

Plan UMC

1 Substitute everything herein following for the existing text of Petition 20980 found in the ADCA
2 on pages 920 to 950:

3 606.2 Each annual conference shall send without charge to the General Council on Finance and
4 Administration, the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, The General Council for
5 Strategy and Oversight, the Central or Jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History (or the
6 equivalent structure), and the Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History (or the
7 equivalent structure) two printed copies and one digital copy of its annual journal, and one to United
8 Methodist Communications.

9 ¶613 Responsibilities. An entity designated by the annual conference may have authority and
10 responsibility to perform the following functions: 1. To recommend to the annual conference for its
11 action and determination budgets of anticipated income and proposed expenditures for all funds
12 that provide for annual conference clergy support, annual conference administrative expenses, and
13 annual conference benevolence and program causes (¶ 614).5. To receive, consider, report, and
14 make recommendations to the annual conference regarding the following prior to final decision by
15 the annual conference: (a) any proposal to raise capital funds for any purpose; (b) funding
16 considerations related to any proposal that may come before the conference; (c) any requests to
17 conduct a special conference-wide financial appeal, whether by special collections, campaigns, or
18 otherwise in the local churches of the conference.3. To recommend to the annual conference for its
19 action and decision the methods or formulas by which apportionments to churches, charges, or
20 districts for duly authorized general, jurisdictional, conference, and district funds shall be
21 determined (¶ 615.4).534. To consult and cooperate with the commission on communication in
22 providing district superintendents, pastors, and appropriate officers of the local churches and charge
23 conferences with interpretive aids or other materials to assist in gaining understanding and support
24 of the conference budget and other approved conference causes. This shall include the theology and

25 discipline of financial giving.5. To develop policies governing the investment of conference funds
26 (except for pension funds as provided in 1508), whether in debt or equity, short-term or long-term
27 instruments, with the aim of maximizing funds available for mission in a manner consistent with the
28 preservation of capital, the Policies Relative to Socially Responsible Investments (§ 716), and the
29 Social Principles of the Church. A statement of such policies shall be printed in the conference
30 journal at least once in each quadrennium.6. To recommend to the annual conference procedures
31 for funding local churches, including the theology of financial giving. 7. To assist local churches in
32 making their church buildings, facilities, and programs accessible.8. To recommend to the annual
33 conference for its action procedures for dealing responsibly with situations in which budgeted
34 funds, as approved by the annual conference, are inadequate to meet emerging missional needs or
35 unforeseen circumstances. 9. To review at least quarterly and to account to the annual conference
36 for the disbursement of funds in accordance with budgets approved by the conference.10. To
37 recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination the conditions under which it
38 may borrow funds for current expense purposes and the maximum amount of such borrowing.11.
39 To have authority and supervision over the conference treasurer/director of administrative services
40 subject to § 619; to establish policies governing the treasurer/director's work.12. To work in
41 cooperation with other annual conference agencies for the design and implementation of a plan by
42 which the annual conference may designate the conference treasury as a central treasury for funds
43 designated for any or all conference agencies participating in conference funds.13. To establish
44 uniform and equitable policies and practices in the employment and compensation of personnel, in
45 consultation and cooperation with other conference agencies that employ staff, unless the annual
46 conference has designated another agency to carry this responsibility. These policies and practices
47 shall be in accordance with the Social Principles (§ 162 A, E, F, and I).In addition, the council shall

48 recommend that the annual conference provide, effective on and after January 1, 2006, 100 percent
49 vested pension benefits of at least three percent of compensation for lay personnel of the annual
50 conference who work at least 1040 hours per year, are at least 21 years of age, and have at least one
51 year of permanent service. The annual conference shall have authority to provide such pension
52 benefits through either a denominational pension program administered by the General Board of
53 Pension and Health Benefits or another pension program administered by another pension
54 provider.

55 14. To cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration in providing a financial
56 recording and reporting system ~~in~~ for the local churches of the conference. 15. In cooperation with
57 the General Council on Finance and Administration, related annual conference agencies and
58 institutions, and local churches, to make recommendations to the annual conference regarding the
59 development, promotion, and review of a broad general program of insurance protection, except for
60 employee benefit programs. 16. To cooperate with the General Council on Finance and
61 Administration in order to provide leadership, training, and encouragement in the areas of church
62 business administration for individuals and organizations of The United Methodist Church by: (1)
63 distributing information regarding certification as a church business administrator; and (2) listing in
64 the council's report to the annual conference the names of persons certified as church business
65 administrators by the General Council on Finance and Administration-who are employed within the
66 bounds of the annual conference. 17. To make recommendations to the annual conference for its
67 action and determination regarding plans to initiate or cause to be organized a foundation or similar
68 organization for the purpose of securing, conserving, or expending funds for the direct or indirect
69 benefit or support of the annual conference, or of any conference agency, or any of its programs or
70 work. The Council shall have opportunity to make its recommendations regarding such plans if the
71 foundation or similar organization is: (1) proposed to be organized by the annual conference itself,
72 whether acting alone or in concert with other annual conferences; (2) proposed to be organized by

73 any conference council, board, commission, committee, or other agency; (3) to make use of the
74 name United Methodist in its title or solicitation; or (4) proposed for the purpose of soliciting gifts
75 primarily from the United Methodist constituency. 18. To perform such other administrative and
76 fiscal functions and services as the annual conference may assign. 19. To ensure that no apportioned
77 conference funds are expended for the use of alcoholic beverages. 20. To ensure that no annual
78 conference board, agency, committee, commission, or council shall give United Methodist funds to
79 any gay caucus or group, or otherwise use such funds to promote the acceptance of homosexuality
80 or violate the expressed commitment of the UMC “not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay
81 members and friends” (§ 161.F). The Council shall have the right to stop such expenditures. This
82 restriction shall not limit the Church’s ministry in response to the HIV epidemic, nor shall it
83 preclude funding for dialogs or educational events where the Church’s official position is fairly and
84 equally represented.

85 ¶629 Conference Board of Church and Society – 1. The annual conference may organize a board of
86 church and society or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry and maintain the
87 connectional relationship between The General Council for Strategy and Oversight and the
88 conference, district...2.... . ¶630 Conference Board of Discipleship. The annual conference ~~shall~~
89 may organize a board of discipleship or other equivalent structure to provide for those functions
90 and maintain the connectional relationship between the Center for Connectional Mission and
91 Ministry and the conference, district and local church,. . ¶634 Conference Board of Higher
92 Education and Campus Ministry. 1. There may be in each annual conference.. 2. . shall provide for
93 the connectional relationship between The General Council for Strategy and Oversight and the
94 conference, district and local church. ¶637.4 The annual conference shall make provision in its
95 budget for the expenses of this committee.82. See Judicial Council Decisions 711, 778. ¶641.1. In
96 each annual conference there may be a conference commission on archives and history. The

97 number of members of the commission and their terms of office may be as the conference may
98 determine and may include an ex officio representative of each United Methodist heritage landma
99 in its bounds. It may be the duty of the commission to collect, preserve, and make accessible the
100 historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to
101 the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents; to encourage and assist the local
102 churches in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage; to
103 provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued
104 churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents (see ¶2548.4): to maintain a
105 fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that obviously will have value for
106 future history are properly preserved therein; to provide for the ownership of real property and to
107 receive gifts and bequests; to nominate to the General Council on Finance and Administration
108 buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic sites or
109 heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage
110 landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning
111 for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions;
112 establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records under
113 standards or guidelines developed by the General Council for Finance and Administration; to
114 cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional commissions on
115 archives and history; and to engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United
116 Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.2. The commission may organize a
117 conference historical society and encourage membership therein for the purpose of promoting
118 interest in the study and preservation of the history of the conference and its antecedents. The
119 officers of the conference commission on archives and history may be the officers of the

120 conference historical society. Membership in the historical society shall be established as the
121 society may determine. Membership may include the payment of dues as the society may direct,
122 and in return, members shall receive official publications and publicity materials issued by the
123 commission and the society and other such benefits as may be deemed suitable.

124

125 ¶643.1 There may be in each annual conference a conference commission on religion and race or
126 other structure to provide for those functions. It shall follow the general guidelines established by
127 The General Council for Strategy and Oversight.

128

129 ¶644. There may be in each annual conference, including the central conferences a conference
130 commission on the status and role of women or other structure to provide for these functions and
131 maintain the connectional relationships.1. The responsibility of this commission shall be in
132 harmony with the following objectives established as guidelines for adaption to the needs of the
133 respective annual conferences or guidelines provided by the General Council for Strategy and
134 Oversight.

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139 Add a new subparagraph ¶705.3.g) as follows:

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141 Central Conference Membership—The total central conference membership, including central
142 conference bishops, in general Church bodies shall be allocated as follows: nine (9) members on
143 each of the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) and the General Board of Discipleship
144 (GBOD), ten (10) members on the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM), eleven (11)
145 members on the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM), seven (7) members
146 on the General Council for Strategy and Oversight (GCSO), three (3) members on the General

147 Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA), three (3) members on the General Board of
148 Pension and Health Benefits (GBOPHB), three (3) members on each of the United Methodist
149 Publishing House (UMPH), the United Methodist Men (UMM), and ten (10) members on Unit
150 Methodist Communications (UMCOM).

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

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

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

162

163 Amend additional portions of ¶705 as indicated herein following:

164

165 ¶705 ...Such persons come to this ministry as servants of the whole Church, entrusted with care
166 for the missions and legal and fiduciary responsibilities of the agencies.

167 The basic responsibilities of the boards of the general agencies include, but are not limited to, the
168 following:

169 a) Determine mission and purpose.

170 b) Select the general secretary.

171 c) Support and evaluate the general secretary.

172 d) Ensure effective planning.

173 e) Monitor and strengthen programs and services.

174 f) Ensure adequate financial resources.

175 g) Protect assets and provide proper financial oversight.

176 h) Ensure legal and ethical integrity.

177 i) Enhance the agency's public standing.

178 The following provisions shall govern the nomination...

179

180 1. Nominations by Conferences— a) Each annual and missionary conference in the United States,
181 upon recommendation from a committee composed of the bishop and the general and jurisdictional
182 conference delegation, and having allowed opportunity for nominations from the floor, shall elect
183 persons to be submitted to a jurisdictional pool. The jurisdictional nominating committee shall
184 select persons for election to the following general Church bodies: General Council for Strategy
185 and Oversight; General Board of Church and Society; General Board of Discipleship; General
186 Board of Global Ministries; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; General Board of
187 Pension and Health Benefits; and The United Methodist Publishing House; Jurisdictional
188 conferences may decide that persons elected by the annual and missionary conferences in the
189 United States for inclusion in the jurisdictional pool shall not serve as members of the jurisdictional
190 nominating committee. Before election, nominated members will be informed of the fiduciary,
191 strategic, and generative responsibilities they will be assuming upon election so that they may
192 clearly understand the time and resource commitment they are making.

193

194 4. General Program Board Membership— a) Each general program board shall have the number of
195 members herein specified.

196

197 b) Jurisdictional Membership— Each jurisdiction shall elect the number of persons herein specified
198 In the jurisdictional nominating process for membership on those boards, in the aggregate special
199 attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth (§ 256.3), young adults, older adults,
200 people with disabilities, and persons from small membership churches. In order to ensure adequate
201 representation of racial and ethnic persons (Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanic
202 Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders), it is recommended that at least 30 percent of a
203 jurisdiction's membership on ~~each~~ these general program boards be racial and ethnic persons. It is
204 further recommended that the jurisdiction membership on ~~each~~ these program boards incorporate
205 one-third clergy, one-third laymen, and one-third laywomen. The episcopal members shall not be
206 counted in the computation of the clergy membership. For each program board, including the
207 General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of
208 Global Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, clergy, laywomen, and
209 laymen shall be elected to the board by the jurisdictional conferences upon nomination from the
210 annual conferences based on the following formula:

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

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

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

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

219

220 Delete 705.4.c) in its entirety.

221

222 d) Episcopal Membership—The episcopal membership of the general program boards shall be
223 nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference with two (2) bishops
224 to serve on each of the following agencies, one of whom shall be from a central conference: the
225 General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of
226 Global Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

227

228 e) Additional Membership—1) Additional members shall be elected by each general program board
229 in order to bring into the board persons with special knowledge or background that will aid in the
230 work of the agency, to consider differing theological perspectives, and to perfect the representation
231 of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§ 710.3), young adults (§ 710.3), older adults, women and men
232 people with disabilities, and persons from small-membership churches. After the election of central
233 conference members as provided in §705.3.g), the remaining number of additional members shall
234 be allocated by the secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that
235 membership of each board reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon
236 the combined clergy and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In executing this
237 responsibility the secretary has authority to make adjustments in the allocation of members so that
238 the total number of members of each church body as provided herein is the prevailing principle
239 when rounding numbers is required, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members
240 assigned to any jurisdiction. Insofar as possible, the nominating committee shall select from the
241 jurisdictional nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership position
242 from their jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§
243 705.4b). Each of the following general program boards shall elect six (6) additional members, and
244 there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any jurisdiction: the General
245 Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of Global
246 Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. It is recommended that such

247 additional membership shall maintain the one-third laymen, one-third laywomen, and one-third
248 clergy balance.

249

250 Delete ¶705.4.e)2) in its entirety.

251 Delete the existing text of ¶705.4.f) in its entirety and replace it with the following:

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253 ¶705.4.f) Other Membership—The General Board of Global Ministries shall have five members
254 selected by the United Methodist Women.

255

256 Add a new subparagraph to follow all that remains in ¶705.4 to read as follows:

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258 ¶705.4.g) Total Membership—Each of the following general agencies shall have a total
259 membership, including jurisdictional members, central conference members, and episcopal
260 members, as follows:

261 General Board of Church and Society: thirty (30)

262 General Board of Discipleship: thirty (30)

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

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

265

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

267

268 5. Other General Agencies— a) From the jurisdictional pool nominated by the annual and
269 missionary conferences in the United States the jurisdictional conferences shall elect to each of the
270 General Council for Strategy and Oversight, General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and the
271 United Methodist Publishing House clergy, laywomen, and laymen as members, based on the
272 following formula:

273 General Council for Strategy and Oversight: North Central—3, Northeastern—3, South Central—3,
274 Southeastern—6, and Western—1.

