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Agenda for Thursday, April 25

6:30 – 8:00 A.M. – Breakfast

7:00 A.M. – Committee on Agenda and Calendar
– Committee on Reference

7:30 A.M. – 6:30 P.M. – Registration (all categories)

8:00 – 8:45 A.M. – Worship

8:45 – 10:30 A.M. – Plenary Session

- Opening Prayer
- Monitoring Report (3 minutes)
- Laity Address (30 minutes)
- Jurisdictional Study Committee (15 minutes)
- Nominations
- Administrative Committee Reports

• Calendar Items

10:30 – 10:50 A.M. – Break

10:50 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. – Legislative Committees

12:30 – 1:30 P.M. – Lunch

1:30 – 4:00 P.M. – Legislative Committees

4:00 – 4:20 P.M. – Break

4:20 – 6:20 P.M. – Legislative Committees

5:00 P.M. – Daily Deadline for *DCA* Printing

6:20 – 6:30 P.M. – Evening Devotion (Legislative Committees)

6:30 P.M. – Adjournment

6:30 – 8:00 P.M. – Dinner

Plenary Floor Motion April 23, 2024 No. 1

In the afternoon plenary session on April 23, 2024, Bonnie Marden of the New England Annual Conference made the following motion:

To refer to the Rules committee

“except petitions with financial implications to expand review and governance equity.”

Rule VII, D, line 339—add at end.

The plenary moved to refer this motion by a vote of 582 yes, 113 no.

Plenary Floor Motion April 23, 2024 No. 2

In the afternoon plenary session on April 23, 2024, Drew Dyson of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference made the following motion:

Refer the following amendment to Rule 6:

Following the sentence that ends with “microphone,” insert the following sentence:

“The digital queue speaker pool seen by the presiding officer shall be projected and made visible to the body.”

The plenary moved to refer this motion by a vote of 564 yes, 143 no.

Plenary Floor Motion April 23, 2024 No. 3

In the afternoon plenary session on April 23, 2024, Giovanni Arroyo of the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference made the following motion related to the Rules:

Immediately after the Conference is called to order, an Indigenous Person shall offer a proper acknowledgement of land ownership. Anyone

other than an Indigenous Person who attempts to offer a land acknowledgement shall ONLY do so after consultation with the appropriate tribal authority of Indigenous Persons in the area where General Conference is being held.

The plenary moved to refer this motion by a vote of 579 yes, 125 no.

Plenary Floor Motion April 23, 2024 No. 4

In the afternoon plenary session on April 23, 2024, David Livingston of the Great Plains Annual Conference made the following motion related to the Commission on the General Conference Report:

A resolution expressing concern about participation from outside the U.S.

Whereas, central conference delegations at general conference have historically not been fully seated, including more than 30 delegates at the 2016 and 2019 sessions, and

Whereas, the 2020 general conference held in 2024 has an even greater discrepancy than previous conferences, and

Whereas, in the weeks leading up to this General Conference, the Commission on General Conference staff have not provided clear and transparent information about reasons for the levels of participation from central conferences, invitation letters, flights, housing, and delegate information, and

Whereas, this lack of transparency has created rumors of conspiracy and questions of credibility, and

Whereas, having not held a regular session of General Conference since 2016, it is not reasonable or plausible to delay denominational action by postponing or canceling General Conference again,

Therefore, be it resolved that, the 2020 General

Conference

1. Affirms the concerns raised by central conferences and others about the large discrepancy between the number of delegates allocated and the number in attendance from central conferences.

2. Implores the Secretary of the General Conference to submit a written report to be published in the DCA, to explain, with clarity and full transparency, why this discrepancy as well as delays in housing, flights, invitation letters, and delegate information occurred.

3. Instructs the General Commission on General Conference to include proportional representation from each central or regional conference in planning future sessions to assure that specific concerns of each region are adequately addressed. And,

Be it further resolved that, while we acknowledge that the gathered session is valid and duly called based on Paragraph 506, we urge the delegates to the 2020 General Conference to make every effort to listen to and carefully consider voices from regions that are underrepresented so that the decisions of the body represent the will of the whole denomination as best as possible.

