Conference, acting upon the recommendation of one of its legislative committees, approved by a two-thirds vote of the members of that committee present and voting.

No individual person shall have standing to submit a proposed constitutional amendment directly to the General Conference. An individual may present a proposal to an annual conference or an annual conference delegation, but the proposal shall become eligible for consideration only upon the formal approval and certification required above.

Petition 1197 | ¶1012.9 | Page 557 Clarify Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

Supported as Amended: 37 Yes / 5 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

f. *Purchase, Sale, Lease, Construction, and Mortgage of Property.* ~~Notwithstanding the powers granted in ¶1012.3, prior to the purchase, sale, lease, or mortgage by a local church of any real estate, or the construction or renovation of a building, a resolution authorizing such action shall be passed by the charge conference, with the members thereof acting in their capacity as members of the corporate body, by a majority vote of those present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose, provided that not less than ten days' notice of such meeting and the proposed action shall have been given from the pulpit and in the weekly bulletin, newsletter, or electronic notice of the local church or other means if required or permitted by local law, and provided further, that written consent to such action shall be given by the pastor.~~ Notwithstanding the powers granted in ¶ 1012.3, prior to the purchase, sale, lease, or mortgage by a local church of any real estate, or the construction or renovation of a building a resolution authorizing such action shall be passed by the charge church conference, with the members thereof acting in their capacity as members of the corporate body, by a majority vote of those present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose in accordance with ¶ 438. The resolution authorizing such proposed action shall direct and authorize the Board of Directors to take all necessary steps to carry out the action and to cause to be executed, as hereinafter provided, any necessary contract, deed, bill of sale, mortgage, or other written instrument. The Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting shall take such action and adopt such resolutions as may be necessary or required by the local laws. Any required contract, deed, lease, bill of sale, mortgage, or other written instrument necessary to carry out the action so authorized shall be executed in the name of the corporation by any two of its officers, and any written instrument so executed shall be binding and effective as the action of the corporation.

Petition 1281 | ¶208.9 | Page 438 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Addition to ¶208.9

Supported as Original: 29 Yes / 9 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1286 | ¶805.2 | Page 494 Need for Appeals to Rule

Not Approved as Original: 0 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

DOCTRINES AND SACRAMENTS — 7 PETITIONS

• CONSENT AGENDA DS-4B — PETITIONS REJECTED •

Petition 1060 | ¶104 | Page 11 Strengthening Position on Biblical Authority

Not Approved as Original: 44 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1240 Page 46 Resolution Clarify Doctrinal Language and Boundaries

Not Approved as Original: 54 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1324 | ¶102.2 | Page 3 Removing "fallen" from Creation in Wesleyan Way of Salvation

Not Approved as Original: 51 Yes / 1 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1325 | ¶102.3 | Page 4 Removing "original Sin" Connotations in Wesleyan Way of Salvation

Not Approved as Original: 51 Yes / 1 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1455 Page 48 Resolution A Resolution to Establish GMC Commentary on Articles of Religion and Confession of Faith

Not Approved as Amended: 54 Yes / 0 No / 2 Abstentions

Amendment:

The commentary shall provide a summary of the theological scriptural content of authentic doctrinal faith, as taught by our founding fathers, for future generations, in reference to Psalm 78:1-11 and Jude 3-4. It will as well guard the denomination's confession of faith and make it possible for the bishops, conference superintendents, presiding elders, elders, and deacons of all other denominations' clergy and laity who supply the pulpit to uphold the apostolic faith as presented in Scripture and Christian tradition and interpreted from a Wesleyan perspective. The Discipleship, Doctrine, and Just Ministry Commission will oversee the subcommittee of eminent orthodox theological experts nominated by the assembly of bishops and approved by the connectional council. Every twelve (12) years during the general conference, a new task force will be appointed to review and evaluate the relevance of the Global Methodist Articles of Religion and the Confession of Faith, as well as its doctrinal standards in relation to contextualization.