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

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

279

280 b) Additional members—The number of additional members to be elected by each other agency,
281 with the exception of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, shall be allocated by the
282 secretary of the General Conference so as to insure to the extent possible that membership of each
283 agency reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions based upon the combined clergy
284 and lay membership, excluding episcopal members. In executing this responsibility the secretary
285 has authority to make adjustments in the allocation of members so that the total number of members
286 who are not bishops of each agency as specified herein is the prevailing principle when rounding
287 numbers is required, and there shall be no minimum number of additional members assigned to any
288 jurisdiction. Insofar as possible the nominating committee shall select from the jurisdictional
289 nominating pool for the election of persons to fill the additional membership positions from their
290 jurisdictions insuring diversity as otherwise provided in The Book of Discipline (§ 705.4b). The
291 agencies shall consider names forwarded to them by the General Council for Strategy and
292 Oversight as having been nominated by the annual and missionary conferences in the United States
293 or in the central conferences, but not elected by these conferences to general agency membership.
294 Additional names may be considered in order to perfect the representation as provided in § 705.4e.
295 Each of the following general agencies shall have the following number of additional members:
296 General Council for Strategy and Oversight: five (5). One of these additional members shall be
297 named by each of the recognized racial and ethnic caucus groups of The United Methodist Church,
298 which are Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Methodists Associated Representing the Cause of
299 Hispanic Americans, Native American International Caucus, National Federation of Asian American
300 United Methodists, and Pacific Islanders National Caucus United Methodist
301 General Board of Pension and Health Benefits: eight (8)
302 United Methodist Publishing House: six (6)

303

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

309

310 Add a new §705.5.c) as follows:

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312 §705.5.c) Episcopal members—The following general agencies shall have the number of episcopal
313 member as follows:

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

315 United Methodist Publishing House: two (2)

316 General Council for Strategy and Oversight: one (1)

317

318 Add a new ¶705.5.d) as follows:

319

320 ¶705.5.d) Other Members— 1) The General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall have as
321 members the Presidents of the following agencies:

322 General Board of Church and Society

323 General Board of Discipleship

324 General Board of Global Ministries

325 General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

326 General Council on Finance and Administration

327 United Methodist Communications

328 2) The Council of Bishops shall elect one bishop to serve as a member of the General Council for
329 Strategy and Oversight.

330 3) The General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall have as nonvoting advisors the general
331 secretary or other employed chief executive officer of each of the following agencies:

332 General Council for Strategy and Oversight

333 General Board of Church and Society

334 General Board of Discipleship

335 General Board of Global Ministries

336 General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

337 General Council on Finance and Administration

338 United Methodist Communications

339 United Methodist Men

340 United Methodist Women

341 General Board of Pension and Health Benefits

342 United Methodist Publishing House

343

344 Add a new ¶705.5.e) as follows:

345

346 ¶705.5.e) Total Members— Each of the following general agencies shall have a total membership,
347 including jurisdictional members, central conference members, episcopal members, and nonvoting
348 advisors as follows:

349 General Council for Strategy and Oversight: forty-five (45)

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

351 United Methodist Publishing House: twenty-five (25)

352

353

354

355 ¶ 713. Election of General Secretaries of Agencies—The general secretary of each of the four
356 general program boards that is accountable to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall
357 be elected quadrennially by ballot of the board of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight
358 following nomination by the board of directors of the program board, and she or he shall be
359 accountable programmatically to the board of the agency which establishes priorities, goals, and
360 objectives for the agency. He or she will report administratively to the Executive General Secretary
361 of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight who, after evaluation and review, which shall be
362 conducted annually, shall make recommendations to the board of the General Council for Strategy
363 and Oversight on the employment and dismissal of each program board's general secretary based
364 in large part on the degree of cooperation and collaboration with other agencies toward the goal of
365 making disciples of Jesus Christ. Since the General Council for Strategy and Oversight is
366 responsible to redirect the flow of attention and energy to an intense concentration on fostering and
367 sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective in making disciples of Jesus
368 Christ for the transformation of the world and for providing strategic guidance to increase
369 understanding and implementation of the vision, mission, and ministries of the global Church,
370 consideration shall be strongly given in this process of evaluation and review as to how successful
371 each agency has been toward this goal.

372 Each general program ~~agency~~ board shall elect by ballot its deputy general secretary(ies) and may
373 appoint such other staff as may be necessary. Other general agencies shall elect general secretaries
374 quadrennially by ballot and may appoint such other staff as deemed necessary to the work of the
375 agency.

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378

379 ¶ 805. Organization—1. Membership—a) The voting members of the council shall be elected
380 quadrennially by the General Conference and shall consist of twenty-one (21) persons nominated as
381 follows:

382 (1) two bishops from the jurisdictions, nominated by the Council of Bishops;

383 (2) eleven persons from the jurisdictions, nominated by the College of Bishops in each jurisdiction
384 according to the following formula:

385 North Central 2; Northeastern 2; South Central 2; Southeastern 4; Western 1.

386 At least one of the members in the aggregate should be a youth between the ages of twelve and
387 seventeen, and at least one should be a young adult not over twenty-eight years of age at the time of
388 election;

389 (3) five members at large—who shall be elected for special skills. These at large members shall be
390 nominated by the Council of Bishops based upon an allocation by the secretary of the General
391 Conference so as to insure, to the extent possible, that the jurisdictional membership of the Council,
392 exclusive of the episcopal membership, reflects the proportionate membership of the jurisdictions
393 based upon the combined clergy and lay membership insuring diversity as otherwise provided in
394 The Book of Discipline (¶ 705.4b).

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

396

397 Amend ¶805.4.b) as follows:

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399 ¶805.4.b) Committee on Audit and Review—The council shall appoint a Committee on Audit and
400 Review, no members of which shall be officers of the council. Three (3) of the members shall be
401 members of GCFA, three (3) members shall be members of the General Council for Strategy and
402 Oversight, and three (3) members shall be professionals in auditing and finance who are members
403 of neither GCFA nor the GCSO. The duty of the Committee shall be...

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407 Amend ¶905.7 by adding a new subparagraph d) as follows:

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409 ¶905.7.d) To provide, review and evaluate program internal audits of all agencies of the Church that
410 receive world service or general administration funds in relationship to goals, objectives, and
411 measurable outcomes established by the General Conference, the governing board, and donor
412 designations. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight may withhold approval of any

413 programs or activities that represent unnecessary duplication within an agency or between two or
414 more agencies, or that otherwise fail to achieve the established outcomes. It may direct the General
415 Council on Finance and Administration to withhold funding for such programs and activities until
416 the General Council for Strategy and Oversight determines that the general agency has achieved, or
417 identified means satisfactorily to achieve, the established outcomes. The General Council for
418 Strategy and Oversight is responsible to redirect the flow of attention and energy to an intense
419 concentration on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective
420 in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. It shall provide strategic
421 guidance to increase understanding and implementation of the vision, mission, and ministries of the
422 global Church.

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426

427 Amend ¶901 as follows:

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429 ¶ 901.1. Name—There shall be a General Council for Strategy and Oversight in The United
430 Methodist Church where ministry and money are brought to the same table to coordinate the
431 mission, ministries, and resources of The United Methodist Church. The General Council for
432 Strategy and Oversight shall be assigned the primary responsibilities, general policies and practices
433 found in the relevant 700 paragraphs.

434 2. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight (GCSO) shall have oversight responsibility for
435 all program agencies of The United Methodist Church. The GCSO shall work in partnership with
436 other agencies and the Council of Bishops to conduct necessary research efforts as needed to
437 support strategic thinking and planning and the implementation of mission critical ministries.

438 3. In the exercise of its responsibility prescribed in §2 hereof, the General Council for Strategy and
439 Oversight shall have authority during the 2013 to 2016 quadrennium to guide and work with all the
440 agencies and connectional bodies, to include the general secretaries, of The United Methodist
441 Church, program and administrative, to plan for and implement the overall restructure and
442 reorganization approved by the 2012 General Conference for those agencies and bodies. One of the
443 goals is the consolidation of program and administrative leadership to eliminate unnecessary
444 duplication of effort while ensuring that critical and important connectional ministries are functional
445 and adequately carried forward.

446 4. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight oversight responsibility shall include authority
447 for the consolidation of administrative services to the extent practicable for all general church
448 activities into the appropriate agency on a fee for service basis as it affects agencies receiving
449 general church funds.

450

451 Amend ¶905 as indicated:

452

453 7. In order to be accountable, along with the General Council on Finance and Administration, to The
454 United Methodist Church through the General Conference, the General Council for Strategy and
455 Oversight shall have the authority and responsibility in the following matters:

456 a) To collaborate with the General Council on Finance and Administration in the preparation of
457 budgets for the apportioned funds as provided for in ¶¶ 806.1 and 810.1. Primary responsibility for
458 providing the assessment of the resource potential of the Church rests with the General Council on
459 Finance and Administration, and primary responsibility for determining the optimum distribution of
460 those resources among the various needs and opportunities rests with the General Council for
461 Strategy and Oversight.

462 8. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight and its Executive General Secretary shall
463 annually evaluate the strategic planning, goals, objectives and quantitative commitments made by
464 organizations and staff receiving church funds. This review shall take into account the utilization of
465 general church funds in achieving the stated mission of the entity as defined by the General
466 Conference, the governing board, and donor designations. After reviewing the performance of an
467 agency and evaluating its progress toward established goals, the GCSO may direct the General
468 Council on Finance and Administration to withhold funding for any programs and activities until
469 the GCSO determines that the responsible general agency has achieved, or identified means
470 satisfactorily to achieve, the established outcomes. This process should be an ongoing, continuing
471 function of the GCSO.

472 9. During the quadrennium the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall allocate funds
473 which have been made available by General Conference as a General Council for Strategy and
474 Oversight Adaptive Challenge Fund within the World Service budget. The funds shall be
475 distributed to the various agencies receiving funds from the World Service Fund based on need,
476 evaluation and review of measurable outcomes, and facilitation of initiatives for the adaptive
477 challenge of increasing vital congregations.

478 10. Executive General Secretary—a. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall elect an
479 Executive General Secretary, who shall not be a bishop.

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

481 c. The Executive General Secretary shall be an ex officio member of the General Council for
482 Strategy and Oversight with voice but without vote.

483 d. The Executive General Secretary shall be reviewed and evaluated by the General Council for
484 Strategy and Oversight based on measured effectiveness on redirecting the focus toward vital
485 congregations.

486

487 Amend ¶906 as indicated:

488

489 1. *Membership* – Members of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight should be effective,
490 informed leaders who take responsibility for the good of the whole by advocating for the various
491 parts of the Church as it seeks to respond to the demands of the gospel. The voting and nonvoting
492 members of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall be selected as provided in
493 ¶705.3.g) and ¶705.5. Consideration should be given to ethnic, gender, and age inclusivity.

494 a) Advisory members shall serve without vote. The participation on the General Council for
495 Strategy and Oversight of nonvoting advisory members shall be at the expense of the agencies they
496 represent.

497 b) An effective bishop, selected by the Council of Bishops, shall represent the Council, serve as a
498 member with right of voice and vote, and shall convene an organizational meeting of the General
499 Council for Strategy and Oversight within two months of the last jurisdictional conference.

500 c) The following officers of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall be elected from
501 the jurisdictional and central conference members: chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer.

502

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

504 ...

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

507 ...

508

509 5. *Staff* – The General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall elect an Executive General
510 Secretary with knowledge of The United Methodist Church operations and with executive
511 management experience in church and/or not-for-profit organization who shall provide leadership to
512 the table in performing the duties assigned to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight in
513 accordance with directives of the General Conference and policies set by the General Council for

514 Strategy and Oversight. The General Council for Strategy and Oversight shall determine the
515 support staff that it deems appropriate to facilitate its work. The Executive General Secretary shall
516 be responsible for the staff and the operations of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight.

517

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

519

520 ¶907 There shall be a committee of the general secretaries of agencies specified herein following
521 which shall be called the General Secretaries Committee. It shall report to the General Council for
522 Strategy and Oversight for purposes of agency collaboration and alignment. It shall not be
523 considered to be a general agency of the Church.

524 1. The members of the General Secretaries Committee (GSC) shall be the general secretary or other
525 employed chief executive officer of each of the following agencies:

526 General Council for Strategy and Oversight

527 General Board of Church and Society

528 General Board of Discipleship

529 General Board of Global Ministries

530 General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

531 General Council on Finance and Administration

532 United Methodist Communications

533 United Methodist Men

534 United Methodist Women

535 2. The GSC shall have other duties as approved by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight.

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

540 4. The GSC shall be chaired by the Executive General Secretary of the General Council for
541 Strategy and Oversight.

542

543 Delete ¶¶1006 and 1007 in their entirety.

544 Delete ¶1105.1 in its entirety.

545 Delete ¶1302.5 to transfer the ecumenical functions of the General Board of Global Ministries to
546 another body of the Church as authorized by General Conference.

547

548 Amend ¶1311 as follows:

549 ¶ 1311. Membership—The policies, plans of work, management, business, and all affairs of the
550 General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church shall be governed and
551 administered by the board.

552

553 Delete §§1311.1 through 1311.8 in their entirety.

554 Delete ¶1407 in its entirety.

555

556 Amend ¶1502.1 as follows:

557

558 1502.1. Membership – a) The eight additional members of the general board as provided in ¶705.5
559 for the purpose of bringing to the general board special knowledge or background shall be
560 nominated and elected by the general board in such manner as it shall provide in its bylaws, other
561 provisions of the Book of Discipline notwithstanding.

562 b) The general secretary of the general board shall be an ex officio member of the general board,
563 without vote.

564 c) Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of the general board may serve a
565 maximum of three consecutive terms.

566

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

569 ¶1602 The publisher of The United Methodist Church (¶ 1614) shall be an ex officio member of
570 the board without vote.

571

572

573

574 Delete §§1701-1712 in their entirety.

575

576 Amend ¶264 as follows:

577

578 ¶264.1. Heritage Sunday—Heritage Sunday shall be observed on Aldersgate Day (May 24), or the
579 Sunday preceding that date (see Historical Statement, page 10). The day provides an opportunity
580 for reflection on heritage, celebration of where the Church has been, how it understands itself as it
581 shapes us today, and the meaning of Christian conferencing. Heritage Sunday calls the Church to

582 remember the past by committing itself to the continuing call of God. The observance of Heritage
583 Sunday shall be under the general supervision of the General Council on Finance and
584 Administration. Any general agency of the Church which desires to recommend a theme for a given
585 year for this Sunday may do so one year prior to the observance for which the recommendation is
586 made. This recommendation is to be made to the General Council on Finance and Administration,
587 and the decision of the annual theme of this Sunday shall be made by the voting members of the
588 General Council on Finance and Administration.