The plenary moved to adopt this motion by a vote of 669 yes, 40 no.

Report of the Rules Committee, April 25

The Committee on the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order, also called the Rules Committee, met in the evening on Tuesday, April 23 to discuss the motions referred to us earlier in the afternoon. Our recommendations are as follows:

Plenary Floor Motion Number 1 is an amendment to the Plan of Organization Section VII, Subsection D and would add to line 339 after the word “Conferences” the words: “except petitions with financial implications to expand review and governance equity.” The full sentence would read, “To this Standing Committee shall be referred all petitions, resolutions, etc., relating to the Central Conferences, and Autonomous Methodist Churches, Affiliated Autonomous Methodist Churches, and Affiliated United Churches within the Central Conferences except petitions with financial implications to expand review and governance equity.” **The Rules Committee recommends the delegates do not support this amendment.**

Plenary Floor Motion Number 2 is an amendment

to the Rules of Order Rule 6 and would add to line 725 after the sentence that ends with “microphone” the sentence: “The digital queue speaker pool seen by the presiding officer shall be projected and made visible to the body.” **The Rules Committee recommends the delegates do not support this amendment.**

Plenary Floor Motion Number 3 is a new proposed rule to the Rules of Order, and it states: “Immediately after the Conference is called to order, an Indigenous Person shall offer a proper acknowledgment of land ownership. Anyone other than an Indigenous Person who attempts to offer a land acknowledgment shall only do so after consultation with the appropriate tribal authority of Indigenous Persons in the area where General Conference is being held.” **The Rules Committee moves that this amendment be referred to the Commission on the General Conference.**

Submitted by Stephanie Henry, Chair of the Rules Committee

Announcement from the Committee on Courtesies and Privileges

If you have any matters relating to courtesies and privileges that you would like to be considered by

the committee, please email gccourtesies@gmail.com.

Report of the Committee on Reference, April 24, 2024

The Committee on Reference convened at 7:00 A.M. on Wednesday April 24, 2024. The following actions were taken:

- Approved a request from the Alaska Annual Conference to withdraw petition #21076
- Reversed a decision made by the committee on 04-22-2024 to accept a late submission piece of legislation from the California-Pacific Conference. Upon further review by the petitions secretary, the petition did not meet the criteria for valid legislation. The committee upheld the decision of the Petitions Secretary to deem the late submission legislation as

invalid.

- Approved a request from the General Commission on Archives and History to withdraw petitions #20335 and #20334
- Approved a request from Melissa Drake, member of the Advance Legislative Research Panel, to move petition #20980 from General Administration to Conferences

The Committee adjourned at 7:43 A.M. The Committee will reconvene at 7:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Submitted by Rev. Alyce Weaver Dunn, Chair

GCORR Equity Monitoring Report No. 3

“Learning from others, especially people we do not know, is often difficult. We find it easier to give than to receive, to teach than to learn. This changes, however, as we enter the lives of others and come to know them well enough to see their strengths and weaknesses, their needs, and the wealth they have to offer.” Joetta Handrich Schlabach, **Extending the Table: A World Community Cookbook**

Around the world, much is learned in the experience of preparing or sharing a meal with a group of others. When that group is characterized by multiple cultures, languages, ethnic, and tribal identities, the richness of the experience expands. Yet, for those who are used to setting the table, determining the content of the meal, inviting the guests, and setting the rules of etiquette for the gathering, it can be challenging to accept a requested change at their table or to sit comfortably at a table set by someone else.

We were reminded by the official parliamentarian

that the “purpose of our rules is to make certain that no one’s rights are violated.” The rules are in essence the etiquette for our global gathering. How leaders utilize the rules can greatly impact the equity of the process and the outcomes of the General Conference. As we acknowledge the extensive efforts and planning that make this gathering possible, there were areas of concern that delegates and participants communicated to us:

- While diversity was visible within Tuesday’s worship, it did not fully reveal the worldwide nature of the UMC at this seminal moment in our history. There were people among us who felt unrepresented, isolated, and unseen.
- An authentic land acknowledgement and official welcome from the historic Indigenous leadership of this land, either the Lumbee Nation or the Catawba Nation, was absent from the opening of

General Conference and viewed as disrespectful by some indigenous members. What acknowledgements need to take place in these settings?