WHEREAS the Global Methodist Church is a newly formed denomination and desires to develop unity within its connection based on a shared theological understanding of orthodox Christian teaching from a Wesleyan perspective, and WHEREAS fostering such unity requires understanding of and adherence to the doctrinal standards of the Global Methodist Church, and WHEREAS such understanding and adherence requires consistent and persistence preaching and teaching across the entire world-wide constituency of the Global Methodist Church, and WHEREAS consistent and persistent preaching and teaching requires exceptional teaching materials developed for all ages and cultures, now therefore, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the General Conference hereby directs the Commission on Discipleship, Doctrine, and Just Ministry, or a task force created by the Commission for this purpose, to write and publish a commentary on the doctrinal statements contained in the Articles of Religion and the Confession of Faith (or any successor to these current doctrinal statements). The commentary will make it possible for clergy and laity alike to understand the doctrinal statements and be equipped to articulate that understanding when preaching and teaching others.

• INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION — NOT ON A CONSENT AGENDA •

Petition 1454 Page 47 Resolution Defining "What is a Movement" in the Global Methodist Church

Supported as Original: 30 Yes / 13 No / 10 Abstentions

Petition 1462 Page 49 Resolution Recognition of Congregational Singing Resources

Not Approved as Original: 40 Yes / 12 No / 3 Abstentions

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION — 1 PETITIONS

• INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION — NOT ON A CONSENT AGENDA •

Petition 1115 | ¶8XX | Page 464 (NEW) Petition Regarding Good Standing

Not Approved as Original: 34 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

LOCAL CHURCH — 21 PETITIONS

• CONSENT AGENDA LC-4A — PETITIONS SUPPORTED •

Petition 1144 | ¶433 | Page 127 / ¶423 New Process for Transferring GMC Membership

Supported as Original: 47 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1168 | ¶442 | Page 156 Clarify Necessity of Treasurer and Financial Secretary

Supported as Amended: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

THIS PETITION AMENDS ¶442 BY ADDING NEW ¶¶442.4 & 442.5 AND RENUMBERING REMAINING

SUBPARAGRAPHS ~~4. A Financial Secretary who shall supervise the work of those persons counting the offering, ensure all funds received are deposited promptly in accordance with the procedures established by the Finance Committee, and keep records of all contributions and funds received. A charge conference may choose to hire someone to perform some or all of the duties of a Financial Secretary. Anyone hired to perform these duties shall not serve with vote on the church council, Pastor Parish Relations Committee, Finance Committee or Trustees. The Financial Secretary position shall not be combined with the Treasurer and held by one person, and the persons holding these two positions shall not be immediate family members. No immediate family member of any pastor may serve as financial secretary in the church or charge where the pastor serves.~~

~~5. A Treasurer who shall disburse all undesignated funds according to the local church budget, distribute all designated funds received by the church according to the designation, remit all denominational and conference benevolence and connectional funding amounts each month to the conference treasurer or appropriate organization, and make regular and detailed reports on funds received and expended to the Finance Committee and the church council. The treasurer(s) shall be adequately insured or bonded, as determined by the local church. A charge conference may choose to hire someone to perform some or all of the duties of a Treasurer. Anyone hired to perform these duties shall not serve with vote on the church council, Pastor Parish Relations Committee, Finance Committee or Board of Trustees. The Treasurer position shall not be combined with the Financial Secretary and held by one person, and the persons holding these two positions shall not be immediate family members. No immediate family member of any pastor may serve as Treasurer in the church or charge where the pastor serves.~~

4. Financial Officers: Each local church shall have elect a financial secretary and treasurer. These offices shall be separate and shall not be held by the same person or by immediate family members. No family member of a pastor appointed to the church may serve in either office, except in extraordinary situations, when appropriate safeguards are approved by the Presiding Elder or Bishop. Such safeguards shall include, at a minimum, a monthly review of the finances by someone unrelated to the pastor, and be reviewed and approved annually by the Presiding Elder or Bishop.