589

590 Amend ¶510 as follows:

591

592 ¶510.1. Corrections to the Daily Christian Advocate. The editor will then file with the General
593 Council on Finance and Administration two bound copies of the Daily Christian Advocate and
594 corrections as the official record of General Conference. Bound copies shall also be made available
595 at cost by The United Methodist Publishing House.

596

597 ¶510.4. All original documents of a General Conference shall be filed with the General Council on
598 Finance and Administration.

599

600 Amend ¶532 as follows:

601

602 ¶532. Archives and History—1. There shall be a jurisdictional commission on archives and history,
603

603

604 Amend ¶545 as follows:

605

606 ¶ 545. Records and Archives—1. The journal of the proceedings of a central conference, duly
607 signed by the president and secretary, shall be sent for examination to the General Conference
608 through its secretary. Two paper copies in every translation shall be sent without charge to the
609 General Council on Finance and Administration,...

610

611 3. The secretary of each central conference shall submit a hardcopy of every translation and
612 adaptation of the general Discipline or portion thereof in use in that central conference to the
613 General Council on Finance and Administration.

614

615 Amend ¶606 as follows:

616

617 ¶606.2. Each annual conference shall send without charge to the General Council on Finance and
618 Administration, the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, the Central or Jurisdictional
619 Commission on Archives and History, and the Annual Conference Commission on Archives and
620 History two printed copies of its annual journal and one printed copy to the General Council for
621 Strategy and Oversight. If available, one copy of a digital version of the journal shall be sent to the
622 General Council on Finance and Administration.

623

624 3..h) Memoirs as ordered by the annual conference following the guidelines of the General Council
625 on Finance and Administration,

626

627 Amend ¶641 as follows:

628

629 ¶ 641. 1. In each annual conference there shall be a conference commission on archives and history.
630 The number of members of the commission and their terms of office shall be as the conference may
631 determine and may include an ex officio representative of each United Methodist heritage landmark
632 in its bounds. It shall be the duty of the commission to collect, preserve, and make accessible the
633 historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to
634 the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents; to encourage and assist the local
635 churches in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage; to
636 provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued
637 churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents (see ¶ 2548.3); to maintain a
638 fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that obviously will have value for
639 future history are properly preserved therein; to provide for the ownership of real property and to
640 receive gifts and bequests; to nominate to the General Council on Finance and Administration
641 buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic sites or
642 heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage
643 landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning
644 for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions; to
645 establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records under
646 standards or guidelines developed by the General Council on Finance and Administration; to
647 cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional commissions on
648 archives and history; and to engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United
649 Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

650

651 Amend ¶702 as follows:

652

653 ¶702.2. Between sessions of the General Conference, the following general agencies are
654 accountable to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight for those functions that are outlined
655 in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the
656 General Board of Global Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry in
657 matters pertaining to their program responsibilities.

658

659 Amend ¶703 as follows:

660

661 ¶703.6. Administrative General Agencies—The general boards that have primarily administrative
662 and service functions shall be designated as administrative general agencies. These agencies are the
663 General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, and The United Methodist Publishing House.

664

665

666 Amend ¶805 as follows:

667

668 ¶805.4.d) Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices—The council shall organize a committee
669 consisting of three representatives from the General Council on Finance and Administration, one of
670 whom shall serve as chairperson, and one representative of each of the following agencies: the
671 General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board of
672 Global Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, United Methodist
673 Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Communications (UMCOM). Each of the
674 aforementioned representatives shall be selected by the council, or board represented from its
675 membership. The committee shall have duties and responsibilities as defined in ¶ 807.13b.

676

677 Amend ¶1122 as follows:

678

679 ¶1122.4.b) Opportunity for timely review shall be offered to teachers, leaders, and pastors in local
680 churches of various sizes, locations, and racial, ethnic, and cultural constituencies; general
681 secretaries of the General Boards of Discipleship, Global Ministries, Church and Society, and
682 Higher Education and Ministry; professors of educational ministries in United Methodist colleges

683 and seminaries; professional Christian educators; and others who may have interest, experience, and
684 skills to aid the perfection of the plans.

685

686 Create a new ¶805.4.f) as follows, renumbering succeeding paragraphs:

687

688 ¶805.4.f) Committee on Archives and History—There shall be a Committee on Archives and
689 History that shall serve as the official historical agency of The United Methodist Church. It may be
690 separately incorporated, as determined by the Council, and it shall be the successor in effect and in
691 law of the General Commission on Archives and History of The United Methodist Church. In so
692 far as practical changes required by the discontinuation of the General Commission on Archives
693 and History (GCAH) and the creation of the Committee on Archives and History in this section
694 shall be accomplished no later than June 30, 2013 under the guidance of the General Council for
695 Strategy and Oversight and the General Council on Finance and Administration. Funds budgeted
696 in the 2013 to 2016 quadrennium to carry out the operations and programs of GCAH shall follow
697 the function.

698 (1) Purpose—(a). The purpose of the Committee shall be to promote and care for the historical
699 interests of The United Methodist Church at every level. It shall gather, preserve, and hold title to
700 library and archival materials, and it shall disseminate interpretive materials on the history of The
701 United Methodist Church and its antecedents. It shall cooperate with other bodies, especially the
702 Historical Society of The United Methodist Church, the World Methodist Historical Society, and
703 the World Methodist Council in areas of mutual concern. It shall maintain archives and libraries in
704 which shall be preserved historical records and materials of every kind relating to The United
705 Methodist Church and shall see that such holdings are available for responsible public and
706 scholarly use. It shall provide guidance for the proper creation, maintenance, and disposition of
707 documentary record material at all levels of The United Methodist Church (see §(8)(a)ii)). It shall
708 provide support, direction, and encouragement for the work of annual conference and jurisdictional
709 historical agencies and organizations by developing and making available historical, interpretive, and
710 training media. It shall develop policies and resources for the designated United Methodist Historic
711 Sites and United Methodist Heritage Landmarks. It shall provide general supervision for the
712 observance of Heritage Sunday (see ¶ 264.1). It shall engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or
713 Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

714 (b). The Committee shall have responsibility for and supervision of its archives and historical
715 libraries and other depositories of similar character, if any, established by The United Methodist
716 Church.

717 (c). The Committee shall promote collection and dissemination of information and materials
718 concerning the historic witness made individually and collectively by women, racial and ethnic
719 peoples, and other constituencies not covered extensively in traditional historical documentation in
720 the worldwide life of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents.

721 (d). The Committee shall develop and make available interpretive materials such as handbooks,
722 services of worship and celebrations of historical events, training films, and other media helpful to
723 annual conferences and local churches.

724 (e). Once each quadrennium, the Committee may hold a historical convocation, to which may be
725 invited members of jurisdictional and annual conference historical agencies and organizations;
726 appropriate faculty and students in institutions of higher education related to The United Methodist
727 Church; members of the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church; members of other
728 Wesleyan, Methodist, and Evangelical United Brethren-related historical organizations; and such
729 other persons, groups, or organizations as may be interested.

730 (2) Membership—(a). The Committee shall be constituted quadrennially, and its members and all
731 officers elected by it shall hold office until their successors have been chosen. Interim vacancies
732 during a quadrennium where not otherwise provided by the Discipline may be filled by the Council
733 as it may determine.

734 (b). The Committee shall be composed of ten members chosen by the Council, five of whom shall
735 be members of the Council. It is recommended that careful consideration be given to selecting the
736 other five members to be persons with special interests and skills in the history of United
737 Methodism.

738 (3). Meetings—The Committee shall meet annually at such time and place as it may determine,
739 subject to the provisions of the act of incorporation, if the committee chooses to be incorporated.

740
741 (4). Officers—The Committee shall elect from its membership a chairperson and such other
742 officers as may be needed.

743 (5). Staff—The Council shall choose a general director of the Committee, who shall be an associate
744 general secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration, and such other staff
745 personnel as may be needed. The general director shall be the executive and administrative officer
746 and shall carry on the work of the Committee, keep the records and minutes, serve as editor of
747 official publications of the Committee, supervise the depositories, make an annual report to the
748 Council, and furnish such reports as are required. The general director shall attend meetings of the
749 Committee and shall have the privilege of the floor without vote. Archivists, curators, and librarians
750 employed by the Committee shall be responsible to the general director. They shall attend meetings

751 of the Committee when it is deemed necessary by the general director. When in attendance, they
752 shall have the privilege of the floor without vote.

753 (6). Finances—The Committee shall be financed by appropriations of the General Conference; the
754 sale of literature and historical materials; subscriptions to the Committee’s official publications;
755 dues from associate members; and gifts, grants, and bequests of interested individuals and
756 organizations.

757 (7). Historical Society of The United Methodist Church—(a). The Committee shall endorse and
758 encourage the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church and encourage membership
759 therein for the purpose of promoting interest in the study, preservation, and dissemination of the
760 history and heritage of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents. The Historical Society
761 shall be encouraged to enlist the support and cooperation of Committee on archives and history (or
762 equivalent) at the annual conference, jurisdictional conference, and general Church levels as well as
763 other interested agencies and organizations in the promotion of the historical interests of the
764 Church. The society shall be financially self-supporting through dues and other sources, except for
765 such services as may be provided by the General Conference Committee on Archives and History.

766 (b). Membership in the Historical Society shall be established as the society may determine.
767 Membership shall entail the payment of such dues as the society may direct, in return for which
768 members shall receive publications and other benefits as are deemed suitable.

769 (8). (a). Archival Definitions—i) Archives, as distinguished from libraries, house not primarily
770 books, but documentary record material.

771 ii) Documentary record material shall mean all documents, minutes, journals, diaries, reports,
772 pamphlets, letters, papers, manuscripts, maps, photographs, books, audiovisuals, sound recordings,
773 magnetic or other tapes, electronic data processing records, artifacts, or any other documentary
774 material, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received pursuant to any provisions
775 of The Discipline in connection with the transaction of Church business by any general agency of
776 The United Methodist Church or of any of its constituent predecessors.

777 iii) General agency of The United Methodist Church or of its constituent predecessors shall, in turn,
778 mean and include every Church office, Church officer, or official (elected or appointed)—including
779 bishop, institution, board, Committee, bureau, council, or conference—at the national level.

780 (b). Custodianship of Records—The church official in charge of an office having documentary
781 record material shall be the custodian thereof, unless otherwise provided.

782 (c). Procedures—i) The Committee shall establish a central archives of The United Methodist
783 Church and such regional archives and record centers as in its judgment may be needed.

- 784 ii) The bishops, General Conference officers, the Judicial Council, general boards, committees, and
785 agencies of The United Methodist Church shall deposit official minutes or journals, or copies of the
786 same, in the archives quadrennially and shall transfer correspondence, records, papers, and other
787 archival materials described above from their offices when they no longer have operational
788 usefulness. No records shall be destroyed until a disposal schedule has been agreed upon by the
789 Committee and the agency. When the custodian of any official documentary record material of a
790 general agency certifies to the Committee that such records have no further use or value for official
791 and administrative purposes and when the Committee certifies that such records appear to have no
792 further use or value for research or reference, then such records may be destroyed or otherwise
793 disposed of by the agency or official having custody of them. A record of such certification and
794 authorization shall be entered in the minutes or records of both the Committee and the agency. The
795 Committee is hereby authorized and empowered to make such provisions as may be necessary and
796 proper to carry this paragraph into effect.
- 797 iii) The Committee shall have the right to examine the condition of documentary record material and
798 shall, subject to the availability of staff and funds, give advice and assistance to Church officials and
799 agencies in regard to preserving and disposing of documentary record material in their custody.
800 Officials of general agencies shall assist the Committee in the preparation of an inventory of
801 records in their custody. To this inventory shall be attached a schedule, approved by the head of the
802 agency having custody of the records and the Committee, establishing a time period for the
803 retention and disposal of each series of records. So long as such approved schedule remains in
804 effect, destruction or disposal of documentary record material in accordance with its provisions
805 shall be deemed to have met the requirements of ¶ 1711.3b.
- 806 iv) The Committee is authorized and directed to conduct a program of inventorying, repairing, and
807 microfilming among all general agencies of The United Methodist Church for security purposes
808 that documentary record material which the Committee determines has permanent value and to
809 provide safe storage for microfilm copies of such material. Subject to the availability of funds, such
810 program may be extended to material of permanent value of all agencies of The United Methodist
811 Church.
- 812 v) The general boards, committees, and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall place two
813 copies, as they are issued, of all their publications, of whatever kind, in the archives or in lieu thereof
814 shall file a statement with the archivist affirming that they are preserving copies of all such items in
815 their own libraries or depositories.

- 816 vi) Official documents, or copies thereof, such as articles of incorporation, constitutions, bylaws,
817 and other official papers of the boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall be
818 deposited in the archives.
- 819 vii) Whoever has the custody of any general agency records shall, at the expiration of the term of
820 office, deliver to the successor, custodian, or, if there be none, to the Committee all records, books,
821 writings, letters, and documents kept or received in the transaction of official general agency
822 business. This will also apply to the papers of temporary and special general Church committees.
- 823 viii) The bishops, General Conference officers, and the general boards, committees, and agencies of
824 The United Methodist Church are urged to counsel with the central archivist concerning the
825 preservation of all materials.
- 826 ix) Jurisdictional, central, and annual conference secretaries shall deposit, without charge, two paper
827 copies of their respective conference journals quadrennially or annually, as the case may be, with the
828 Committee and in the archives of the central, jurisdictional, and annual conference as appropriate.
829 One copy of a digital version of the journal will be sent to the Committee.
- 830 x) Secretaries of jurisdictional and annual conference boards, committees, and agencies shall
831 deposit annually, or as often as they meet, copies of their minutes (as distinguished from reports
832 that are printed separately or in the jurisdictional and annual conference journals) in the central
833 archives or in the appropriate regional archives.
- 834 xi) Bishops, General Conference officers, general agency staff personnel, missionaries, and those
835 ordained ministers and laypersons in positions of leadership and influence at any level of the
836 Church are urged to deposit or bequeath their personal papers to the archives of the Committee.
- 837 xii) Organizations and individuals may negotiate appropriate restrictions on the use of materials that
838 they deposit in the archives.
- 839 xiii) The Committee may authorize the transfer of materials to an organization, agency, or family.
- 840 xiv) All materials in the archives shall be available for research and exhibition, subject to such
841 restrictions as may be placed on them.
- 842 (9). Historic Sites and Heritage Landmarks—(a). i) Historic Sites—Historic sites are buildings,
843 locations, or structures that are specifically related to a significant event, development, or personality
844 in the history of an annual, central, or jurisdictional conference (or its antecedents). Historic sites
845 are designated by formal action of the annual, central, or jurisdictional conference within whose
846 regions the site is located. Such designation shall first be considered and reviewed by the respective
847 committee on archives and history (or equivalent). After action by the annual, central, or
848 jurisdictional conference to designate a building, structure, or location as a historic site, the president
849 or chairperson of the committee on archives and history (or equivalent) shall advise the Committee

850 of the action taken and provide such documentation as may be required. The Committee in turn
851 shall provide an official historic site marker, keep a register of all historic sites, and maintain an
852 ongoing file of pertinent information concerning them.