- We received information that a lower percentage of Central Conference delegates that were able to attend General Conference 2024 is even lower than in 2016.

The body of delegates quickly acted on some of these concerns, which may indicate the willingness to learn from one another. A motion was made to amend the Rules by adding a new rule requiring that an Indigenous Person be invited to offer an authentic acknowledgment of land ownership. Following the adoption of the rules another motion was made that in part implored delegates from the United States to practice intentional listening so that voices from Central Conference Delegates would be given equitable opportunities to influence and impact process and content.

On Wednesday, morning we heard from our Youth and Young Adult representatives, Senesie Rogers and Alejandra Salemi. Mr. Rogers commented on the Wesley Quadrilateral as “an applicable art that can help us understand our inclinations towards our various cultural heritages.” Ms. Salemi urged us, when dividing up our assets, to “live outside the boxes of Conference Halls, Zoom Meetings, and Plans” and to seek “the magic of the Holy Spirit...shaking hands, eye to eye, and being in human connection together.”

As we prepare to today, we invite you to consider these questions:

1. What outcomes and expectations are desired from the proposed legislation you will be considering?
2. What factors and forces contribute to the outcomes and expectations?

GCSRW Report April 25

Bishop Laurel Merrill was the first presider this morning. The presiding committee seems to be intentionally celebrating the diversity of our episcopal leaders. We acknowledge how the Episcopal Address, offered by Bishop L. Jonathan Holsten, invited us to allow God to “free us for joyful obedience!” He called us to reflect on the age-old questions:

Who are we?

Who we say we are?

Who we want to be?

By the power of the Holy Spirit there is hope for us to be better than we are today.

The General Commission on the Status of Women was highlighted as part of the video presentation. A reminder to the church of how impactful our message of challenging the church to full inclusion of women lay and clergy is to the worldwide church. It supports GCSRW resource, "Welcoming the Women Pastor, District Superintendent and

Bishop." We celebrate the gender diversity in the video as well as the opening presenters.

Our hope is that we will prayerfully respond to the Young People’s Address. As Alejandra Salemi stated, "the children are watching . . . Are we living as those God wants us to be? The young people have claimed the church as its own! Let’s start listening more and compromising with those we are in community with." We cherish Salemi's reminder to "Be still... and know that I am God." During the week, her words will echo in our minds to "Be quiet, be patient, shut up at times, and know that God is with us." The pressure is on—what we do today will impact generations to come! Salemi crystallized our calling as connectional people: "If you don't have enough hope, I have enough for both of us." Senesie T. A. Rogers led us to imagine passing the casket trolley. To some, the casket trolley was a symbol of death, but in death we are reminded of God’s resurrection hope! Once we have been accepted in the household of faith, we

are one in Christ Jesus. We have the capacity to accept all voices and leaders.

We at GCSRW pray that we may live into our mission, vision, and values, especially those shaped by our Young People's Address yesterday, and that we have included women and men of all ages as leaders in our legislative sections.

Today's report is as follows:

Chairperson: 3 Black females, 1 Black male, 1 White female, 3 Multi-race females, 4 White

males.

Vice-chairs 3 Asian females, 1 Black female, 5 Black males, 2 White females, 2 White men, 1 Multi -race man.

Secretary- 1 Asian females , 2 Black females, 3 Black males, 1 Hispanic female, 1 Pacific Islander female, 5 White female, 1 White non-binary

Sub chairs- 3 Asian males, 4 Black females, 5 Black males, 1 Hispanic female, 2 Hispanic males, 7 White females, 4 White males.

Errata April 25

In the French version of the *ADCA Volume 3: Supplement for 2024*, page 1135, the General Conference Parliamentary Procedure Chart lists several expressions that are unhelpful. A more accurate and more useful version of the chart has

been added to the DCA website.

Printed copies of the updated version are also being distributed to French-speaking delegates at their plenary seats.

