

New Part VII
ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Chapter Four
THE CONFERENCES

<p style="text-align: center;">¶ new Part VII, chap. 4 Finalized draft; renumbered</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">¶ new Part VII, chap. 4 With tracking changes to BOD 2016: additions <u>underlined</u> and deletions struck through. With references to BOD 2016 Part VI, e.g. [2703]</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Comments</p>
<p>¶508.001. Purpose—1. The purpose of the jurisdictional conference is to connect regionally Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions, in the United States for common mission and ministry, and to establish episcopal supervision as an expression of the General Superintendency.</p> <p>2. General Conference may organize annual conferences, provisional annual conferences, Missionary Conferences, and missions into jurisdictional conferences, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. Thus, The United Methodist Church shall have jurisdictional conferences with territorial boundaries as listed in the Constitution (¶ 37).</p> <p>3. All jurisdictional conferences shall have the same status and the same privileges of action within the limits fixed by the Constitution.</p> <p>GBOD¶508.001 = 513</p>	<p>¶508.001. Purpose—1. <u>The purpose of the jurisdictional conference is to connect regionally Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions, in the United States for common mission and ministry, and to establish episcopal supervision as an expression of the General Superintendency.</u></p> <p><u>2. General Conference may organize annual conferences, provisional annual conferences, Missionary Conferences, and missions into jurisdictional conferences, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. Thus, The United Methodist Church shall have jurisdictional conferences with territorial boundaries as listed in the Constitution (¶ 37).</u></p> <p>[513] 3. Equal Status—All jurisdictional conferences shall have the same status and the same privileges of action within the limits fixed by the Constitution.</p>	<p>Clarifies the purpose of jurisdictional conferences and aligns this with the Constitution.</p>

¶508.002. Powers and Duties- 1. Jurisdictional conferences shall have such powers and duties as described in the Constitution. They shall also have such other powers and duties as hereinafter conferred by the General Conference. They shall act in all respects in harmony with the policy of The United Methodist Church with respect to elimination of discrimination based upon race.

2. *Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy-a)* There shall be an Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy elected by the General Conference consisting of the persons nominated by their annual conference delegations to serve on the several jurisdictional committees on episcopacy.¹ The committee shall meet not later than the fifth day of the conference session and at the time and place set for their convening by the president of the Council of Bishops and shall elect from their number a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary. The function of this joint committee shall be to discuss the possibility of transfers of bishops across jurisdictional lines at the forthcoming jurisdictional conferences for residential and presidential responsibilities in the ensuing quadrennium; and to review on the basis of missional needs an application from a jurisdiction which, by number of its church members as provided in ¶ 407, would experience a reduction in the number of its bishops, and recommend the number of bishops to which that jurisdiction should be entitled to the General Conference for determination by the General Conference. This provision regarding missional needs is enabling, and it is not constraining on the power of General Conference to act in the absence of a recommendation from the committee.

It shall elect an executive committee consisting of the officers named above and two clergy and two laypersons from the nominees to each jurisdictional committee, elected by that committee to conduct consultations with bishops and others interested in possible episcopal transfers. One of the persons elected from each jurisdiction shall be the chairperson, or the

[525] ~~¶508.002. Powers and Duties-of Jurisdictional Conference-The j1.~~ Jurisdictional conferences shall have such powers and duties as described in the Constitution. ~~They #~~ shall also have such other powers and duties as hereinafter ~~may be~~ conferred by the General Conference. ~~They #~~ shall act in all respects in harmony with the policy of The United Methodist Church with respect to elimination of discrimination based upon race.

~~Section II. The Jurisdictional Conference~~

[512] 2. *Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy-a)* There shall be an Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy elected by the General Conference consisting of the persons nominated by their annual conference delegations to serve on the several jurisdictional committees on episcopacy.¹ The committee shall meet not later than the fifth day of the conference session and at the time and place set for their convening by the president of the Council of Bishops and shall elect from their number a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary. The function of this joint committee shall be to discuss the possibility of transfers of bishops across jurisdictional lines at the forthcoming jurisdictional conferences for residential and presidential responsibilities in the ensuing quadrennium; and to review on the basis of missional needs an application from a jurisdiction which, by number of its church members as provided in BOD¶ ~~407~~404, would experience a reduction in the number of its bishops, and recommend the number of bishops to which that jurisdiction should be entitled to the General Conference for determination by the General Conference. This provision regarding missional needs is enabling, and it is not constraining on the power of General Conference to act in the absence of a recommendation from the committee.

