



JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The highest court in The United Methodist Church

WHAT DOES IT DO?

Determines whether decisions by other United Methodist bodies are legal and/or constitutional.



MEMBERS



- 9 total
- 4 clergy and 4 laity
- 1 seat alternating between clergy and lay every 8 years
- Nominated by Council of Bishops or General Conference delegates
- Elected by General Conference

COUNCIL SESSIONS

- Held twice a year in spring and fall
- Convened before and during General Conference



WHAT DOES THE COUNCIL CONSIDER?



- Petitions from the Council of Bishops
- Petitions from the General Conference and central, jurisdictional and annual conferences
- All decisions of law made by bishops
- Appeals of decisions of lower church courts

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A RULING?

- Decisions are final.
- Involved parties are informed.
- Rulings are posted online.
- If necessary *The Book of Discipline* is revised