Legislative Committee and Subcommittee Chairs

Church and Society 1

Chair: Kalaba Chali
Vice Chair: Allison Mark
Secretary: Marthalyne Sweet
Subcommittee Chair 1: Michael Hsu
Subcommittee Chair 2: Shelly Webb

Church and Society 2

Chair: Shandon Klein
Vice Chair: Rob Vaughn
Secretary: Hortencia
Subcommittee Chair 1: Jonathan Ulanday
Subcommittee Chair 2: Anna Guillozet
Subcommittee Chair 3: Anigh Hermon

Church and Society 3

Chair: Cheryl Jefferson Bell
Vice Chair: Stephen Quipp
Secretary: Judith Osongo
Subcommittee Chair 1: Esther Rodriguez
Subcommittee Chair 2: Duane Carlisle

Conferences

Chair: Lonnie Chaffin
Vice Chair: Ande Emmanuel
Secretary: Katie Simpson
Subcommittee Chair 1: Ginger Gaines-Cirelli
Subcommittee Chair 2: Dexter Ceballos
Subcommittee Chair 3: Isa Dunah
Subcommittee Chair 4: Jason Nelson

Discipleship

Chair: Derrek Belase
Vice Chair: Christina McDermott
Secretary: Samuel Cole
Subcommittee Chair 1: Adriane Rockhill
Subcommittee Chair 2: Nixon Estioko

Faith and Order

Chair: Lisa Schubert Nowling
Vice Chair: Laishi Bwalya
Secretary: Alka Lyall
Subcommittee Chair 1: Maggie Taylor
Subcommittee Chair 2: Giovanni Arroyo

Financial Administration

Chair: Scott Brewer
Vice Chair: Bonnie Marden
Secretary: Gomer Chamusa
Subcommittee Chair 1: Bill Brownson
Subcommittee Chair 2: Staci Current
Subcommittee Chair 3: Jessica Rooks

General Administration

Chair: Amy Lippoldt
Vice Chair: Fred Brewington
Secretary: Nitza Dovenspike
Subcommittee Chair 1: Bev Williams
Subcommittee Chair 2: Betty Musau

Global Ministries

Chair: Molly McEntire
Vice Chair: Juan Simpson Bennett
Secretary: Monalisa Tuitahi

Higher Education and Superintendency

Chair: April Casperson
Vice Chair: Aleze Fulbright
Secretary: Carlene Johnson
Subcommittee Chair 1: George Weagba
Subcommittee Chair 2: Eric Swanson
Subcommittee Chair 3: Luis Felipe Reyes-Rosario

Independent Commissions

Chair: Judith Pierre-Okerson
Vice Chair: Bethany Amey
Secretary: Jesi Lipp
Subcommittee Chair 1: Ophelia Kennedy
Subcommittee Chair 2: Henoc Mwenze

Judicial Administration

Chair: Alex Shanks
Vice Chair: Tolbert Nyenswah
Secretary: Beth Givens
Subcommittee Chair 1: Belton Joyner
Subcommittee Chair 2: Kent Fulton

Local Church

Chair: Jennifer Davis
Vice Chair: Jennifer Choi
Secretary: Alvin

Ordained Ministry

Chair: Lindsey Freeman
Vice Chair: Robert Kilembo
Secretary: Emily Kincaid
Subcommittee Chair 1: Gail Douglas Boykin
Subcommittee Chair 2: Karli Pidgeon
Subcommittee Chair 3: Kathy Ezell
Subcommittee Chair 4: Kim Ingram

Motion from the Committee on Credentials for General Conference

The Committee on Credentials moves that, pursuant to Judicial Council Memorandum Number 1485, the postponed 2020 General Conference authorize a one-time exception to our quadrennial election cycle in order to authorize the credentialing of persons who were provisionally elected in 2023 as delegates or reserve delegates to the Jurisdictional/Central Conference.

The credentialing process for these provisionally elected Jurisdictional/Central Conference

delegates will begin 48 hours after the motion is approved by the body. An announcement will be made as soon as the process is open and ready to begin.

The annual conferences that have not yet held elections to fill delegation vacancies for the 2024 Jurisdictional or 2025 Central Conferences may do so at their next conference session.

(Diane Brown, chair)

New Petitions

¶120

Petition Number: 21102-FO-¶120; Oakley, Clyde - Greenwood Village, CO, USA.