It shall elect an executive committee consisting of the officers named above and two clergy and two laypersons from the nominees to each jurisdictional committee, elected by that committee to conduct consultations with bishops and others

chairperson's designee, of the jurisdictional committee. The executive committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson, and it shall have plenary power for the full committee between full committee sessions. It shall be responsible to the interjurisdictional committee, and in fulfillment of that responsibility and in the interest of continuity of the work of the committee, the outgoing chairperson, or the chairperson's designee, shall present a report to the newly seated committee on the previous quadrennium's work as well as recommendations on what the coming quadrennium's work might include.

A record of the proceedings of the committee shall be kept by the Office of Episcopal Services of the General Council on Finance and Administration. (Changes in 1. shall take effect at the close of General Conference 2012.)

b) A bishop may be transferred across jurisdictional lines only when that bishop has consented to such transfer and has served at least one quadrennium in or under assignment by the jurisdiction in which the bishop was elected. Such a transfer shall be concluded when the committee on episcopacy of each jurisdiction involved has approved the transfer(s) by a majority vote of those present and voting, insofar as the transfer(s) affects those jurisdictions. (See ¶ 49, Article V.)²

c) The Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy shall be recognized as the official body through which cross-jurisdictional transfers shall be arranged. Should a bishop request transfer, the bishop has the option to identify the receiving jurisdiction. A jurisdiction may request that a specific bishop be transferred or may indicate a willingness to accept a bishop transferring from another jurisdiction. Request for transfer from either a bishop or jurisdictional committees on episcopacy shall be received by the Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy by April 1 of the year preceding the year of jurisdictional conferences. The Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy will arrange consultation between bishop(s) requesting transfer and the appropriate jurisdictional

interested in possible episcopal transfers. One of the persons elected from each jurisdiction shall be the chairperson, or the chairperson's designee, of the jurisdictional committee. The executive committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson, and it shall have plenary power for the full committee between full committee sessions. It shall be responsible to the interjurisdictional committee, and in fulfillment of that responsibility and in the interest of continuity of the work of the committee, the outgoing chairperson, or the chairperson's designee, shall present a report to the newly seated committee on the previous quadrennium's work as well as recommendations on what the coming quadrennium's work might include.

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~~c)3.~~ The Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy shall be recognized as the official body through which cross-jurisdictional transfers shall be arranged. Should a bishop request transfer, the bishop has the option to identify the receiving jurisdiction. A jurisdiction may request that a specific bishop be transferred or may indicate a willingness to accept a bishop transferring from another jurisdiction. Request for transfer from either a bishop or jurisdictional committees on episcopacy shall be received by the Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy by April 1 of the year preceding the year of jurisdictional conferences. The Interjurisdictional

<p>committee(s) on episcopacy by January 1 of the year of jurisdictional conference(s). Once the jurisdictional committee(s) on episcopacy has taken action, jurisdictional conference secretaries shall inform the Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy not later than August 1 following jurisdictional conferences.</p> <p>d) The Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy will report to each General Conference the action taken during the previous quadrennium.</p> <p>GBOD ¶508.002 = 525, 512</p> <p>¹ Judicial Council Decision 472 ² Judicial Council Decision 745</p>	<p>Committee on Episcopacy will arrange consultation between bishop(s) requesting transfer and the appropriate jurisdictional committee(s) on episcopacy by January 1 of the year of jurisdictional conference(s). Once the jurisdictional committee(s) on episcopacy has taken action, jurisdictional conference secretaries shall inform the Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy not later than August 1 following jurisdictional conferences.</p> <p>d)4. The Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy will report to each General Conference the action taken during the previous quadrennium.</p> <p>¹ Judicial Council Decision 472 ² Judicial Council Decision 745</p>	
<p>¶508.003. Membership-1.a) The membership of a jurisdictional conference shall consist of an equal number of clergy and lay delegates elected by the annual conferences and missionary conferences.</p> <p>b) By ballot, the clergy members shall be elected by the clergy members of the annual or missionary conferences and the lay members by the lay members thereof.³</p> <p>c) The number of delegates to which an annual or missionary conference is entitled shall be twice the number of its General Conference delegates, except when the application of that formula results in a total number of delegates to a jurisdictional conference less than 100. In that event, the Secretary of the General Conference shall adjust the number of delegates to the jurisdictional conference in the same proportion among the annual and missionary conferences of the jurisdiction to achieve a total of 100, ensuring that no annual or missionary conference shall be represented by fewer than four delegates.</p> <p>d) Consideration shall be given to electing an inclusive delegation (¶¶ 124, 140).</p>	<p>[514] ¶508.003. Membership-1.a) The membership of <u>a each</u> jurisdictional conference shall consist of an equal number of clergy and lay delegates elected by the annual conferences <u>and missionary conferences as provided in the Discipline.</u></p> <p>[515] <i>Election of Delegates</i> The clergy and lay delegates and reserves to the jurisdictional conferences shall be elected by ballot in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. <u>b) By ballot, the clergy members shall be elected by the clergy members of the annual or missionary conferences and the lay members by the lay members thereof.</u>³</p> <p>[514] <u>c)</u> The number of delegates to which an annual <u>or missionary</u> conference is entitled shall be twice the number of its General Conference delegates, except when the application of that formula results in a total number of delegates to a jurisdictional conference less than 100. In that event, the Secretary of the General Conference shall adjust the number of delegates to the jurisdictional conference in the same proportion among the annual and missionary conferences of the jurisdiction to achieve a total of 100, ensuring that no</p>	