The charge conference may employ persons to perform some or all of the duties of either office. A person so employed, shall not vote on a body responsible for that person's employment or the church's financial oversight.

a. Financial Secretary. The financial secretary shall oversee the counting of offerings, ensure that funds received are deposited promptly according to procedures established by the finance committee, and maintain records of contributions and other funds received.

b. Treasurer. The treasurer shall disperse undesignated funds according to the church budget, distribute designated funds according to their designation, remit connectional funding, and other obligations to the appropriate recipients, and provide regular financial reports to the finance committee and church council.

Petition 1174 | ¶447 | Page 198 Clarify Roles and Responsibilities of the Finance Committee

Supported as Amended: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

3. All financial requests ~~to be included in the annual budget of the local church~~ shall be submitted to the Finance Committee. The ~~Finance~~ Committee shall ~~compile annually a complete budget for the local church~~ **prepare an annual budget** and submit it to the church council **or charge conference** for review and adoption. The Finance Committee ~~, in partnership with the church council,~~ shall be charged with responsibility for **develop and implement** plans that will raise sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the church council. ~~It shall administer the funds received according to instructions from the church council. The committee shall carry out the church council's directions in guiding the treasurer(s) and financial secretary. The committee shall oversee the administration of funds in accordance with the approved budget, the direction of the church council, and the responsibilities of the financial officers established in ¶442.~~

4. The committee shall designate at least two persons **who are** not of one immediate family residing in the same

household to count the offering. They shall work under the supervision of the financial secretary. A record of all funds received shall be given to the financial secretary and treasurer. Funds received shall be deposited promptly in the name of the local church in accordance with the procedures established by the Finance Committee. ~~The financial secretary shall keep records of the contributions and payments.~~

5. Financial Officers. The duties of the financial secretary and treasurer are set forth in ¶442.

Petition 1180 | ¶455 | Page 214 Clarify Process of Ensuring Congregational Fidelity

Supported as Amended: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~1. If the current pastor of the congregation is promoting doctrines or practices contrary to those of the Global Methodist Church, the bishop shall remove the pastor and appoint a pastor who will promote and defend the doctrines and practices of the Global Methodist Church. The new pastor shall then allow time for the new pastor to bring the congregation into conformity.~~

1. If the current pastor of the congregation is promoting doctrines or practices contrary to those of the Global Methodist Church, the Cabinet shall ask the bishop to remove the pastor and appoint a pastor who will promote and defend the doctrines and practices of the Global Methodist Church. The new pastor shall then allow time for the presiding elder shall then establish a time frame with the new pastor to bring the congregation into conformity.

Petition 1213 | ¶446.3 | Page 191 Clarify Organization of the Board of Trustees

Supported as Original: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1214 | ¶446.4 | Page 193 Clarify Meetings and Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

Supported as Amended: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

d. Subject to the direction of the charge conference, the Board of Trustees shall receive and administer all bequests made to the local church, shall receive and administer all trusts, and shall invest all trust funds of the local church in conformity with applicable civil laws. ~~of the country, state, or political unit in which the local church is located.~~ Nevertheless, upon notice to the Board of Trustees, the charge conference may delegate the power, duty, and authority to receive, administer, and invest bequests, trusts, and trust funds to a permanent endowment committee or to a local church foundation. Nevertheless, upon notice to the Board of Trustees, the charge conference may delegate the power, duty, and authority to receive, administer, and invest bequests, trusts, and trust funds to another entity, including a permanent endowment committee or a local church foundation.

e. The board shall conduct an annual accessibility ~~audit review~~ of their buildings, grounds, and facilities to discover and identify any existing physical, architectural, or communication barriers that impede the full participation of people with disabilities and shall make plans and determine priorities for the elimination of all such barriers.

~~An evaluation of all church properties, including the chancel areas, to ensure accessibility to persons with disabilities, and when applicable, a plan and timeline for resolving barriers to accessibility (¶ 446.5e). The annual accessibility~~ audit review and when applicable, a plan and timeline for resolving barriers to accessibility (¶ 446.5e).

Petition 1357 | ¶446.1 | Page 189 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Simplifying Election of Trustees

Supported as Amended: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

Members of the Board of Trustees shall be elected by the charge or church conference. The charge conference shall determine their terms, rotation, and eligibility for reelection.