Change to The UMC Mission

Delete ¶120, ¶121, ¶122, and ¶125 and substitute the following:

¶120. The Mission—The mission of the church is to teach and demonstrate the love of God for all so others may be inspired to join us as disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

¶121. Rationale for Our Mission—The mission of the church is to proclaim the good news of God's grace and to exemplify Jesus' command to love God and neighbor, so God may inspire others to join us as disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, thereby seeking the fulfillment of God's reign and realm in the world. Local churches and extension ministries of the church provide the most significant arenas through which all disciples may be inspired to follow the way of Jesus. The fulfillment of God's reign and realm in the world is the vision Scripture holds before us. The United Methodist Church affirms that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Savior of the world, and the Lord of all. We accept, with due discernment, the command of Jesus in Matthew 28:19,20 to carry this message of God's love for all throughout the world and affirm that we will strive to follow and teach all that Jesus has commanded us as summarized in Matthew (22:37, 39): "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.... You must love your neighbor as you love yourself":. As we spread the gospel and seek to inspire new disciples, we respect persons of all religious faiths and we defend religious freedom for all persons. This mission is our grace-filled response to the Reign of God in the world announced by Jesus. God's grace is active everywhere, at all times, carrying out this purpose as revealed in the Bible. It is expressed in God's covenant with Abraham and Sarah, in the Exodus of Israel from Egypt, and in the ministry of the prophets. It is fully embodied in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is experienced in the ongoing creation of a new people by the Holy Spirit. John Wesley, Phillip Otterbein, Jacob Albright, and our other spiritual forebears understood this mission in this way. Whenever United Methodism has had a clear sense of mission, God has used our Church to save persons, heal relationships, transform social structures, and spread scriptural holiness, thereby changing the world. In order to be truly alive, we embrace Jesus' mandate to love God

and to love our neighbor and to carry the good news of the gospel to all people.

¶122. The Process for Carrying Out Our Mission—We work in the world so God may inspire new disciples through us as we:—proclaim the gospel, seek, welcome and gather persons into the body of Christ;—lead persons to commit their lives to God through baptism by water and the spirit and profession of faith in Jesus Christ;—nurture persons in Christian living through worship, the sacraments, spiritual disciplines, and other means of grace, such as Wesley's Christian conferencing;—send persons into the world to live lovingly and justly as servants of Christ by healing the sick, feeding the hungry, caring for the stranger, freeing the oppressed, being and becoming a compassionate, caring presence, and working to develop social structures that are consistent with the gospel; and—continue the mission of seeking, welcoming, and gathering persons into the community of the body of Christ.

¶125. United Methodists throughout the world are bound together in a connectional covenant in which we support and hold each other accountable for faithful discipleship and mission. Integrally holding connectional unity and local freedom, we seek to proclaim and embody the gospel in ways responsible to our specific cultural and social context while maintaining "vital web of interactive relationship":

(¶132). At the same time, we desire to affirm and celebrate our relationships, covenants, and partnership with autonomous, affiliated autonomous, affiliated united covenanting, and concordat churches

(¶¶ 570-574) as well as other partners in the Wesleyan and ecumenical Christian families. Our worldwide connectional relationship is one of the ways we carry out our missional calling beyond national and regional boundaries. For our connectionalism to become a living practice, we need to carry the worldwide nature of The United Methodist Church deep into the life and mission of our local congregations. Only when we commit ourselves to interdependent worldwide partnerships in prayer, mission, and worship can connectionalism as the Wesleyan ecclesial vision be fully embodied. Guided by the Holy Spirit, United Methodist churches throughout the world are called afresh into a covenant of mutual commitment based on shared mission, equity, and hospitality. In covenant with God and with each other: We affirm our unity in Christ, and take faithful steps to live more fully into what it means to be a worldwide church in mission for the transformation of the world. We commit ourselves to crossing boundaries of language, culture, and social

or economic status. We commit ourselves to be in ministry with all people, as we, in faithfulness to the gospel, seek to grow in mutual love and trust. We participate in God's mission as partners in ministry, recognizing that our God-given gifts, experiences, and resources are of equal value, whether spiritual, financial, or missional.