<p>2. <i>Definition of Church Members</i>-In all elections in a jurisdictional conference that are based on the number of church members within that jurisdiction, the number counted shall include lay members, clergy members, and bishops assigned to that jurisdiction.</p> <p>3. <i>Accountability of Bishops</i>-Bishops elected by or administering in a jurisdictional conference shall be amenable for their conduct to their jurisdictional conference. Any bishop shall have the right of appeal to the Judicial Council.</p> <p>GBOD ¶508.003 = 514, 515, 526, 523</p> <p>³ Judicial Council Decision 592.</p>	<p>annual or missionary conference shall be represented by fewer than four delegates.</p> <p>d) Consideration shall be given to electing an inclusive delegation (¶¶ 124, 140).</p> <p>[526] 2. <i>Definition of Church Members</i>-In all elections in a jurisdictional conference that are based on the number of church members within that jurisdiction, the number counted shall include lay members, clergy members, and bishops assigned to that jurisdiction.</p> <p>[523] 3. <i>Accountability of Bishops</i>-Bishops elected by or administering in a jurisdictional conference shall be amenable for their conduct to their jurisdictional conference. Any bishop shall have the right of appeal to the Judicial Council.</p> <p>³ Judicial Council Decision 592.</p>	
<p>¶508.004. <i>Conference Session</i>- 1. <i>Convening Date</i>-Each jurisdictional conference shall meet within the period prescribed by the Constitution at such time and place as shall have been determined by the preceding jurisdictional conference or by its properly constituted committee.</p> <p>2. <i>Rules of Order</i>-a) The jurisdictional conference shall adopt its own procedure, rules, and plan of organization. It shall take a majority of the whole number of delegates elected to make a quorum for the transaction of business; however, a smaller number may take a recess or adjourn from day to day and at the final session may approve the journal, order the record of the roll call, and adjourn <i>sine die</i>.</p> <p>b) The clergy and lay delegates shall deliberate in one body.</p> <p>3. <i>Presiding Officers</i>-a) A bishop shall be the presiding officer.</p> <p>b) The bishop acting as presiding officer shall decide questions of law, subject to an appeal to the Judicial Council.</p> <p>c) The Council of Bishops may assign one or more of its</p>	<p>¶508.004. <i>Conference Session</i>-</p> <p>[517] 1. <i>Convening Date</i>-Each jurisdictional conference shall meet within the period prescribed by the Constitution at such time and place as shall have been determined by the preceding jurisdictional conference or by its properly constituted committee.</p> <p>[518] 2. <i>Rules of Order</i>-a) The jurisdictional conference shall adopt its own procedure, rules, and plan of organization. It shall take a majority of the whole number of delegates elected to make a quorum for the transaction of business; however, a smaller number may take a recess or adjourn from day to day and at the final session may approve the journal, order the record of the roll call, and adjourn <i>sine die</i>.</p> <p>[516] b) <i>Deliberations</i>-The clergy and lay delegates shall deliberate in one body.</p> <p>[522] 3. <i>Presiding Officers Bishops</i>-a) <u>A bishop</u> The jurisdictional conference shall be the presiding officer. presided over by the bishops of the jurisdiction or a bishop of another jurisdiction or of a central conference. In case no</p>	

members to visit a jurisdictional conference. When so assigned, the bishop shall be an accredited representative of the general church, and when requested by a majority of the bishops resident in that conference may exercise therein the functions of the episcopacy.