• CONSENT AGENDA LC-4B — PETITIONS REJECTED •

Petition 1124 | ¶442.1 | Page 157 Lay Leader CLM Requirement

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1347 | ¶447.11 | Page 206 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Simplifying Reporting and Committee Formation

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1348 | ¶447.7 | Page 205 Global Unity, Local Clarity: Simplifying Financial Audit Requirements

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1349 | ¶447.6 | Page 204 Global Unity, Local Clarity: Simplifying Financial Policy Requirements

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1350 | ¶447.3 | Page 203 Global Unity, Local Clarity: Simplifying Budget and Financial Oversight

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1351 | ¶447.2 | Page 202 Global Unity, Local Clarity: Simplifying Financial Stewardship Responsibilities

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1352 | ¶447.1 | Page 201 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Simplifying Finance Committee Structure

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1353 | ¶446.5; | Page 197 446.6 Global Unity, Local Clarity: Simplifying Powers and Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees

Rejected in Favor of: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1354 | ¶446.4 | Page 196 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Simplifying Meetings of the Board of Trustees

Rejected in Favor of: 49 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1355 | ¶446.3 | Page 192 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Simplifying Organization of the Board of Trustees

Rejected in Favor of: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1356 | ¶446.2 | Page 190 Global Unity, Local Clarity: Simplifying Trustee Vacancies and Removal

Rejected in Favor of: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1358 | ¶446 | Page 185 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Simplifying Board of Trustees Structure

Rejected in Favor of: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1372 | ¶442.1 | Page 159 Global Unity, Local Clarity: Simplifying the Role of Lay Leader

Not Approved as Original: 45 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1435 | ¶446 | Page 186 Updating the Membership of the Board of Trustees to Allow Non Members

Rejected in Favor of: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

MINISTRY — 12 PETITIONS

• CONSENT AGENDA MIN-4A — PETITIONS SUPPORTED •

Petition 1234 | ¶516.1 | Page 296 Transfer of Clergy Credentials

Supported as Amended: 53 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~2. Transfer from other Denominations.~~

~~Clergy applying to transfer to the Global Methodist Church from another Christian denomination who wish to surrender their current ordination credentials to become Global Methodist clergy must provide the following: (a) A formal resume with references; (b) Proof of ordination from a denomination with a formalized in-person vetting process. (c) Official transcripts of all post-high school education; and (d) Where available, a copy of all~~

personnel files maintained by his or her former denomination to be sent to the board of ministry at the written request of the clergy person. ~~Clergy applying to transfer to the Global Methodist Church from another Christian denomination who wish to surrender their current ordination credentials to become Global Methodist clergy must provide the following: (a) A biographical ministry summary with references; (b) Proof of ordination from a denomination with a formalized, in-person vetting process; (c) Evidence of educational preparation for ministry; (d) Where available, access to personnel files from the former denomination, sent to the board of ministry at the request of the clergy person.~~ Clergy applying to transfer to the Global Methodist Church from another Christian denomination *who wish to surrender their current ordination credentials to become Global Methodist clergy* must provide the following: (a) A biographical ministry summary with references; (b) Proof of ordination from a denomination with a formalized, vetting process. Ordinations by local congregations, networks, or associations do not meet this requirement; (c) Evidence of educational preparation for ministry; (d) Where available, access to personnel files from the former denomination, sent to the board of ministry at the request of the clergy person.