We commit ourselves to full equity and accountability in our relationships, structures, and responsibilities for the denomination. We enter afresh into a relationship of mutuality, creating a new sense of community and joyously living out our worldwide connection in our mission so God may inspire new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

A Companion Litany to Our Covenant for the Worldwide United Methodist Church

Leader: In covenant with God and each other, we affirm our unity in Christ.

People: We will take faithful steps to live as a worldwide church in our mission so God may through us inspire others to become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Leader: In covenant with God and each other, we commit ourselves to be in ministry with all people.

People: In faithfulness to the gospel, we will cross boundaries of language, culture, social or economic status as we grow in mutual love and trust.

Leader: In covenant with God and each other, we participate in God's mission as partners in ministry.

People: We share our God-given gifts, experiences, and resources recognizing that they are of equal value, whether spiritual, financial, or missional.

Leader: In covenant with God and each other, we commit ourselves to full equality.

People: We uphold equity and accountability in our relationships, structures, and responsibilities for the denomination.

Leader: In covenant with God and each other, we enter afresh into a relationship of mutuality.

People: With God's grace, we joyfully live out our worldwide connection in our mission so God through us may inspire others to become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

¶413.3

Petition Number: 21101-HS-¶413.3; Dodson, Christine - Garner, NC, USA.

Complaints Against Bishops

Amend paragraph 413.3.d.i:

If the supervisory response does not result in

resolution of the matter, the president or secretary of the College of Bishops may either dismiss the complaint as having no basis in law or fact, with the consent of the College of Bishops and the committee on episcopacy, giving the reasons therefore in writing, ~~copies a copy~~ of which shall be placed in the bishop's file ~~and shared with the complainant~~, refer the matter to the committee on episcopacy as an administrative complaint pursuant to ¶ 413.3.e, or refer the matter to the counsel for the church pursuant to ¶ 2704.1 to prepare a complaint to forward to the committee on investigation.

Rationale:

Rationale:

Matters related to complaints require the utmost discretion and protection of the parties involved. The complaint process as outlined in the 2016 Book of Discipline contains sufficient rights and protections for a complainant. A complainant is not entitled to a written record of the dismissal of complaint.

R2024

Petition Number: 21105-CB-R2024-G; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

May as Christian Home Month

R2024 May as Christian Home Month

Though it can be observed any month, Christian Home Month provides resources for congregations to support families with congregations to worship and grow in faith formation within the home. Last adopted 2012, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R2103

Petition Number: 21112-CB-R2103; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Lay Responsibility for the Growth of the Church

R2103: Lay Responsibility for the Growth of the Church

Promote laity to take an active role for the growth and vitality of the UMC. Last adopted 2016, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R3023

Petition Number: 21104-CB-R3023; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Older Adult Recognition Day

R3023: Older Adult Recognition Day

Making up the largest demographic of the UMC (especially in the US), this day celebrates the gifts and contributions of older adults in the local church. Last adopted 2016, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R3024

Petition Number: 21106-CB-R3024-G; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Mission and Aging of the Global Population

R3024: Mission and Aging of the Global Population

Since the church gives dignity to older adults, though they may face age discrimination, the church is called to empower and equip older adults for mission and utilize their gifts in the programs of the church including UM-VIM. Existing resolution, readopt with no updates.

R3061

Petition Number: 21107-CB-R3061; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Black Family Life

R3061: Black Family Life

GBOD to resource local churches to address the needs of Black families and their communities. Last adopted 2012, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R3063

Petition Number: 21110-CB-R3063; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Resourcing Black Churches in Urban Communities

R3063: Resourcing Black Churches in Urban Communities

GBOD and GBGM to provide practical ministries to address needs of Black churches in urban communities working with Annual Conferences and SBC21. Last adopted 2016, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R3081

Petition Number: 21109-CB-R3081-G; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Childcare and the Church

R3081: Childcare and the Church

With the high calling of nurturing children, churches should have high standards for childcare and plan for this ministry. Last adopted 2016, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R3082

Petition Number: 21108-CB-R3082; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Church Support of Caregivers of Children

R3082: Church Support of Caregivers of Children

To address the needs of all those who care for children. Last adopted 2016, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R3084

Petition Number: 21111-CB-R3084-G; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Reducing the Risk of Child Sexual Abuse

R3084: Reducing the Risk of Child Sexual Abuse in the Church

GBOD and GBGM to develop and promote resources for Annual Conferences and local churches for child abuse prevention. Last adopted 2016, proposed for re-adoption with no changes.