853 ii) Heritage Landmarks—Heritage landmarks of The United Methodist Church are buildings,
854 locations, or structures that are specifically related to significant events, developments, or
855 personalities in the overall history of The United Methodist Church or its antecedents. They must
856 have distinctive historic interest and value for the denomination as a whole, as contrasted with local
857 or regional historic significance. Ordinarily, buildings, locations, or structures that have achieved
858 historic significance within the preceding fifty years shall not be considered for designation as a
859 heritage landmark.

860 iii) Designation of Heritage Landmarks—All nominations for the designation of buildings,
861 locations, and structures as United Methodist heritage landmarks shall be made by the annual,
862 central, or jurisdictional conference committee on archives and history (or equivalent) within whose
863 regions they are located. Such nominations shall be referred for consideration to the Committee, in
864 accord with guidelines established by the Committee. Through its Committee on Heritage
865 Landmarks, the Committee shall consider the merits of each nomination and shall make such
866 recommendation as it deems appropriate to the ensuing General Conference for its action and
867 determination.

868 The Committee shall recommend only a building, location, or structure for designation as a heritage
869 landmark that has been registered as a historic site by an annual, central, or jurisdictional conference
870 and has met the requirements established by the Committee. The Committee shall keep a register of
871 all duly designated heritage landmarks and maintain an ongoing file of pertinent information
872 concerning them.

873 iv) Quadrennial Review—The Committee shall be responsible for making a quadrennial review of
874 the existing duly designated heritage landmarks, according to the criteria that it shall prepare and
875 which shall be compatible with The Book of Discipline. The Committee shall further be responsible
876 for recommending to the General Conference the redesignation or reclassification of the designated
877 heritage landmarks as such action may be appropriate in keeping with such criteria.

878 (b). Present Heritage Landmarks—The present heritage landmarks of The United Methodist
879 Church (and the year of their designation by General Conference) are: Acuff's Chapel, between
880 Blountville and Kingsport, TN (1968); Albright Memorial Chapel, Kleinfeltersville, PA (1968);
881 Asbury Manual Labor School and Mission, Ft. Mitchell, AL (1984); Barratt's Chapel, near
882 Frederica, DE (1968); Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, FL (1984); Bishop John
883 Seybert/Flat Rock Cluster, Flat Rock and Bellevue, OH (1992); Boehm's Chapel, Willow Street,

884 PA (1984); Cokesbury College, Abingdon, MD (1984); Cox Memorial United Methodist Church,
 885 Hallowell, ME (1992); Deadwood Cluster, Deadwood, SD (1984); Edward Cox House, near Bluff
 886 City, TN (1968); First Evangelical Association Church Building and Publishing House, New
 887 Berlin, PA (1988); First United Methodist Church, Johnstown, PA (1996); Green Hill House,
 888 Louisburg, NC (1968); Hanby House, Westerville, OH (1988); John Street Church, New York City
 889 (1968); John Wesley's American Parish, Savannah, GA (1976); Keywood Marker, Glade Spring,
 890 VA (1988); Isaac Long's Barn, Landis Valley, Lititz, PA (2008); Lovely Lane Chapel, Baltimore,
 891 MD (1972); McMahan's Chapel, Bronson, TX (1972); Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, NY (1972);
 892 Old McKendree Chapel, Jackson, MO (1968); Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, MD (1968); Old
 893 Stone Church Cemetery and Site, Leesburg, VA (1968); Organization of The Methodist Episcopal
 894 Church, South, Louisville, KY (1984); Peter Cartwright United Methodist Church, Pleasant Plains,
 895 IL (1976); Rehobeth Church, near Union, WV (1968); Robert Strawbridge's Log House, near New
 896 Windsor, MD (1968); Rutersville Cluster, Rutersville, TX (1988); St. George's Church,
 897 Philadelphia, PA (1968); St. Simon's Island, Brunswick, GA (1968); Wesley Foundation,
 898 University of Illinois, Champaign, IL (1996); Town of Oxford, GA (1972); United Brethren
 899 Founding Sites Cluster, Frederick, Keedysville, and Beaver Creek, MD (2000); Wesleyan College
 900 Cluster, Macon, GA (1992); Whitaker's Chapel, near Enfield, Halifax County, NC (1972);
 901 Willamette Mission, near Salem, OR (1992); Women's Foreign Missionary Society founding site,
 902 Boston, MA (2004) Wyandot Indian Mission, Upper Sandusky, OH (1968); and Zoar United
 903 Methodist Church, Philadelphia, PA (1984).

904

905

906

907 Delete ¶¶1801-1808 in their entirety.

908

909 Amend ¶263 as follows:

910

911 ¶ 263. Six churchwide special Sundays with offerings shall be celebrated in each United Methodist
 912 Church.

913 Purpose—General Conference shall determine the purpose of the churchwide offerings upon
 914 recommendation of the General Council on Finance and Administration, after consultation with the
 915 Council of Bishops and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight. The purpose of these
 916 offerings shall remain constant for the quadrennium, and the net receipts shall be distributed on
 917 ratio to the administering agencies by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and

918 Administration (see ¶ 823.7 and ¶ 805.6). United Methodist Communications shall promote these
919 offerings in cooperation with the agencies responsible for the administration of these funds. (See ¶
920 1806.12.) Each offering shall be promptly remitted in full by the local church treasurer to the
921 annual conference treasurer, who shall transmit the funds in full, except where noted differently
922 below, to the General Council on Finance and Administration within thirty days of receipt in the
923 office of the annual conference treasurer.

924 ¶263.1... In connection with Human Relations Day United Methodist Communications shall
925 conduct a churchwide appeal. Net receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, shall be
926 allocated on ratio by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration, to the
927 administering agencies:

928 ¶263.2. One Great Hour of Sharing—Historically, One Great Hour of Sharing has been celebrated
929 with an offering on the Fourth Sunday in Lent. Congregations are to observe One Great Hour of
930 Sharing on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. Lent is the season of
931 repentance, self-examination, and awareness of the hurts of the peoples of the world. One Great
932 Hour of Sharing calls the Church to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. In connection
933 with One Great Hour of Sharing, United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide
934 appeal....

935 ¶263.3. World Communion Sunday—Historically, World Communion Sunday has been celebrated
936 with an offering on the first Sunday of October. Congregations are to observe World Communion
937 Sunday on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. World Communion Sunday
938 calls the church to be the catholic inclusive church. In connection with World Communion Sunday
939 United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

940 ¶263.4. United Methodist Student Day—Historically, United Methodist Student Day has been
941 celebrated with an offering on the last Sunday in November. Congregations are to observe United
942 Methodist Student Day on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. United
943 Methodist Student Day calls the Church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith
944 with knowledge. The offering supports United Methodist scholarships and the United Methodist
945 Student Loan Fund. In connection with United Methodist Student Day, United Methodist
946 Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

947 ¶263.5. Peace with Justice Sunday—Historically, Peace with Justice Sunday has been celebrated
948 with an offering on the First Sunday After Pentecost. Congregations are to observe Peace with
949 Justice Sunday on this date or on another date appropriate to the local church. Pentecost celebrates
950 the outpouring of the Holy Spirit calling for God's shalom. Peace with Justice witnesses to God's

951 demand for a faithful, just, disarmed, and secure world. In connection with Peace with Justice
952 Sunday, United Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

953 ¶263. 6. Native American Ministries Sunday—Historically, Native American Ministries Sunday has
954 been celebrated with an offering on the Third Sunday of Easter. United States congregations are to
955 observe Native American Ministries Sunday on this date or on another date appropriate to the local
956 church. This Sunday serves to remind the Church of the gifts and contributions made by Native
957 Americans to our society. In connection with Native American Ministries Sunday, United
958 Methodist Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

959

960 Amend ¶633 as follows:

961

962 ¶633.4.b)(22) To appoint annual conference disaster response coordinators to assist the United
963 Methodist Committee on Relief by encouraging the formation of an annual conference disaster
964 response committee that relates to the annual conference board of global ministries and includes,
965 when possible, members of the General Board of Global Ministries from the annual conference.
966 The membership of the Disaster Response Committee may include district disaster response
967 coordinators and the conference director of communications or member of United Methodist
968 Communications.

969

970 Amend ¶807 as follows:

971

972 ¶807.10. To supervise the use of the official United Methodist insignia and preserve the integrity of
973 its design, in cooperation with United Methodist Communications.

974

975 Add a new §810.3 as follows:

976

977 ¶810.3 United Methodist Communications shall promote all general Church funds in cooperation
978 with other Church bodies affected by each fund.

979

980 Amend ¶812.4 as follows:

981

982 ¶812.4. United Methodist Communications shall promote the World Service Fund.

983

984 Amend ¶813.5 as follows:

985

986 ¶813.5 United Methodist Communications shall promote the General Administration Fund.

987

988 Amend ¶814.7 as follows:

989

990 ¶814.7 United Methodist Communications shall promote the Interdenominational Cooperation
991 Fund.

992

993 Amend ¶815 as follows:

994

995 ¶815.3. Promotion of the Black College Fund shall be by the Division of Higher Education and in
996 consultation with the Council of Presidents of the Black Colleges, in cooperation with and with the
997 assistance of United Methodist Communications,

998

999 Delete §816.4 in its entirety.

1000

1001 Amend ¶817 as follows:

1002

1003 ¶ 817. Purpose— 1. The Episcopal Fund, raised in accordance with ¶ 817.3, shall provide for the
1004 salary and expenses of effective bishops²⁴ from the date of their consecration and for the support
1005 of retired bishops and surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops. Subject to the
1006 approval of the General Council on Finance and Administration, the treasurer shall have authority to
1007 borrow for the benefit of the Episcopal Fund such amounts as may be necessary for the proper
1008 execution of the orders of the General Conference. United Methodist Communications shall
1009 promote the Episcopal Fund.

1010

1011 Amend ¶819.7 as follows:

1012

1013 ¶819.7. General promotion of this program, for purposes of name identification and visibility, shall
1014 be the responsibility of United Methodist Communications.

1015

1016 Amend ¶820 as follows:

1017

1018 ¶820.3. Promotional expenses for World Service Specials shall be borne by the respective
1019 participating agencies in proportion to the amount received by each in World Service Specials. The
1020 causes of World Service Specials shall be coordinated with other financial appeals and shall be
1021 promoted by United Methodist Communications.

1022

1023 ¶820.4. The appeals for World Service Specials shall be channeled through bishops, district
1024 superintendents, and pastors. Details of the procedure shall be determined by United Methodist
1025 Communications in consultation with representatives of the recipient agencies or entities.

1026

1027 ¶820.5. In each annual conference, World Service Specials and One Great Hour of Sharing shall be
1028 promoted by the appropriate conference agency with the appropriate general agency and United
1029 Methodist Communications.

1030

1031 Amend ¶822 as follows:

1032

1033 ¶822.3. Promotional expenses for Advance Specials shall be borne by the respective participating
1034 units in proportion to the amount received by each in Advance Specials. The causes of the Advance
1035 shall be coordinated with other financial appeals and shall be promoted by United Methodist
1036 Communications.

1037

1038 ¶822.4. The appeal for Advance Specials shall be channeled through bishops, district
1039 superintendents, and pastors. Details of the procedure shall be determined by United Methodist
1040 Communications in consultation with the designated unit of the General Board of Global Ministries
1041 and the Advance Committee.

1042

1043 Amend ¶823 as follows:

1044

1045 ¶823.1...In connection with Human Relations Day, United Methodist Communications shall
1046 conduct a churchwide appeal.

1047 ¶823.2.b)... In connection with One Great Hour of Sharing, United Methodist Communications
1048 shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

1049 ¶823.3...In connection with United Methodist Student Day, United Methodist Communications
1050 shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

1051 ¶823.4...In connection with World Communion Sunday, United Methodist Communications shall
1052 conduct a churchwide appeal...

1053 ¶823.5...In connection with Peace with Justice Sunday, United Methodist Communications shall
1054 conduct a churchwide appeal.

1055 ¶823.6...In connection with Native American Ministries Sunday, United Methodist
1056 Communications shall conduct a churchwide appeal.

1057 ¶823.7. United Methodist Communications shall promote all authorized churchwide special
1058 Sundays with offerings in consultation with participating agencies. Promotional expenses for each
1059 offering shall be a prior claim against the receipts of the offering promoted. In each case, such
1060 expenses shall be within a budget approved by the General Council on Finance and Administration
1061 upon recommendation of United Methodist Communications after consultation with participating
1062 agencies. In the promotion of these offerings, the spiritual implications of Christian stewardship
1063 shall be emphasized.

1064

1065 Amend ¶1121 as follows:

1066

1067 ¶1121.4. Membership—The committee shall be composed of one board member and one staff
1068 member from each of the following agencies: the General Board of Discipleship, the General Board
1069 of Global Ministries, the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of Higher
1070 Education and Ministry, and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; one member
1071 (board or staff) from each of the following: the United Methodist Men; The United Methodist
1072 Publishing House, United Methodist Women; one active or retired bishop representing the Council
1073 of Bishops, and one central conference representative; five older adults, one to be selected by each
1074 jurisdictional College of Bishops; and no more than three members to be selected by the committee
1075 for expertise and/or professional qualifications, and no more than three additional members to be
1076 selected by the committee for inclusiveness (racial/ethnic, disability, age, gender, laity, clergy, or
1077 geographic distribution). Staff and/or board members will provide appropriate liaison and reports to
1078 their respective agencies. Board members and central conference and jurisdiction representatives
1079 shall serve no more than two consecutive terms (one term equals four years). Each board and
1080 agency will be responsible for travel, lodging, and other expenses incurred by representatives
1081 attending meetings of the Committee on Older Adult Ministries.