Petition 1235 | ¶517 | Page 297 Appointment of Clergy from Other Denominations

Supported as Amended: 54 Yes / 0 No / 3 Abstentions

Amendment:

1. Upon recommendation of the board of ministry and affirmation by the clergy session of the annual conference, a bishop may appoint clergy in good standing *and with a minimum of five years service* in other Christian denominations to serve appointments or ecumenical ministries while retaining their denominational affiliation. ~~Their appointment shall be as a Valid Deacon if approved by the boards of ministry. The approved Valid Deacon must within two years take the following classes: Wesleyan Theology and Doctrine, Methodist History and Polity of the Global Methodist Church, Wesleyan Understanding of the Sacraments and Worship, and Wesleyan Discipleship and Spiritual Formation. Upon completion of the required classes, the Valid Deacon will come before the boards of ministry for an interview to determine readiness to become a Valid Elder.~~ Their appointment shall be as a Valid Deacon or Valid Elder as long as they continue to maintain accountability to the covenant fellowship under the guidelines of their Annual Conference Board of Ministry. Clergypersons retaining their affiliation with other denominations while receiving appointment in the Global Methodist Church shall meet the following criteria: (a) Complete ~~the application for clergy membership in the Global Methodist Church which includes~~ the following: (1) Testimony to their Christian faith and call to ministry. (2) Permission and release of any criminal background and credit check, reports of sexual misconduct or child abuse. (3) A statement certifying that the candidate has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor or accused in writing of sexual misconduct or child abuse, *In case of offenses, a statement detailing any convictions for felony or misdemeanor or written accusations of sexual misconduct or child abuse.* (b) A statement agreeing to teach, support, and maintain Global Methodist Church doctrine. (c) ~~Agree to a Psychological examination.~~ (d) Give evidence through an interview with ~~a Presiding Elder and the board of ministry that they have read, understand, and will adhere to~~ the Book of Doctrine and Discipline and will support and maintain Global Methodist Church discipline and polity. (e) ~~Present suitable credentials as an ordained clergyperson from another Christian denomination with a formalized in-person vetting process.~~ (f) Progress toward completion of educational requirements shall be shown ~~at the board of ministry annual interview.~~

Clergypersons retaining their affiliation with other denominations while receiving appointment in the Global Methodist Church shall meet the same criteria outlined in paragraph 516 .1 - 2 for the transfer of clergy credentials. If the educational requirements are not completed within three years, such person will either a) be discontinued as a Valid Deacon; or b) be moved to the status of certified candidate for ministry and amenable to the requirements as stated in paragraph 506.

• CONSENT AGENDA MIN-4B — PETITIONS REJECTED •

Petition 1005 | ¶520 | Page 305 Senior Status Clergy Voting Rights Amendment

Rejected in Favor of: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1047 | ¶512 | Page 285 Petition to Amend Paragraph 512 of the Book of Doctrines and Discipline.

Rejected in Favor of: 53 Yes / 0 No / 2 Abstentions

Petition 1182 | ¶512.1 | Page 289 Clarifying Appointment of Supply Pastors

Rejected in Favor of: 53 Yes / 0 No / 2 Abstentions

Petition 1183 | ¶512.2 | Page 290 Clarify Sacramental Extension for Supply Pastors

Rejected in Favor of: 53 Yes / 0 No / 2 Abstentions

Petition 1264 | ¶810.3 | Page 525 Global Unity, Local Flexibility: Elimination of ¶810.3 – Committee on Approval

Rejected in Favor of: 46 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1328 | ¶518.6 | Page 304 Parental Leave Restoration

Rejected in Favor of: 47 Yes / 1 No / 1 Abstention

Petition 1419 | ¶520 | Page 306 Contingency Deletion of Paragraph

Rejected in Favor of: 48 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1420 | ¶517 | Page 299 Defining the Length of Time for Valid Elder and Valid Deacons in the Global Methodist Church

Rejected in Favor of: 54 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1469 | ¶503.1 | Page 86 The Celebration of Holy Marriage

Not Approved as Original: 51 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

• INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION — NOT ON A CONSENT AGENDA •

Petition 1233 | ¶516.1 | Page 295 Transfer of Clergy

Not Approved as Amended: 7 Yes / 47 No / 3 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~The clergy seeking transfer will submit to the following: (a) Undergo an interview with the receiving Board of Ministry; (b) Submit to a background check and/or Psychological Testing; (c) Authorize the release of personal records from the conference and/or General Church Database; (d) Authorize the release of the Presiding Elder evaluations and other Cabinet records; (e) any other items required by the receiving conference~~ The receiving conference would be granted access to all clergy files seeking transfer before the transfer occurs.