R8013

Petition Number: 21113-CB-R8013-G; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Meeting Times

R8013: Meeting Times

Being mindful of the schedules for young adults, churches should be mindful of dates and times for their meetings so as to include young adults. Last adopted 2012, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R8014

Petition Number: 21114-CB-R8014; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Church Participation by a Registered Sex Offender

R8014: Church Participation by a Registered Sex Offender

GBOD and GBGM to promote guidance for balancing the need of a worshipping community for all persons, including previous abusers, while also assuring safety for all vulnerable persons. Last adopted 2012, proposed for readoption with no changes.

R8015

Petition Number: 21115-CB-R8015-G; Campbell, Jeffrey - Nashville, TN, USA for General Board of Discipleship.

Church Participation by a Registered Sex Offender

R8015: Church Participation by a Registered Sex Offender

Guidance for churches with persons who experience manifestation of the Holy Spirit. Last adopted 2016, proposed for readoption with no changes.

Petition 21103

Petition Number: 21103-ST-Non-Dis-G; Ciriaco, Francisco for the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters

Petition to the Postponed 2020 GC on Autonomous Status for Eurasia

Enabling motion for creating an autonomous Methodist Church in Eurasia non-disciplinary petition:

Whereas the following four annual conferences in Eurasia have asked to leave the connection and form an autonomous Methodist church, according to BOD 2016, ¶ 572:

- Central Russia Annual Conference, meeting online on December 17, 2022 (Vote: 29 Yes, 1 No, 2 Abstentions);

- Eastern Russia and Central Asia Provisional Annual Conference, meeting online on December 10, 2022 (Vote: 47 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention)

- Northwest Russia and Belarus Provisional Annual

Conference, meeting online on December 17, 2022 (Vote: 18 Yes, 0 No, 2 Abstentions),

- Southern Russia Provisional Annual Conference, meeting online on December 10, 2022 (Vote: 21 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstentions); and

Whereas the called session of the central conference of Northern Europe and Eurasia, meeting online on March 18, 2023, has approved the request and asked all its annual conferences to vote on it; and

Whereas all annual conferences of the central conference of Northern Europe and Eurasia have voted on the request with the following aggregate number of votes:

- Central Russia Annual Conference:: 423 Yes, 13 No, 20 Abstentions;

- Eastern Russia and Central Asia Provisional Annual Conference: 420 Yes, 13 No, 22 Abstentions;

- Northwest Russia and Belarus Provisional Annual Conference: 419 Yes, 15 No, 20 Abstentions;

- Southern Russia Provisional Annual Conference: 408 Yes, 22 No, 24 Abstentions);

and therefore the requested 2/3 majority is clearly fulfilled for each of these annual or provisional annual conferences; and

Whereas the Eurasia episcopal area comprising the four annual conferences has submitted to the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters the following documents for creating an autonomous Methodist Church, named "The Christian Methodist Church in Eurasia"

- Historical Statement,

- Constitution,

- Main Doctrinal Standards; and

Whereas the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters, meeting on April 21, 2024, in Charlotte NC has found all needed steps according to ¶ 572 fulfilled and has approved the request, and the Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships has endorsed the request;

THEREFORE, the postponed 2020 General Conference approves an enabling act for the four annual conferences in Eurasia to leave The United Methodist Church and form an Autonomous Methodist Church becoming effective at the forthcoming regular central conference of Northern Europe and Eurasia; and said General Conference asks the parties mentioned in ¶ 571.4 and 572.6 to work towards a plan of cooperation.

Furthermore General Conference approves a change in the Plan of Organization and Rules of Order for the General Conference, VI.1, deleting simultaneous and/or one-on-one interpretation offered in Russian, effective at the end of the postponed 2020 General Conference.