1082

1083 Delete §1207.2.k) in its entirety.

1084

1085 Amend ¶1327 as follows:

1086

1087 ¶1327.2.a)(5) To work cooperatively with United Methodist Communications in promotion of the
1088 One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

1089

1090 Amend ¶1405 as follows:

1091

1092 ¶1405.21. To promote, in cooperation with United Methodist Communications, churchwide special
1093 Sundays and funds:...

1094

1095 Amend ¶1637 as follows:

1096

1097 ¶ 1637. Service of the Entire United Methodist Church—There shall be one complete, coordinated
1098 system of literature published by the board for the entire United Methodist Church. This literature
1099 is to be of such type and variety as to meet the needs of all groups of our people. The board
1100 president and publisher shall consult with the general program agencies, United Methodist
1101 Communications, and the General Council for Strategy and Oversight with regard to their
1102 publishing needs in order to avoid unnecessary overlapping and duplication.

1103

1104 Amend the existing text of ¶¶1801-1808 as follows:

1105

1106 ¶ 1801. As United Methodists, our theological understanding obligates us, as members of the body
1107 of Christ, to communicate our faith by speaking and listening to persons both within and outside
1108 the Church throughout the world, and to utilize all appropriate means of communication.

1109 The responsibility to communicate is laid upon every church member, every pastor, every
1110 congregation, every annual conference, every institution, and every agency of the Church. Within
1111 this total responsibility, there are certain functions that the General Conference has assigned to
1112 United Methodist Communications, to be performed in behalf of all through the talents and
1113 resources at its command.

1114

1115 ¶ 1802. Name—There shall be an organization of The United Methodist Church, to be designated
1116 as United Methodist Communications (UMCom) which shall be a general agency of the Church.

1117

1118 ¶ 1803. Incorporation—UMCom is successor to The General Commission on Communication the
1119 Joint Committee on Communications, incorporated in the State of Ohio, and shall be authorized to
1120 do business as United Methodist Communications (UMCom). It is authorized to create such other
1121 corporate substructures as UMCom deems appropriate to carry out its functions.

1122

1123 ¶ 1804. Amenability and Accountability—UMCom shall be amenable to the General Conference.
1124 As an administrative general agency that carries significant program functions in addition to its
1125 many service and support responsibilities, UMCom shall be accountable to, report to, and be
1126 evaluated by the General Council for Strategy and Oversight in program matters and shall be
1127 accountable to and report to the General Council on Finance and Administration in financial
1128 matters.

1129

1130 ¶ 1805. Purpose—UMCom shall lead the Church in communication. It shall meet the
1131 communication, public relations, and marketing needs of the entire Church, reflecting the cultural
1132 and racial diversity within The United Methodist Church. It shall provide communication resources
1133 and services to local churches and annual conferences. It shall have a consultative relationship with
1134 all general agencies of the Church and with any structures for communication and public relations
1135 at the jurisdictional, episcopal area, annual conference, district, or local church level.

1136

1137 ¶ 1806. Responsibilities—Specific responsibilities and functions UMCom and its staff are as
1138 follows:

1139 ...

1140 3. It shall give special attention to television, including broadcast television, cable, videotape,
1141 videodisc, and satellite. It shall provide counsel and resources to annual conferences—and through
1142 conferences, to districts and local churches—to develop and strengthen their television ministries.
1143 Responsibilities of UMCom shall include program production and placement, and relationships to
1144 commercial and community broadcasters at the national level wherever The United Methodist
1145 Church has a presence.

1146 ...

1147 12. It shall be the central agency marketing throughout the Church the following general Church
1148 funds: World Service Fund (¶812.1), Africa University Fund (¶ 806.2), Black College Fund (¶
1149 815), Episcopal Fund (¶ 817.1), General Administration Fund (¶ 813), Interdenominational
1150 Cooperation Fund (¶ 818), Ministerial Education Fund (¶ 816), Human Relations Day (¶¶ 823.1
1151 and 263.1), One Great Hour of Sharing (¶¶ 820, 823.2 and 263.2), Native American Ministries

1152 Sunday (§§ 823.6 and 263.6), Peace with Justice Sunday (§§823.5 and 263.5), World Communion
1153 Sunday (§§ 823.4 and 263.3), United Methodist Student Day (§§ 823.3 and 263.4), the Advance for
1154 Christ and His Church (§§ 821 and 822), World Service Special Gifts (§ 819), Christian Education
1155 Sunday (§ 265.1), Golden Cross Sunday (§ 265.2), Rural Life Sunday (§ 265.3), Disability
1156 Awareness Sunday (§ 265.4), Youth Service Fund (§ 1208), and all other general Church funds
1157 approved by the General Conference, as well as any emergency appeals authorized by the Council
1158 of Bishops and the General Council on Finance and Administration (§ 818). In the marketing of
1159 these causes, this agency shall consult with and is encouraged to use content material provided by
1160 the program agency responsible for the area and with the agency responsible for the administration
1161 of the funds. Budgets for the above funds shall be developed in cooperation with the General
1162 Council on Finance and Administration. In cases where the General Conference assigns a portion
1163 of the marketing responsibility to some other agency, such marketing work shall be subject to
1164 coordination by UCom. The cost of marketing the funds, as set in the approved marketing
1165 budget, shall be a charge against receipts, except that the cost of marketing general Advance
1166 Specials shall be billed to the recipient agencies in proportion to the amount of general Advance
1167 Special funds received by each (§ 822.3), and the cost of marketing World Service Special Gifts
1168 shall be borne by administering agencies (§ 819.6). The administration of the money thus set aside
1169 for marketing shall be the responsibility of UCom.

1170 ...

1171 14. Appeals for giving that are made to United Methodists shall be consistent with the aims of
1172 Christian stewardship. UCom and the General Board of Discipleship will cooperate in order that
1173 programs and resource materials of the two agencies may be in harmony in their presentation of
1174 Christian stewardship.

1175 ...

1176 21. UCom shall be charged with planning and implementation of the official United Methodist
1177 presence on and use of the Internet, the World Wide Web, or other computer services that can
1178 connect United Methodist conferences, agencies, and local churches with one another and with the
1179 larger world.

1180

1181 § 1807. Organization—1. Membership—The membership of-UCom shall be composed of
1182 twenty-eight members as follows:

1183 a) Three bishops, including at least one from the central conferences, named by the Council of
1184 Bishops.

1185 b) Sixteen members elected by the jurisdictional conferences based on the following formula: North
1186 Central—3, Northeastern—3, South Central—4, Southeastern—4, and Western—2. It is
1187 recommended that at least one of the persons elected by the jurisdictional conferences be a racial or
1188 ethnic person.

1189 c) Nine (9) members of the central conferences selected by the process specified in ¶705.3.g.

1190 d) Seven additional members elected by UMCom to ensure membership of persons with expertise
1191 in communication.

1192 e) The additional members shall be nominated by a committee composed of one UMCom member
1193 designated from each jurisdiction and one of the member bishops.

1194 f) In order to ensure inclusiveness, the composition of UMCom shall reflect the major recognized
1195 categories of Church members (see ¶ 705.3h).

1196 2. Meetings—UMCom shall hold at least one meeting in each calendar year. Fifteen members shall
1197 constitute a quorum.

1198 3. Officers—UMCom shall elect a president, at least one vice president, a recording secretary, and
1199 such other officers as it determines.

1200 There may be an executive committee comprised of not more than one-third of the total membership
1201 of UMCom and elected by UMCom. The membership of the executive committee shall be
1202 representative of the composition of UMCom.

1203 4. Internal Organization—UMCom is empowered to create internal structures as it deems
1204 appropriate for effective operation.

1205 5. Staff—UMCom shall elect annually a general secretary upon nomination by the executive
1206 committee or a nominating committee and shall elect such deputy general secretaries as needed, and
1207 it shall provide for election or appointment of other staff. The general secretary shall cooperate with
1208 the General Council for Strategy and Oversight for program services and with the general secretary
1209 of the General Council on Finance and Administration for financial services.

1210

1211 ¶ 1808. Finance—The General Conference shall provide for the financial needs of UMCom upon
1212 recommendation by the General Council on Finance and Administration. UMCom shall consult
1213 with the General Council for Strategy and Oversight in the area of program matters in development
1214 of an annual budget, which shall be reported to the General Council on Finance and Administration
1215 for approval.

1216

1217

1218

- 1219 Delete ¶¶1901-1912, the entirety of Section XIII of Chapter Five of Part V of the *Book of*
1220 *Discipline*.
1221
- 1222 Modify all paragraphs of the *Book of Discipline* in which there are references to the General
1223 Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns as follows:
1224
- 1225 ¶347.2.a)...The Council of Bishops shall provide the General Board of Higher Education and
1226 Ministry with a list of denominations that meet this definition.
1227
- 1228 ¶504.3...After consultation with the Council of Bishops, the secretary shall issue invitations to
1229 ecumenical representatives.
1230
- 1231 ¶573.1.c) For The United Methodist Church, oversight of the covenantal relationships is the
1232 responsibility of the Council of Bishops, while participation in specific projects is the responsibility
1233 of the appropriate general agency or agencies.
1234
- 1235 ¶ 642. 1. Each annual conference shall create appropriate structures related Christian unity and
1236 Interreligious relationships to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional
1237 relationships with the Council of Bishops.
1238
- 1239 ¶642.2...Ex officio members of the annual conference structures for Christian unity and
1240 interreligious relationships shall include the conference ecumenical officer(s), if elected, and any
1241 United Methodists residing within the conference bounds who are members of the following: the
1242 Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships of the Council of Bishops,
1243
- 1244 ¶642.4. The duties of the annual conference structure shall be to act in cooperation with the annual
1245 conference council on ministries,
1246
- 1247 ¶643.3.k) Coordinating the conference programs of cooperation with African American and other
1248 racial and ethnic denominations, especially those of the Methodist family.
1249
- 1250 ¶703.5 ...These agencies are amenable to the General Conference, and between sessions of the
1251 General Conference are accountable to the General Council for Strategy and Oversight for those
1252 functions outlined in the 900 ¶¶s: the General Board of Church and Society, the General Board of

1253 Discipleship, the General Board of Global Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education
1254 and Ministry. In all matters of accountability, episcopal oversight as provided in ¶ 427 is assumed.

1255

1256

1257 ¶705.3.b) ...The Council of Bishops shall assist general agencies in their compliance with this
1258 provision.

1259

1260 ¶ 814. Interdenominational Cooperation Fund— 1. This fund shall provide United Methodist
1261 support of the basic budgets of those organizations that relate to the ecumenical responsibilities of
1262 the Council of Bishops.

1263

1264 ¶814.2 The Council of Bishops; shall recommend to the General Council on Finance and
1265 Administration the amounts of the several annual allocations from the Interdenominational
1266 Cooperation Fund budget.

1267

1268 ¶814.3. The Council of Bishops shall determine annually the designations of all funds for
1269 ecumenical agencies to be paid from the following year's Interdenominational Cooperation Fund
1270 budget that have not been specifically designated by the prior General Conference. The Council of
1271 Bishops shall communicate such designations to the General Council on Finance and
1272 Administration prior to the beginning of the fiscal year made the subject of such designations.

1273

1274 ¶814.4. The fund shall also provide for the expenses of representatives chosen by the Council of
1275 Bishops to attend meetings and committees of such ecumenical agencies. The General Council on
1276 Finance and Administration shall reimburse such expenses from vouchers approved by persons
1277 designated by the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops or by the general secretary of the
1278 General Council on Finance and Administration.

1279 5. Disbursement of Funds to Ecumenical Organizations— a) The General Council on Finance and
1280 Administration shall remit monthly to each organization included in the approved
1281 Interdenominational Cooperation Fund budget an on-ratio share of the fund's net receipts, after the
1282 payment of any fixed charges.

1283 b) In the interim between sessions of the General Conference, exceptions to this directive may occur
1284 under one of the following circumstances:

1285 (1) If the organization is unable to fulfill, or ceases to fulfill, the purpose or purposes which were
1286 the basis for the Council of Bishops' original recommendation for funding.

- 1287 (2) If the organization ceases to exist.
- 1288 c) If the Council of Bishops, determines that such circumstances warrant, it may recommend to the
1289 General Council on Finance and Administration that funding for the organization be suspended or
1290 reduced, either indefinitely or for a specified period of time. The Council shall then reduce or
1291 suspend remittance of fund receipts to the organization until such time as the Council of Bishops,
1292 determines that the circumstances which led to reduction or suspension of payments no longer
1293 exist. The Council of Bishops shall then recommend to the General Council on Finance and
1294 Administration whether remittances to the organization are to be resumed in amounts based on
1295 current Interdenominational Cooperation Fund receipts only, or whether amounts previously
1296 withheld should be disbursed along with the amounts payable from current receipts.
- 1297 d) If funding to an organization is reduced or suspended, the funds which otherwise would have
1298 been disbursed shall be held by the General Council on Finance and Administration until the
1299 Council of Bishops, recommends that they be restored to the organization or used to support a
1300 similar ecumenical organization. If the funds are not expended prior to the next session of the
1301 General Conference, the General Council on Finance and Administration, after consultation with the
1302 Council of Bishops, shall report to the General Conference the amount of funds being held and
1303 may recommend, for General Conference action, the disposition of the funds.
- 1304 6. Before the beginning of each calendar year, the General Council on Finance and Administration
1305 shall determine and communicate to the Council of Bishops the sum available from the
1306 Interdenominational Cooperation Fund Contingency Reserve to be allocated to meet emerging
1307 needs of ecumenical agencies.
- 1308
- 1309 1207.2 Resource People—The division shall be responsible for connecting and highlighting the
1310 work of general agencies and other United Methodist entities in youth and young-adult ministry. In
1311 order to effectively carry out that charge, one staff person (or board member when staff are not
1312 available) from the following entities shall be present (with voice but not vote) at meetings of the
1313 division. These representatives shall attend at the expense of the sending agency and shall relate the
1314 priorities of the division to their agency and serve as resource people to the division:
- 1315 a) General Board of Church and Society
- 1316 b) General Board of Discipleship
- 1317 c) General Board of Global Ministries
- 1318 d) General Board of Higher Education and Ministry
- 1319 e) United Methodist Men
- 1320 f) General Council on Finance and Administration

1321 g) General Council for Strategy and Oversight

1322 h) United Methodist Publishing House

1323 i) United Methodist Women

1324

1325 ¶ 2401. Liaison Role of the Council of Bishops— 1. In formal relations with other churches and/or
1326 ecclesial bodies, the Council of Bishops shall be the primary liaison for The United Methodist
1327 Church. The ecumenical officer of the Council of Bishops shall be responsible for these
1328 relationships.

