

#CTTalks Continues Series on Worldwide Nature

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHICAGO: The Connectional Table continues a two-part conversation on the worldwide nature of The United Methodist Church as a part of the #CTTalks online forum, a series of videos and social media conversations around key topics related to General Conference 2016. In January, Part One focused on the work of the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters and the Committee on Faith and Order. This month, Part Two will focus on the legislation coming to General Conference 2016 addressing the structure and alignment of our denomination.

Beginning Tuesday, February 2, a video will be posted each week that examines our ecclesiology, our theology, and our missiology in a worldwide context. Connectional Table board members Benedita Penicela (Mozambique), Fred Brewington (Northeast Jurisdiction), and Ole Birch (Denmark) will share with delegates to General Conference the legislation leading to a process for attending to our worldwide connection and the way we structure and align ourselves. They will also share the principles and values that have guided their work thus far.

“This is a global church,” said Birch. “And we need to move in a direction where we all can recognize ourselves in what we decide to do and how we do it, and at the same time that we give space for adaptation towards that context”

#CTTalks provides a way of engaging denominational audiences with information about General Conference. The #CTTalks conversation is designed to be used by delegates and delegations of annual conferences as they study and discuss issues that will be addressed at General Conference 2016. Weekly video posts include interviews with United Methodist bishops, Connectional Table members, and other leaders from across the denomination. Delegates were invited to ask questions of the interviewees in advance via Twitter using the hashtag #CTTalks.

An accompanying one-page conversation starter is available for delegates to use to continue the dialogue. The videos and the handout will be available on the Connectional Table website at UMC.org/cttalks-5-worldwide-structure.

General Conference will be held May 10-20, 2016, in Portland, Oregon.

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About the Connectional Table

The Connectional Table oversees the coordination of mission, ministries and resources across the denomination. Created at the 2004 General Conference, The Connectional Table was formed to serve as both the visioning body of the church and the steward of resources to carry out the vision of the denomination worldwide.

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