SOCIAL WITNESS — 1 PETITIONS

• INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION — NOT ON A CONSENT AGENDA •

Petition 1156 | ¶302 | Page 51 Our Witness Update

Not Approved as Original: 38 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

SUPERINTENDENCY — 17 PETITIONS

• CONSENT AGENDA SUP-4A — PETITIONS SUPPORTED •

Petition 1155 | ¶605.1 | Page 325 Consistency of Nominations for Global Episcopacy Committee (3 of 3)

Supported as Original: 42 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1185 | ¶611.2 | Page 360 Clarifying Status of Bishops Emeriti

Supported as Amended: 45 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

2. ~~A retired bishop joining the Global Methodist Church shall become a senior elder and may bear the title of bishop emeritus (¶ 613), if granted by the Global Episcopacy Committee and Connectional Council.~~ A retired bishop joining the Global Methodist Church shall become a senior elder and may bear the title of bishop emeritus **(¶ 613)**, if granted by the Global Episcopacy Committee and Assembly of Bishops. A bishop emeritus shall be a clergy member of the annual conference of their choice and may serve in any capacity allowed for senior clergy (¶ 520).

Petition 1219 | ¶607 | Page 330 Clarifying the Responsibilities of the Conference Superintendent

Supported as Original: 44 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1220 | ¶609 | Page 338 Clarifying Responsibilities of Presiding Elders

Supported as Amended: 44 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

¶ 609. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRESIDING ELDERS. As an extension of the office of bishop and conference superintendent, the presiding elder shall oversee the ministry of the clergy and churches in the communities of the district to which they are appointed. ~~The presiding elder is the acting administrator of any pastoral charge in which a pastoral vacancy may develop, or where no pastor is appointed. The presiding elder shall assume the role of administrative officer of any pastoral change where no pastor is appointed or assigned.~~ The presiding elder has the following specific responsibilities, which may be delegated to another elder by the conference superintendent:

~~Offer support, care, and counsel to churches and clergy concerning matters affecting their ministry. Together with the bishop and conference superintendent, guard, transmit, and proclaim the apostolic faith as it is expressed in Scripture and Tradition from a Wesleyan perspective, communicating and defending the doctrines and discipline of the church as provided for in the Book of Doctrines and Discipline.~~

Together with the bishop and conference superintendent, guard, transmit, and proclaim the apostolic faith as it is expressed in Scripture and Tradition from a Wesleyan perspective, communicating and defending the doctrines and discipline of the church as provided for in the Book of Doctrines and Discipline. Offer support, care, and counsel to churches and clergy concerning matters affecting their ministry.

~~Develop an effective system for recruitment of candidates for ministry. In cooperation with the conference superintendent and cabinet, implement an effective system for recruitment of candidates for ministry.~~

~~Maintain regular contact with the clergy for counsel and supervision, and receive written or electronic evaluations of each pastor that include each appointed clergy or assigned layperson's continuing education, spiritual practices, current ministry work, and goals for future ministry. Maintain regular contact with the pastors in the district for counsel and supervision, and receive annual written or electronic reports from each pastor that include each pastor's continuing education, current spiritual practices, current ministry work, and goals for future ministry.~~

~~As directed by the conference superintendent, the presiding elder shall facilitate the proper maintenance of the appropriate records of all persons appointed to the charges, including clergy in extension ministry. As directed by the conference superintendent, the presiding elder shall facilitate the proper maintenance of the appropriate records of all pastors in their district, including clergy in extension ministry.~~

~~In consultation with the bishop, conference superintendent, and cabinet, work to develop the best strategic deployment of clergy possible in the district, including realignment of pastoral charges, larger parishes, cooperative parishes, multiple staff configurations, new church starts, and ecumenical shared ministries. In consultation with the bishop, conference superintendent, cabinet, and any churches or ministries affected, work to develop the best strategic deployment of clergy possible in the district, including realignment of pastoral charges, larger parishes, cooperative parishes, multiple staff configurations, new church starts, and ecumenical shared ministries.~~