1329

1330 ¶2401.2. a) The Council of Bishops shall have the authority to enter into interim and provisional
1331 ecumenical agreements with other Christian bodies. However, all agreements of full communion
1332 and permanent membership in ecumenical organizations shall be ratified by General Conference,
1333 before they become effective.

1334

1335 ¶2401. 4 The United Methodist representatives to ecumenical organizations in the following
1336 paragraphs shall be selected by the Council of Bishops. Such representatives shall be inclusive in
1337 terms of gender, race and ethnicity, age, persons with disabilities, and region. Representatives shall
1338 reflect consideration of balances required both by The United Methodist Church and the respective
1339 ecumenical organization. Consideration shall be given to persons named to jurisdictional and central
1340 conference pools (see ¶ 705.1.b, c).

1341 When proxies are needed to substitute for United Methodist representatives to a specific
1342 ecumenical organization, the ecumenical officer of the Council of Bishops, is authorized to name
1343 such proxies. Consideration shall be given to United Methodists residing in the area of the
1344 ecumenical organization's meeting, and to the inclusivity of the delegation. The names of proxies
1345 shall be reported at the next meeting of the Council of Bishops.

1346 Representatives and proxies from The United Methodist Church to various working groups of any
1347 of the ecumenical organizations in the following paragraphs shall be named by the ecumenical
1348 officer of the Council of Bishops.

1349 5. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, should structural changes be voted between
1350 sessions of the General Conference by any of the ecumenical organizations in the following
1351 paragraphs, necessitating election of a new group of United Methodist delegates, the Council of
1352 Bishops is authorized to elect such delegates as may be required.

1353

1354 ¶ 2402. Financial Support—United Methodist financial support of the ecumenical organizations in
1355 the following paragraphs shall be remitted from the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund through
1356 the General Council on Finance and Administration in accordance with ¶ 814. The general agencies
1357 of the Church may make such payments to these ecumenical organizations as they deem to be their
1358 responsibility and proportionate share in the cooperative programs. Such payments shall be
1359 reported to the General Council on Finance and Administration, and that Council shall include a
1360 summary report of United Methodist financial support in its annual financial report to the Church.
1361 United Methodist financial support of ecumenical dialogues and multilateral conversations,
1362 approved by the Council of Bishops, shall also be remitted from the Interdenominational
1363 Cooperation Fund in the same manner.

1364

1365 2404.2.b) Other National or Regional Ecumenical Organizations—The Council of Bishops, shall
1366 be in dialogue with United Methodists in whatever countries they may reside, and shall coordinate,
1367 explore, and advocate United Methodist participation in regional ecumenical and interfaith
1368 organizations and shall address the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund funding of financial
1369 needs and the advisability of support of these organizations.

1370 c) The United Methodist Church shall seek observer status in the National Association of
1371 Evangelicals. United Methodist observers to these bodies shall be appointed by the Council of
1372 Bishops.

1373 3. The World Council of Churches and Other International Ecumenical Organizations—a) World
1374 Council of Churches. The United Methodist Church is a member of the World Council of
1375 Churches, its predecessor Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches having been charter
1376 members of such body.

1377 b) Other International Ecumenical Organizations—The Council of Bishops, shall be in dialogue
1378 with United Methodists in whatever countries they may reside, and shall coordinate, explore, and
1379 advocate United Methodist participation in international ecumenical and interfaith organizations and
1380 shall address the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund funding of financial needs and the
1381 advisability of support of these organizations.

1382

1383 Add a new Section IX to Chapter Three of Part V of the *Book of Discipline*, ¶¶441-447 as follows:

1384

1385 Section IX. Ecumenical and Interreligious Ministries

1386

1387 ¶441. As provided in ¶2401, “In formal relations with other churches and/or ecclesial bodies, the
1388 Council of Bishops shall be the primary liaison for The United Methodist Church.” Further, as
1389 provided in ¶403.1.e), “The role of the bishop is to be the shepherd of the whole flock.”
1390 Therefore, the bishops of The United Methodist Church are called to lead the Church in its
1391 ecumenical and interreligious ministries.

1392 ¶442. In pursuit of its ecumenical and interreligious responsibilities the Council of Bishops shall
1393 create an Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships (OCUIR) effective upon
1394 adjournment of General Conference 2012. In so far as practical changes required by the
1395 discontinuation of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns
1396 (GCCUIC) and the creation of the Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships
1397 (OCUIR) in this section shall be accomplished no later than June 30, 2013 as directed by the
1398 Council of Bishops. Funds budgeted in the 2013 to 2016 quadrennium to carry out the operations
1399 and programs of GCCUIC shall follow the function.

1400 ¶443. *Membership*—Members of the OCUIR shall be elected by the Council of Bishops as
1401 follows:

1402 1. The OCUIR shall be composed of episcopal members as determined by the Council of Bishops,
1403 and it shall be chaired by the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops.

1404 2. In addition the following twenty-one (21) persons shall be members of the OCUIR:

1405 a) Members from each jurisdiction, based on the following formula: North Central—2,
1406 Northeastern—2, South Central—3, Southeastern—5, and Western—1. Each jurisdictional
1407 conference will nominate three times the number candidates as it has members allocated, and the
1408 Council of Bishops will elect these members from this pool of candidates.

1409 b) Seven (7) members who are not bishops from the central conferences. Europe and the
1410 Philippines shall together be allocated one (1) member which shall alternate between the two areas
1411 from quadrennium to quadrennium with the remainder of six (6) members to be allocated among
1412 the three (3) African central conferences on a rotating basis as determined by the Council of
1413 Bishops.

1414 c) One (1) member from one of the other churches in Churches Uniting in Christ.

1415 d) At least 50% of the members of OCUIR who are not bishops shall be lay, and other
1416 recommendations for inclusivity as provided in ¶705.3.d) shall apply to the selection of members.

1417 ¶444. *Staff*—1. There shall be an Ecumenical Staff Officer of The United Methodist Church to be
1418 selected by the Council of Bishops. The work of the OCUIR shall be facilitated by the Ecumenical
1419 Staff Officer who shall be in charge of the day to day work of the OCUIR. The Ecumenical Staff
1420 Officer shall be the OCUIR’s principal administrative and executive officer.

1421 2. Additional staff shall be selected in number and responsibility as determined by the Council of
1422 Bishops.

1423 3. The Ecumenical Staff Officer shall report to the Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops.
1424 All other staff members shall report to and serve at the pleasure of the Ecumenical Staff Officer.

1425 4. The staff of the OCUIR shall be positioned in locations to be determined by the Council of
1426 Bishops.

1427 ¶445. *Funding*—Funding for the ecumenical and interreligious ministry of the Church shall be
1428 provided by the Council of Bishops in one or more line items of the Episcopal Fund to be clearly
1429 identified in its budget request to General Conference.

1430 ¶446. *Responsibilities and powers*—Responsibilities and powers of the OCUIR shall be as
1431 assigned by the Council of Bishops.

1432 ¶447. To fulfill the vision of full communion between The United Methodist Church and the
1433 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, there shall be a Joint Commission on ELCA/UMC Full
1434 Communion. The commission shall serve the following functions:

1435 a) Coordinate the implementation of action taken by the two churches to achieve full communion.

1436 b) Assist joint planning for mission.

1437 c) Facilitate consultation and common decision making through appropriate channels in
1438 fundamental matters that the churches may face together in the future.

1439 d) Report regularly and appropriately to each church.

1440 The United Methodist membership of this commission shall be the Ecumenical Officer of the
1441 Council of Bishops and one lay and one clergy member of OCUIR elected by OCUIR.

1442

1443

1444

1445 For purposes of locating the Committee on Faith and Order in the life of the Church, the following
1446 action shall be taken:

1447

1448 ¶ 436. There shall be a Committee on Faith and Order that, while functioning with the authority of
1449 an independent committee (¶ 701.2), shall be amenable to the Council of Bishops.

1450

1451 ¶ 437. *Purpose*—The Committee on Faith and Order shall give leadership to The United Methodist
1452 Church in reflecting upon, discerning and living out matters of faith, doctrinal teaching, order, and
1453 discipline in the midst of mission and ministry in the church and the world. The committee shall be
1454 a visible expression of the commitment of The United Methodist Church to carry on informed

1455 theological reflection for the current time in dynamic continuity with the historic Christian faith, our
1456 common heritage as Christians grounded in the apostolic witness, and our distinctive Wesleyan
1457 heritage. The committee shall be charged with three broad responsibilities:

1458 1. To lead and coordinate studies commissioned by the General Conference in matters related to the
1459 faith, doctrine, order and discipline of the church.

1460 2. Upon request of the Council of Bishops, to support and provide resources in its responsibility to
1461 “guard, transmit, teach, and proclaim, corporately and individually the apostolic faith as it is
1462 expressed in Scripture and tradition, and as they are led and endowed by the Spirit, to interpret that
1463 faith evangelically and prophetically.” (§414.3)

1464 3. To prepare and provide resources and study materials to the General Church as deemed
1465 appropriate.

1466

1467 ¶ 438. Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the Committee on Faith and Order shall be:

1468 1. To provide a venue and context for ongoing conversation on matters of faith, doctrine, order and
1469 discipline.

1470 2. To draw upon scholars and scholarship in biblical studies, biblical theology, systematic theology,
1471 historical theology, Christian ethics, Wesleyan studies, practical theology, missiology, and other
1472 areas thereby providing expertise and knowledge to lead and assist the church in addressing matters
1473 of faith and order critical to the life, ministry and mission of the church.

1474 3. To receive and administer mandates from General Conference for studies on matters that require
1475 significant inquiry into and application of the faith and order of the church.

1476 a) The committee shall nominate from its own membership and from others those who are to serve
1477 on various study committees and teams.

1478 b) The committee may, with approval of the Council of Bishops, carry out any mandated study
1479 internally or may create such committees and teams using members from within the committee and
1480 others from beyond the committee as may be required by the volume and complexity of work.

1481 c) The committee itself and all committees and teams empowered by the committee shall include
1482 racial/ethnic and gender diversity and regional representation, and it shall model effective
1483 representation of the theological diversity of The United Methodist Church.

1484 4. To coordinate and provide for effective interaction and communication among various study
1485 committees, commissions and teams when multiple studies have been mandated.

1486 5. Upon request to provide research and resourcing for the Council in Bishops in matters related to
1487 faith, doctrine, order and discipline.

- 1488 6. To make provision for the preparation and dissemination of study documents and materials for
1489 the church upon request of the General Conference, or the Council of Bishops.
- 1490 7. To bring all studies, materials or publications as appropriate to the Council of Bishops or the
1491 General Conference as directed by the Council of Bishops for approval and action.
1492
- 1493 ¶ 439. Authorities and Powers—The Committee on Faith and Order shall have the authority and
1494 power to fulfill all the responsibilities noted in ¶¶ 437 and 438. The Committee on Faith and Order
1495 shall be amenable to the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church.
- 1496 ¶ 440. Membership—The Committee on Faith and Order shall be organized each quadrennium and
1497 shall be composed of twenty-four persons chosen as follows:
- 1498 1. Six bishops shall serve as members including the ecumenical officer of the Council of Bishops
1499 of The United Methodist Church and five other bishops assigned by the Council of Bishops. At
1500 least one of the bishops shall be from a central conference.
- 1501 2. Six members shall be nominated by the Association of United Methodist Theological Schools
1502 chosen from the faculties of seminaries affiliated with The United Methodist Church. The
1503 Association of United Methodist Theological Schools shall rotate nominations from among the
1504 seminaries on a basis established by itself.
- 1505 3. Twelve members who are not bishops shall be chosen by the Council of Bishops upon
1506 nomination by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Three of the members
1507 nominated by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shall be nominated from the
1508 faculties of seminaries affiliated with The United Methodist Church in the Central Conferences.
1509 The budget for the Committee on Faith and Order shall be proposed by the Council of Bishops,
1510 and it shall be part of the Episcopal Fund.
- 1511 4. All twenty-four members of the committee shall be elected by the Council of Bishops at its fall
1512 meeting following the General Conference each quadrennium. Election shall be for a term of eight
1513 (8) years, and no person shall serve as a member of the Committee on Faith and Order for more
1514 than sixteen (16) years in succession. The classes of membership established upon the initial
1515 organizational meeting of the Committee shall be maintained so that the terms of service of 50% of
1516 the membership expire when their successors are seated at the organizational meeting of the
1517 Committee following each General Conference.
- 1518 5. At least three (3) of the members of the committee shall be clergy actively serving full-time in the
1519 local church and at least three (3) shall be laity. It is recommended that one third of the
1520 membership be persons of minority racial/ethnic identity.

1521 6. In its capacity of providing spiritual and doctrinal leadership, the Council of Bishops shall
1522 exercise oversight in the nomination and election of members with regard to Central Conference
1523 inclusion, geographic diversity, and age representation; it shall also ensure that the committee
1524 complies with the inclusivity guidelines of ¶438.3.c).

1525 7. Membership on the board of directors of any other general agency does not make one ineligible
1526 to serve as a member of this committee, ¶¶ 710.5 and 714.6 to the contrary notwithstanding, and the
1527 limitations specified in ¶710.4 for membership on general agencies shall not apply to anyone as a
1528 result of membership on this committee.

1529

1530 ¶ 441. Organization—The Committee on Faith and Order shall be organized as follows:

1531 1. The committee shall elect from its episcopal membership a chairperson and from its total
1532 membership other officers as it may determine.

1533 2. There shall be an executive committee of the committee with powers as determined by the
1534 committee.

1535 3. The committee shall meet for organizational purposes each quadrennium prior to the end of the
1536 first quarter of the year following the year in which the General Conference is held.