4. *Finances-a)* The jurisdictional conference shall provide for the expenses of its sessions.

b) The jurisdictional conferences shall provide for the accounts of the jurisdictional treasurer for the preceding fiscal year to be audited by a certified public accountant within 150 days after the close of the conference fiscal year and to provide for the report to be distributed to each of the presiding bishops and conference treasurers in the jurisdiction.

5. *Special Sessions-a)* The jurisdictional conference may order a special session in such manner as it shall determine. Such session cannot transact any other business than that indicated in the call.

b) The College of Bishops of a jurisdiction by a two-thirds vote shall have authority to call a special session of the jurisdictional conference when necessary; provided, however, that if an episcopal area is left vacant by reason of death, retirement, or other cause within twenty-four months of the episcopal assumption of presidential supervision of that area, the College of Bishops may by majority vote convene within three months, after giving not less than thirty days' notice, a special session of the jurisdictional conference for the purpose of electing and consecrating a bishop and of considering any other matters specified in the call; and provided further, that in such case the current jurisdictional committee on episcopacy may recommend to the conference reassignment of one or more of the previously elected bishops.

c) The delegates to a special session of the jurisdictional conference shall be the delegates last elected by each annual conference.

GBOD¶508.004 = 517, 518, 516, 522, 519, 520, 521

~~bishop of the jurisdiction is present, the conference may elect a president from the clergy delegates.~~

b) The bishop acting as presiding officer shall decide questions of law, subject to an appeal to the Judicial Council.

c) The Council of Bishops may assign one or more of its members to visit a jurisdictional conference. When so assigned, the bishop shall be an accredited representative of the general church, and when requested by a majority of the bishops resident in that conference may exercise therein the functions of the episcopacy.

[519] 4. *Finances Expenses-a)* The jurisdictional conference shall provide for the expenses of its sessions.

[520] b) The jurisdictional conferences shall provide for the accounts of the jurisdictional treasurer for the preceding fiscal year to be audited by a certified public accountant within 150 days after the close of the conference fiscal year and to provide for the report to be distributed to each of the presiding bishops and conference treasurers ~~and~~ in the jurisdiction.

[521] 5. *Special Sessions-a)*~~4.~~ The jurisdictional conference may order a special session in such manner as it shall determine. ~~4. A called~~ Such session ~~of the jurisdictional conference~~ cannot transact any other business than that indicated in the call.

b)2. The College of Bishops of a jurisdiction by a two-thirds vote shall have authority to call a special session of the jurisdictional conference when necessary; provided, however, that if an episcopal area is left vacant by reason of death, retirement, or other cause within twenty-four months of the episcopal assumption of presidential supervision of that area, the College of Bishops may by majority vote convene within three months, after giving not less than thirty days' notice, a special session of the jurisdictional conference for the purpose of electing and consecrating a bishop and of considering any other matters specified in the call; and provided further, that in such case the current jurisdictional committee on episcopacy may recommend to the conference reassignment of one or

	<p>more of the previously elected bishops. c)3. The delegates to a special session of the jurisdictional conference shall be the delegates last elected by each annual conference.</p>	
<p>¶508.005. <i>Records and Archives-</i> 1. <i>Jurisdictional Conference Journals</i>-The jurisdictional conference shall keep an official journal of its proceedings, duly signed by the secretary and president or secretary of the College of Bishops, which shall be deposited in accordance with BOD¶ 1711.3 <i>j, k</i> and with the secretary of the General Conference. The printing shall be done at the expense of the jurisdiction. 2. <i>Annual Conference Journals</i>-The jurisdictional conference may examine and acknowledge the journals of the annual conferences and missionary conferences within its boundaries and make rules for the drawing up of the journals as may seem necessary. GBOD ¶508.005 = 528, 527</p>	<p>¶508.005. <i>Records and Archives-</i> [528] 1. <i>Jurisdictional Conference Journals</i>-The jurisdictional conference shall keep an official journal of its proceedings, duly signed by the secretary and president or secretary of the College of Bishops, which shall be deposited in accordance with BOD¶ 1711.3 <i>j, k</i> and with the secretary of the General Conference. The printing shall be done at the expense of the jurisdiction. [527] 2. <i>Annual Conference Journals</i>-The jurisdictional conference shall have authority to <u>may</u> examine and acknowledge the journals of the annual conferences <u>and missionary conferences</u> within its boundaries and shall make such rules for the drawing up of the journals as may seem necessary.</p>	
<p>¶508.006. <i>Conference Agencies</i>-[new] 1. Jurisdictional conferences may create agencies, structures or committees with such duties and mandates as the jurisdictional conference may determine to carry out their mission. [524] 2. <i>Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy-a)</i> Upon nomination of their respective annual conference delegations, each jurisdictional conference shall elect a committee on episcopacy consisting of one clergy and one lay delegate from each annual conference. The committee shall be convened by the president of the College of Bishops at the close of the jurisdictional conference to which the delegates have been elected. It shall serve through the succeeding jurisdictional conference. The committee shall elect from its members a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a secretary. It shall meet at least</p>	<p>¶508.006. <i>Conference Agencies</i>-1. <u>Jurisdictional conferences may create agencies, structures or committees with such duties and mandates as the jurisdictional conference may determine to carry out their mission.</u> [524] 2. <i>Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy-a)</i><u>+</u> <u>Upon nomination of their respective annual conference delegations, each jurisdictional conference shall elect a</u> There shall be a jurisdictional committee on episcopacy consisting of one clergy and one lay delegate to the jurisdictional conference from each annual conference. elected by the jurisdictional conference upon nomination of their respective annual conference delegations. The committee shall be convened by the president of the College of Bishops at the close of the jurisdictional conference to which the delegates have been elected. It shall serve through</p>	