Petition 1293 | ¶607.1 | Page 332 Flexibility for Conference Superintendent's Delegation of Duties

Supported as Original: 46 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1418 | ¶603 | Page 312 Updates to Part 6--The Superintendency

Supported as Original: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1427 | ¶605.5 | Page 328 Clarifying the Expectations of the GEC

Supported as Original: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1429 | ¶6XX | Page 310 Providing Clarity to the Expectations of the Area Committees on Episcopacy

Supported as Amended: 45 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Amendment:

~~ex officio member~~ **Composition. An area committee on episcopacy shall be constituted as follows:**

~~**An area committee on episcopacy shall be comprised of one lay and one clergy member from each annual conference in the episcopal area. Each General Conference delegation shall elect one lay and one clergy member from the annual conference to its area committee on episcopacy as described in ¶604.1b. Those elected need not be members of the delegation. Those who have accepted a nomination to the episcopacy are not eligible to serve on an area committee on episcopacy.**~~

~~**When an Annual Conference convenes after the Commission on General Conference fixes the allocation of delegates, the Conference shall elect one lay and one clergy to represent the Conference on the Area Committee on Episcopacy. Emerging Areas will not have representation on Area Committees on Episcopacy.**~~

~~**An ex officio member shall be supplied to each area committee on episcopacy by the Global Episcopacy Committee. This ex officio member shall have voice but not vote on the area committee on episcopacy. The assignment of this ex officio member shall alternate every six-year term between a lay and a clergy member. The purpose of this is to provide linkage between the work of the area committee and the Global Episcopacy Committee.**~~

~~**An area committee on episcopacy shall elect its own officers.**~~

Composition: An area committee on episcopacy shall be comprised of one lay and one clergy member from each annual conference within the episcopal area.

a. No later than 180 days prior to the opening of a regularly scheduled General Conference, each annual conference shall elect one lay and one clergy member, together with at least one lay reserve and one clergy reserve, to serve on its area committee on episcopacy.

b. A person who has accepted a nomination to the episcopacy shall not be eligible to serve on an area committee on episcopacy. An ACE member who subsequently accepts a nomination to the episcopacy shall thereby vacate membership on the committee.

c. When a vacancy occurs, the first available reserve of the same order shall serve for the remainder of the term. If no elected reserve is available, the annual conference nominations committee will select an interim lay or clergy member.

d. Members of an area committee on episcopacy shall serve a six-year term beginning with the convening of the plenary gathering (¶604.3) by the Global Episcopacy Committee and continuing until their successors' terms begin at the next regularly scheduled plenary gathering.

e. Each area committee on episcopacy shall elect its own officers.

Petition 1432 | ¶611 | Page 358 Limiting Transferring Bishops to Possible Emeritus Status

Supported as Original: 41 Yes / 3 No / 0 Abstentions

• CONSENT AGENDA SUP-4B — PETITIONS REJECTED •

Petition 1015 | ¶609 | Page 336 Consolidating and Clarifying the Responsibilities of Presiding Elders

Rejected in Favor of: 40 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1052 | ¶610.7 | Page 350 Considerations and Criteria for Appointments

Rejected in Favor of: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1290 | ¶609 | Page 340 Flexibility for Conference Superintend't's Delegation of Duties

Rejected in Favor of: 42 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1291 | ¶611.1 | Page 359 Removing Allowance for Transfer Bishops to Be Assigned Episcopal Area

Rejected in Favor of: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1334 | ¶610.9 | Page 355 Interim Ministers

Rejected in Favor of: 44 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1424 | ¶605 | Page 324 GEC Membership Properly Located

Rejected in Favor of: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

Petition 1425 | ¶605.1 | Page 326 Aligning GEC Nominations with Commissions and Councils

Rejected in Favor of: 41 Yes / 0 No / 0 Abstentions

• INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION — NOT ON A CONSENT AGENDA •

Petition 1288 | ¶607 | Page 331 Align Conference Superintend't Term of Office with Bishop

Supported as Original: 38 Yes / 6 No / 3 Abstentions



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