1537 4. The committee shall meet at least annually and at such other times as it shall deem necessary. A
1538 majority of members of the committee shall constitute a quorum. The committee may conduct
1539 meetings by telephone conference or video conference, or make decisions by mail ballot or other
1540 method, provided that notification of all members is ensured and the provision of quorum is met.

1541

1542 ¶442 Staffing—Staff for the work of the Committee on Faith and Order shall be provided as
1543 determined by the Council of Bishops in consultation with the Executive Committee of the
1544 Committee on Faith and Order. The Council of Bishops shall have authority to request staff
1545 assistance and consultation from agencies and other bodies of the Church, such as, but not limited
1546 to, the Office for Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships and the General Board of Higher
1547 Education and Ministry.

1548

1549 ¶443 . The Committee on Faith and Order shall not be considered to be a general agency of The
1550 United Methodist Church.

1551

1552

1553

1554 For the purpose of merging the General Commission on Religion and Race and the General
1555 Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and moving those monitoring functions into
1556 becoming a committee of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight, the following action is
1557 taken:

1558

1559 Delete ¶¶2001-2008 and 2101-2109 in their entirety.

1560

1561 Amend ¶643 as follows:

1562

1563 ¶643.2... Members of the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness residing in the annual
1564 conference shall be ex officio members of the annual conference commission on religion and race
1565 with vote.

1566 ¶643.3.p) Maintaining a close relationship with the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness.,
1567 seeking its guidance, utilizing its training and resources, and interpreting to the annual conference
1568 the programs, plans, and policies of the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness.

1569

1570 Amend ¶644 as follows:

1571

1572 ¶644.2...In an annual conference where there is not a sufficient number of clergywomen to meet
1573 the recommended balance, additional laywomen shall be elected beyond the one-third proportion to
1574 bring the total membership to a majority of women. A person or persons serving as member(s) of
1575 the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness from that annual conference shall, by virtue of
1576 their office, be member(s) of the conference commission on the status and role of women (see ¶¶
1577 609.6 and 710.5).

1578

1579 Amend ¶807 as follows:

1580

1581 ¶807.13.b) The Committee on Personnel Policies and Practices (¶ 805.4d) shall: (1) prepare
1582 quadrennially, review annually, and recommend to the council an appropriate salary schedule, based
1583 upon responsibilities, for personnel of the councils, boards, and commissions represented on the
1584 committee; (2) develop and recommend to the council a schedule of benefits for an employee
1585 benefit program for personnel of agencies represented on the committee and any changes required
1586 thereto from time to time; (3) receive from agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds
1587 (see ¶ 810.2) statements regarding their compliance with the policy stated in ¶ 811.1; and (4) receive

1588 from all general agencies information necessary to evaluate pay equity. Based on these statements,
1589 and in consultation with and upon the advice of the United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness,
1590 the committee shall prepare for the General Council on Finance and Administration reports and
1591 recommendations deemed appropriate by the committee.

1592

1593 Amend ¶811 as follows:

1594

1595 ¶ 811. General Policies—1. The General Council on Finance and Administration is authorized to
1596 withhold approval of a portion or all of the budget of any agency or any Church-related institution
1597 receiving general Church funds (see ¶ 810.2) until such agency or Church-related institution
1598 certifies to the council in writing that it has established and complied with a policy of: (a) recruiting,
1599 employing, utilizing, recompensing, and promoting professional staff and other personnel without
1600 regard to race, color, age, or sex; (b) fulfilling its duties and responsibilities in a manner that does
1601 not involve segregation or discrimination on the basis of race, age, or sex; and (c) insofar as
1602 possible, purchasing goods and services from vendors who are in compliance with such policies as
1603 are described in sections (a) and (b) of this paragraph. In the fulfillment of this directive, the council
1604 shall take the following steps to ensure that inclusiveness concerns of the United Methodist
1605 Committee on Inclusiveness are represented: (1) consult with the committee in the development of a
1606 certification form to be submitted to the council by agencies and institutions receiving general
1607 Church funds; (2) share copies of such certifications with the committee; (3) receive and consider
1608 recommendations from the committee regarding possible noncompliance with these policies by
1609 agencies and institutions receiving general Church funds; and (4) when recommendations for
1610 withholding funds are received from the committee, consult further with it in order to jointly
1611 determine final resolution.

1612

1613 Amend ¶1004 as follows:

1614

1615 ¶1004. The board shall maintain close relationships with the United Methodist Committee on
1616 Inclusiveness, the Appalachian Development Committee as it seeks to coordinate denominational
1617 support and cooperation with various movements for racial, sexual, and social justice, according to
1618 guidelines stated in the Book of Discipline. In cooperation with ecumenical agencies and other
1619 appropriate boards and agencies, the board shall encourage and promote ministries and models of
1620 mediation and conflict resolution, both ecumenically and within the agencies and institutions of The
1621 United Methodist Church.

1622

1623 Add a new ¶908 as follows:

1624

1625 ¶908. In order to fulfill the monitoring roles previously performed by the General Commission on
1626 Religion and Race and the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, there shall be a
1627 United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness, reporting to the General Council for Strategy and
1628 Oversight. The GCSO shall establish effective structures and processes with sufficient
1629 independence to ensure accurate monitoring across the church. In performing such monitoring
1630 functions, these structures shall have a direct reporting relationship to the General Council for
1631 Strategy and Oversight and General Conference. The monitoring structures and processes shall be
1632 designed to monitor the entire church, with specific attention given to the General Conference, the
1633 Council of Bishops, all general church agencies (including the General Council for Strategy and
1634 Oversight), annual conferences, and other connectional structures.

1635

1636 ¶909.1. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to challenge and equip the general agencies,
1637 institutions, and connectional structures of The United Methodist Church to a full and equal
1638 participation of its racial and ethnic constituency in the total life and mission of the Church through
1639 teaching, advocacy and by reviewing and monitoring the practices of the entire church so as to
1640 further ensure racial inclusiveness as we make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of
1641 the world.

1642 2. Further it shall be the responsibility of the Committee to challenge The United Methodist
1643 Church, including its general agencies, institutions, and connectional structures, to a continuing
1644 commitment to the full and equal responsibility and participation of women in the total life and
1645 mission of the Church, sharing fully in the power and in the policy-making at all levels of the
1646 Church's life.

1647 Such commitment will confirm anew recognition of the fact that The United Methodist Church is
1648 part of the universal church, rooted in the liberating message of Jesus Christ, that recognizes every
1649 person, woman or man, as a full and equal part of God's human family.

1650 The Committee shall function as an advocate with and on behalf of women individually and
1651 collectively within The United Methodist Church; as a catalyst for the initiation of creative methods
1652 to redress inequities of the past and to prevent further inequities against women within The United
1653 Methodist Church; and as a monitor to ensure inclusiveness in the programmatic and administrative
1654 functioning of The United Methodist Church.

1655 3. In so far as practical changes required by the discontinuation of the General Commission on
1656 Religion and Race (GCORR) and of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women
1657 (GCOSROW) and the accompanying relocation of the monitoring function of those agencies to the
1658 Committee on Inclusiveness in this section shall be accomplished no later than June 30, 2013 under
1659 the guidance of the General Council for Strategy and Oversight and the General Council on
1660 Finance and Administration. Funds budgeted in the 2013 to 2016 quadrennium to carry out the
1661 operations and programs of GCORR and GCOSROW shall follow the functions.

1662

1663 ¶910. The United Methodist Committee on Inclusiveness shall have staff as determined by the
1664 General Council for Strategy and Oversight and shall be located in offices as directed by the
1665 General Council for Strategy and Oversight.

1666

1667

1668

1669 For the purpose of establishing United Methodist Men as an independent agency of the Church
1670 which is not a general commission, the following action is taken:

1671

1672 Amend ¶256.6 as follows:

1673

1674 ¶256.6. United Methodist Men—Each church or charge shall have an organized unit of United
1675 Methodist Men chartered and annually renewed through United Methodist Men. Other organized
1676 men's ministry groups in a local United Methodist Church shall annually report to the charge
1677 conference and be resourced through United Methodist Men.

1678

...

1679 a) Local church resource material for supporting effective men's ministries shall be provided by the
1680 district, conference, and jurisdictional organizations of United Methodist Men and United
1681 Methodist Men (¶ 2302).

1682

1683 Amend ¶537 as follows:

1684

1685 ¶537. Committee on United Methodist Men—In each jurisdiction there shall be a Jurisdictional
1686 Committee on United Methodist Men, auxiliary to United Methodist Men (¶ 2301).

1687 The membership of the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall be composed of
1688 the elected officers, committee chairpersons, and ministry coordinators as defined by the

1689 organizations' bylaws as well as the conference president of United Methodist Men of each annual
1690 conference organization within the boundary of the jurisdiction.

1691 Each Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall have authority to promote its work
1692 in accordance with the policies and programs of United Methodist Men.

1693 The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall elect the jurisdictional president
1694 during the last year of the quadrennium. The jurisdictional president shall serve on United
1695 Methodist Men (§2303.1.b).

1696

1697 Amend §648 as follows:

1698

1699 § 648. United Methodist Men—Constitution of United Methodist Men in the Conference—Article

1700 1. Name—In each annual conference there shall be a conference organization named United
1701 Methodist Men, auxiliary to the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men and to United
1702 Methodist Men (§2301).

1703 Article 2. Function—The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Men shall be
1704 to build and support the district organizations of United Methodist Men in developing resources to
1705 meet the needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal
1706 witness and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to
1707 encourage and support spiritual growth and faith development; and to promote the objectives and
1708 responsibilities of United Methodist Men. In the absence of a district organization, the conference
1709 organization, in consultation with the district superintendent, shall fulfill the district responsibilities
1710 (§ 671).

1711 Article 3. Authority—Each conference organization of United Methodist Men shall have the
1712 authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of United
1713 Methodist Men.

1714 ...

1715 Article 5....

1716 d) Additional officers (including civic youth-serving agencies/scouting coordinator) and committees
1717 shall be elected or appointed in accordance with the guidelines of United Methodist Men and/or the
1718 bylaws of the conference organization of United Methodist Men.

1719 Article 6. Meetings and Elections—a) There shall be an annual meeting of the conference
1720 organization of United Methodist Men, at which time there shall be presented an annual report and
1721 a program plan designed to meet the needs of the men of the conference. Officers and committees
1722 shall be elected in accordance with the requirements of the organization's bylaws.

1723 b) The voting body of the annual meeting of the conference shall be determined by the
1724 organization's bylaws but shall include conference and district officers and committee chairpersons
1725 as determined, members of United Methodist Men, and members of the jurisdictional committee on
1726 United Methodist Men residing within the bounds of the conference.

1727 ...

1728 Article 9. Amendments—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording
1729 secretary of United Methodist Men prior to the last annual meeting of the commission in the third
1730 year of the quadrennium.

1731 Article 10. Connectional Reporting and Accountability—a) Each annual conference United
1732 Methodist Men shall have on file a current copy of their constitution and bylaws with United
1733 Methodist Men.

1734 b) Each annual conference shall submit an annual report to United Methodist Men. This report will
1735 be presented by the conference president at the spring meeting of the National Association of
1736 Conference Presidents and shall include but not be restricted to:

1737 1. Annual goals and progress towards those goals in the last 12 months.

1738 2. A review of the work in evangelism, mission and spiritual growth within the annual conference
1739 or beyond.

1740 3. A listing of training events conducted at a conference, district and local church level to expand
1741 men's ministry in the all levels of the church.

1742 4. An assessment of United Methodist Men to include the annual conference UMM's appraisal of
1743 the commission's goals and the commission's progress toward those goals in the last 12 months.

1744 5. A report of the significant challenges to men's ministry and the significant successes of men's
1745 ministry to be shared with other conference organizations of UMM.

1746 These reports will become part of the internal review process of United Methodist Men and each
1747 conference report shall be shared with the annual conference leadership by the Conference
1748 President.

1749

1750 Amend ¶670 as follows:

1751

1752 ¶ 670. United Methodist Men—Constitution of United Methodist Men in the District—Article 1.

1753 Name—In each district there shall be a district organization named United Methodist Men,

1754 auxiliary to the conference organization of United Methodist Men and United Methodist Men (¶
1755 2301).

1756 Article 2. Responsibilities—The responsibilities of the district organization of United Methodist
1757 Men shall be to work with local units of United Methodist Men in developing resources to meet the
1758 needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal witness
1759 and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to encourage and
1760 support spiritual growth and faith development; and to promote the objectives and responsibilities
1761 of the conference organization and United Methodist Men. The district organization shall also
1762 encourage and promote the chartering and annual recertification of local units through United
1763 Methodist Men (§§ 2302 and 256.6).

1764 Article 3. Authority—Each district organization of United Methodist Men shall have the authority
1765 to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference
1766 organization and United Methodist Men.

1767 Article 4. Membership—All men and clergy of local churches or charges (chartered and
1768 unchartered) of the district shall be considered members of the district organization.

1769 Article 5. Officers and Committees—a) The district organization shall elect a president, at least one
1770 vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

1771 b) additional officers (including civic youth-serving agencies/scouting coordinator) and committees
1772 shall be elected or appointed in accordance with the guidelines of United Methodist Men and/or the
1773 bylaws of the district organization of United Methodist Men.

1774 ...

1775 Article 9. Amendments—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording
1776 secretary of United Methodist Men prior to the last annual meeting of the commission in the third
1777 year of the quadrennium.

1778

1779 Amend §705 as follows:

1780

1781 §705.3.e) The membership of United Methodist Men shall be elected in accordance with § 537 and
1782 § 2303.3. Other paragraphs of the Discipline notwithstanding, members of United Methodist Men
1783 holding membership by virtue of office may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.

1784

1785 Amend §1207 as follows:

1786

1787 §1207.2. h) United Methodist Men

1788

1789 Amend §§2301-2303 as follows:

1790

1791 ¶ 2301. There shall be United Methodist Men in The United Methodist Church, and it shall be a
1792 general agency of the Church.

1793 United Methodist Men shall be amenable to the General Conference of The United Methodist
1794 Church.

1795 ¶ 2302. Purpose—United Methodist Men shall have primary oversight for the coordination and
1796 resourcing of men’s ministry within The United Methodist Church.

1797

1798 ...3.c) promote the annual certification of local church men’s ministry and the chartering/annual
1799 renewal of local church men’s units (¶ 256.6) with United Methodist Men.