annually.

Should there be a vacancy in an annual conference's elected representation on the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy by death, resignation, election to the episcopacy, cessation of membership in the annual conference from which one is elected, or for other reasons that the annual conference delegation may determine, the annual conference delegation shall nominate another person to fill the vacancy. That person may begin to serve on the committee as a nominee until the jurisdictional conference can elect.

b) The jurisdictional conference shall provide funding for the expenses of the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy.

c) The jurisdictional committee on episcopacy shall:

(1) Review and evaluate annually the work of the bishops, pass on their character and ministry and report such evaluations and other findings to the jurisdictional conference for such action as the conference may deem appropriate within its constitutional warrant of power. The evaluation shall include those areas of responsibility outlined in ¶¶ 404, 405, and 406 as well as the bishop's leadership in the promotion and support of the full payment of apportionments. The committee may, in its sole discretion, also forward its report to the president of the College of Bishops, who shall then share the report with the Council of Bishops in executive session.

(2) After consultation with the College of Bishops, recommend to the jurisdictional conference for its approval the boundaries of the episcopal areas and the assignments of the bishops.⁴

(3) Be available to the Council and College of Bishops for consultation on matters of mutual concern.

(4) Determine the number of effective bishops eligible for assignment.

(5) Receive and act upon requests for possible voluntary and involuntary retirement of bishops; however, as provided in ¶ 412.6.a, the committee may initiate on its own motion the process of involuntary retirement when it is seen to

the succeeding jurisdictional conference.

The committee shall elect from its members a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a secretary. It shall meet at least annually.

Should there be a vacancy in an annual conference's elected representation on the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy by death, resignation, election to the episcopacy, cessation of membership in the annual conference from which one is elected, or for other reasons that the annual conference delegation may determine, the annual conference delegation shall nominate another person to fill the vacancy. That person may begin to serve on the committee as a nominee until the jurisdictional conference can elect.

~~b)2.~~ The jurisdictional conference shall provide funding for the expenses of the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy.

~~c)3.~~ The jurisdictional committee on episcopacy shall:

~~(1)a)~~ Review and evaluate annually the work of the bishops, pass on their character and ~~ministry—official administration~~, and report such evaluations and other findings to the jurisdictional conference for such action as the conference may deem appropriate within its constitutional warrant of power. The evaluation shall include those areas of responsibility outlined in ¶¶ 404, 405, and 406 as well as the bishop's leadership in the promotion and support of the full payment of apportionments. The committee may, in its sole discretion, also forward its report to the president of the College of Bishops, who shall then share the report with the Council of Bishops in executive session.

~~(2)b)~~ After consultation with the College of Bishops, recommend to the jurisdictional conference for its approval the boundaries of the episcopal areas and the assignments of the bishops.⁴

~~(3)e)~~ Be available to the Council and College of Bishops for consultation on matters of mutual concern.

~~(4)d)~~ Determine the number of effective bishops eligible for assignment.

be in the best interest of the Church.

(6) Initiate or receive and act upon a request for transfer of one or more of the members of its jurisdiction's College of Bishops to another jurisdiction's College of Bishops or upon a request for transfer of a member of another jurisdiction's College of Bishops to its jurisdiction's College of Bishops. As provided in ¶ 508.002.b, no such transfer may be completed without the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the committee present and voting.