1800

1801 ...5. United Methodist Men will provide resources and support for the office of Civic Youth-
1802 Serving Agencies/Scouting Ministries:

1803

1804 ¶ 2303. Membership— 1. United Methodist Men shall consist of ~~twenty-five (25)~~ twenty-three (23)
1805 voting members as defined in ¶ 705.3 in the General Provisions and ¶ 537. Other paragraphs of the
1806 Discipline notwithstanding, members of United Methodist Men holding membership by office or
1807 organization, may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms. The membership shall be composed
1808 of:

1809 a) three bishops, including one from the central conferences, named by the Council of Bishops;

1810 b) the five (5) jurisdictional presidents of United Methodist Men;

1811 c) two central conference members, who are not bishops, named by the Council of Bishops;

1812 d) six members at large elected by United Methodist Men for inclusiveness, expertise, and balance,
1813 which should include at least one young person under the age of 30, the national president of
1814 United Methodist Men, the president of the United Methodist Men Foundation, and at least two
1815 members of the national organization from the previous quadrennium;

1816 e) Each Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men (¶537) shall elect, from among the
1817 United Methodist men of the jurisdiction, members, including the jurisdictional presidents as
1818 specified in subparagraph b) above, according to the following formula:

1819 North Central—2; Northeastern—2; South Central—3; Southeastern—4; Western—1.

1820 2. Vacancies—Vacancies in membership shall be filled by United Methodist Men in a manner that
1821 preserves the representational requirements of the membership provisions herein specified, by a
1822 process to be defined by United Methodist Men, other provisions of the *Book of Discipline*
1823 notwithstanding.

1824 3. Officers—United Methodist Men shall elect as its officers a president, vice president, secretary,
1825 treasurer, and other such officers as it shall deem necessary. In addition, the president of the
1826 National Association of Conference Presidents of United Methodist Men shall also be considered
1827 an officer.

1828 4. Staff—United Methodist Men shall elect annually by ballot its general secretary, who shall
1829 provide executive, administrative, and programmatic leadership (§ 713). United Methodist Men shall
1830 elect such other staff members as needs require within the General Conference mandates and the
1831 authority vested in United Methodist Men to develop policies and programs directed toward the
1832 realization of its purpose.

1833 5. Meetings—United Methodist Men shall meet annually, with such additional meetings as needs
1834 demand.

1835 6. Funding—The General Council on Finance and Administration shall make provision for the
1836 necessary support of the work of United Methodist Men by providing World Service Funds to
1837 complement the direct revenue and contributions from United Methodist men ~~Men~~. This shall
1838 include meeting and related expenses for ~~the~~ central conference representatives.

1839 7. Advisory Panel—United Methodist Men may create an advisory panel consisting of
1840 representatives of affiliated organizations.

1841

1842

1843

1844 For purposes of promoting cooperation in the promotion and awarding of higher education
1845 scholarship programs among the agencies of the Church, the following action is taken:

1846

1847 Modify existing (§§823.4.b), 1111.3, 1313.3.i), 1408.2, 1419, 1421.2.h) as follows:

1848

1849 §823.4.b) The treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration shall allocate net
1850 receipts, after payment of promotional expenses, to be divided as follows: 50 percent World
1851 Communion Scholarships; 35 percent Ethnic Scholarship Program, and 15 percent Ethnic In-
1852 Service Training Program.

1853

1854 §1111.3. The board shall have authority to cooperate with other agencies of the Church, with
1855 defined organizations, and with ecumenical agencies to promote the ministry of Christian education.
1856 The agency shall collaborate with other United Methodist scholarship giving agencies and
1857 foundations to develop and maintain a common web portal which will include links to each agency

1858 and foundation scholarship programs, with information about general criteria and guidelines for
1859 applications..

1860

1861 ¶1313.3.i) To resource leadership training programs and administer scholarships, including the
1862 World Communion Scholarship Program. The agency collaborates with other United Methodist
1863 scholarship giving agencies and foundations to develop and maintain a common web portal which
1864 will include links to each agency and foundation scholarship programs, with information about
1865 general criteria and guidelines for applications

1866

1867 ¶1408.2. Offices—The board, in implementing the objectives (¶¶ 1403, 1405), shall have authority
1868 to establish and maintain the following offices: (a) Interpretation; and (b) Loans and Scholarships.
1869 The agency collaborates with other United Methodist scholarship giving agencies and foundations
1870 to develop and maintain a common web portal which will include links to each agency and
1871 foundation scholarship programs, with information about general criteria and guidelines for
1872 applications.

1873

1874 ¶ 1419. The United Methodist Higher Education Foundation is incorporated in the State of
1875 Tennessee as a nonprofit, charitable organization with permanent ties to the Division of Higher
1876 Education, which elects its board of trustees. The general purpose of the foundation is to foster the
1877 growth and development of institutions of higher education by encouraging persons and
1878 corporations to provide financial support and by acting as a foundation for such support. The
1879 foundation is also authorized to serve as a trustee and administrator of gifts and bequests
1880 designated by donors to specific institutions. The foundation collaborates with other United
1881 Methodist scholarship giving agencies and foundations to develop and maintain a common web
1882 portal which will include links to each agency and foundation scholarship programs, with
1883 information about general criteria and guidelines for applications.

1884

1885 ¶1421.2.h) Cooperate with the Office of Loans and Scholarships, the Higher Education Foundation,
1886 the World Communion Scholarship Program, and other funding agencies in regard to scholarship
1887 assistance for racial and ethnic students preparing for ordained ministry.

1888

1889

1890

1891 Amend ¶701 as follows:

1892

1893 ¶701.2. We experience this connection in many ways, including our systems of episcopacy,
1894 itineracy, property, and mutual cooperation and support. Our connectional system performs at least
1895 three essential tasks: embracing God’s mission for the church as making disciples for Jesus Christ;
1896 organizing our whole Church to enable local congregations, the primary arena for mission,
1897 faithfully and fruitfully to make disciples for Jesus Christ; and ensuring that all components in the
1898 connection carry out their appropriate responsibilities in ways that enable the whole United
1899 Methodist Church to be faithful in its mission. The term agency, wherever it appears in the Book of
1900 Discipline, is a term used to describe the various councils, boards, commissions, committees,
1901 divisions, tables, or other units constituted within the various levels of Church organization (general,
1902 jurisdictional, central, annual, district, and charge conferences) under authority granted by the Book
1903 of Discipline;...

1904

1905 ¶701.3. General agencies, in particular, are important to our common vision, mission, and ministry.
1906 They provide essential services and ministries beyond the scope of individual local congregations
1907 and annual conferences through services and ministries that are highly focused, flexible, and
1908 capable of rapid response. The general agencies of The United Methodist Church are the regularly
1909 established councils, boards, commissions, committees, tables, or other units with ongoing
1910 responsibilities that have been constituted by the General Conference and which report directly to
1911 General Conference. Not included are such commissions and committees as are created by the
1912 General Conference to fulfill a special function within the ensuing quadrennium, ecumenical groups
1913 on which The United Methodist Church is represented, or committees related to the quadrennial
1914 sessions of the General Conference....

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1918 To move the provision for liaison representatives to a more appropriate place in the *Discipline*
1919 without changing any of the language, which language is lifted directly from the concordat between
1920 the UMC and the MCPR, take the following action:

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1922 Add a new subparagraph ¶705.3.f) as follows:

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- 1924 f) Liaison Representatives—The Methodist Church of Puerto Rico (Iglesia Metodista Autónoma
1925 Afiliada de Puerto Rico) will have one liaison representative, at its own expense, to each of the
1926 general program agencies of The United Methodist Church.
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1930 This legislation or any portion of it approved by General Conference shall take effect at the close of
1931 General Conference 2012.
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APPENDIX

STUDY AND REPORT ON VITAL CONGREGATIONS FOR MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

WHEREAS The United Methodist Church in Africa continues to make disciples at a rate that is an inspiration to United Methodists all over the world, and

WHEREAS the expertise in the response to the call to create vital congregations as the primary place in the Church where disciples are made abides in the United Methodist Church in Africa as well as in vital congregations, wherever they are located, and

WHEREAS there are vital congregations in Europe, North America, and Southeast Asia, and

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the general agencies of the Church to resource local churches and annual conferences in fulfilling their mission to make disciples, and

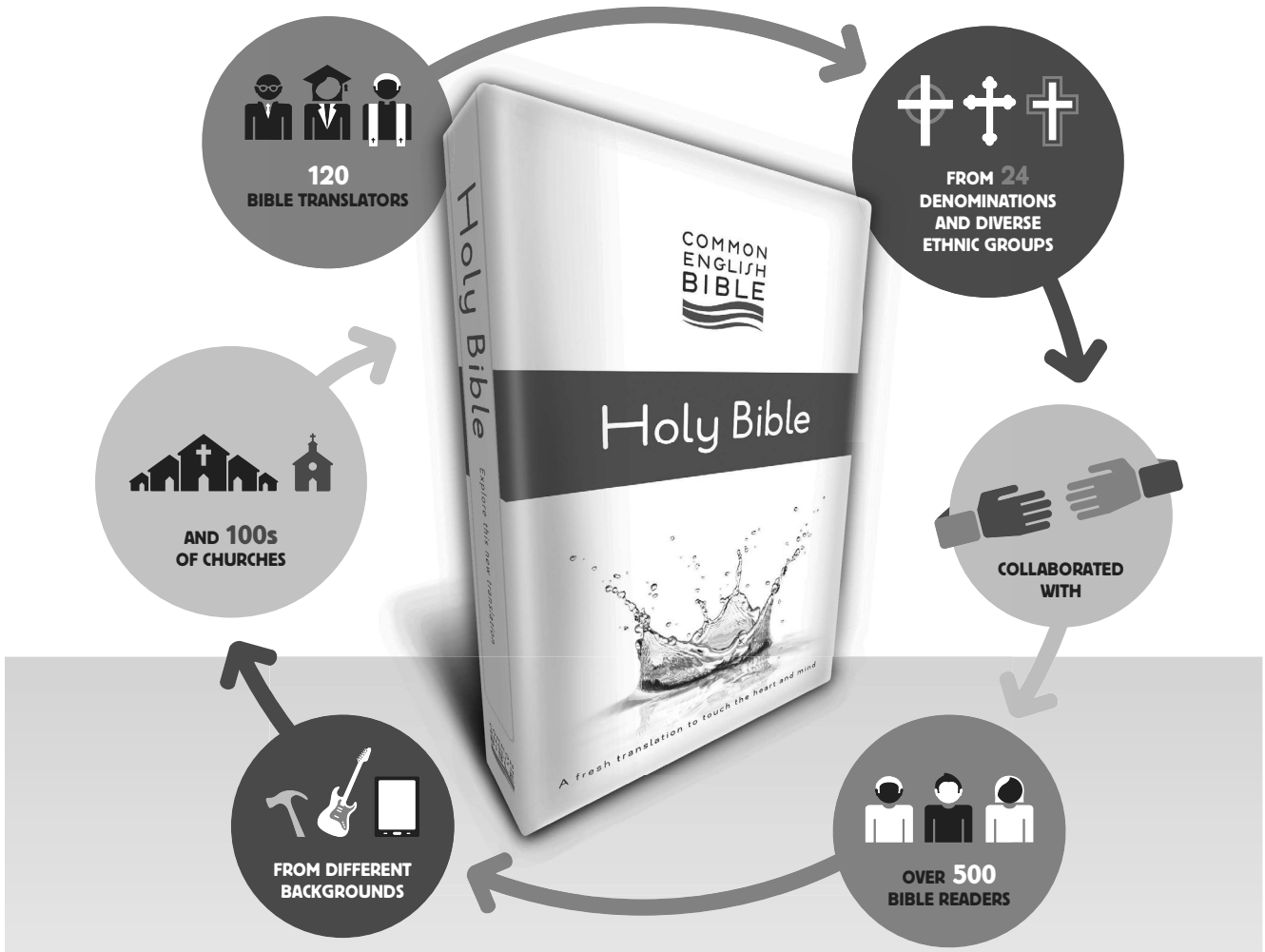
WHEREAS the Church needs to understand more clearly the link between the mandates that General Conference gives to each general agency and the mission of the Church to make disciples for the transformation of the world,

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the 2012 General Conference directs the General Council for Strategy and Oversight to undertake a study of what makes for vital congregations, to identify which congregations are vital as measured by those standards, and how vital congregations, wherever they are located, go about making disciples and how such expertise might be shared with United Methodist churches in the whole world, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the study include the relationship between the General Conference agency mandates and the Church's mission, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the General Council for Strategy and Oversight is directed to provide funding from its administrative budget in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 to underwrite this study and to report its findings to General Conference 2016.

BUILT ON COMMON GROUND



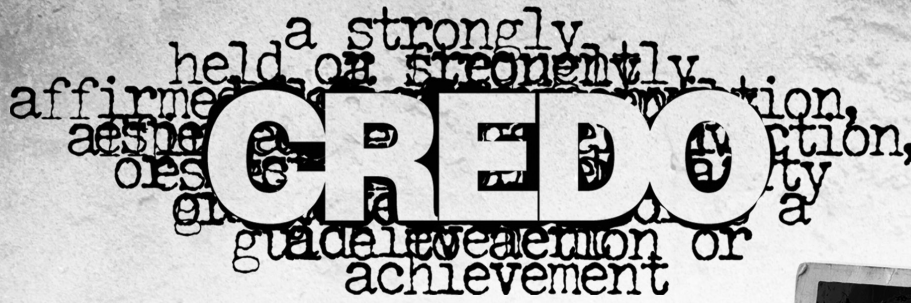
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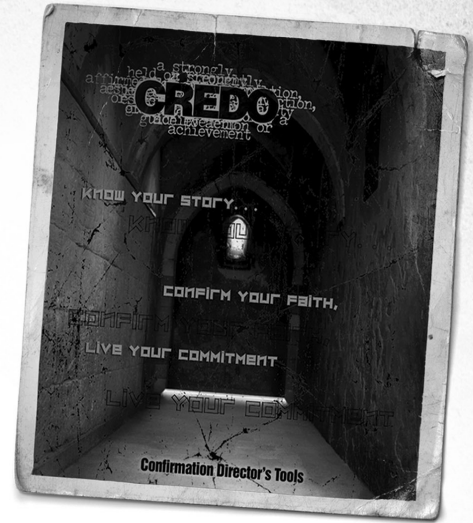
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