(Changes to (5) and (6) shall take effect at the close of General Conference 2012.)

(7) Consult with the annual conference committees on episcopacy with respect to the needs for episcopal leadership and how best they can be fulfilled.

(8) Establish a consultation process with each bishop regarding his or her episcopal assignment.

(9) Prepare a report of its decisions, activities, and recommendations to be transmitted to its successor through the office of the secretary of the jurisdictional conference. The report shall be made available to delegates of the jurisdictional conference prior to the jurisdictional conference.

3. *Administrative Review Committee*—The Jurisdictional Conference shall establish from its membership an Administrative Review Committee of at least three persons who are not members of the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy. Its only purpose shall be to ensure that the disciplinary procedures for any involuntary action recommended by the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy are properly followed. The entire administrative process leading to the action for change of status of the bishop shall be reviewed by the administrative review committee, and it shall report its findings to the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy and the jurisdictional conference prior to any action by those bodies. The administrative review committee shall notify the parties of the review process. The administrative fair process hearing procedures (¶ 352.2) should be followed by the

~~(5)e)~~ Receive and act upon requests for possible voluntary and involuntary retirement of bishops; however, as provided in ¶ 412.6.a ~~408.3.a)~~, the committee may initiate on its own motion the process of involuntary retirement when it is seen to be in the best interest of the Church.

~~(6)f)~~ Initiate or receive and act upon a request for transfer of one or more of the members of its jurisdiction's College of Bishops to another jurisdiction's College of Bishops or upon a request for transfer of a member of another jurisdiction's College of Bishops to its jurisdiction's College of Bishops. As provided in ¶ ~~508.002.b~~ ~~512.2~~, no such transfer may be completed without the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the committee present and voting.

(Changes to ~~(5)e)~~ and ~~(6)f)~~ shall take effect at the close of General Conference 2012.)

~~(7)g)~~ Consult with the annual conference committees on episcopacy with respect to the needs for episcopal leadership and how best they can be fulfilled.

~~(8)h)~~ Establish a consultation process with each bishop regarding his or her episcopal assignment.

~~(9)i)~~ Prepare a report of its decisions, activities, and recommendations to be transmitted to its successor through the office of the secretary of the jurisdictional conference. The report shall be made available to delegates of the jurisdictional conference prior to the jurisdictional conference.

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administrative review committee. Prior to its report, if the committee determines that any error has occurred, it may recommend to the appropriate person or body that action be taken promptly to remedy the error, decide the error is harmless, or take other action.

4. *Jurisdictional Agencies*-The jurisdictional conference shall have the authority to appoint or elect such agencies as the General Conference may direct or as it deems necessary for its work. Insofar as possible, the membership on councils, boards, and agencies of the jurisdictional conference shall include one-third clergy, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen in keeping with the policies for general Church agencies, except for the Board of Ordained Ministry and the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth, young adults, older adults, single adults, persons with disabilities, persons from churches of small membership, and racial and ethnic persons. (See BOD ¶705.4b.) Every board, standing committee, commission, council, and work area of the jurisdiction shall designate one of its members as its coordinator of witness ministries. These persons shall help the agencies of which they are members to engage in witness ministries and, in particular, to ask, “How are we intentionally reaching new people for Jesus Christ through our ministries?” and “How are we helping new people grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ through our ministries and areas of responsibility?”

5. *Coordination of Programs*-In each jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church there may be a jurisdictional council on ministries or jurisdictional administrative council, or alternative structure, organized as the jurisdiction shall determine and with the authority to coordinate the programs of the general agencies within the jurisdiction.

6. *Program Agencies*-In each jurisdiction there may be jurisdictional program agencies related to the general program agencies and the appropriate annual conference program agencies organized as the jurisdictional conference shall

episcopacy and the jurisdictional conference prior to any action by those bodies. The administrative review committee shall notify the parties of the review process. The administrative fair process hearing procedures (¶ 352.2) should be followed by the administrative review committee. Prior to its report, if the committee determines that any error has occurred, it may recommend to the appropriate person or body that action be taken promptly to remedy the error, decide the error is harmless, or take other action.

JURISDICTIONAL AGENCIES

[529] 4. *Jurisdictional Agencies*-The jurisdictional conference shall have the authority to appoint or elect such agencies as the General Conference may direct or as it deems necessary for its work. Insofar as possible, the membership on councils, boards, and agencies of the jurisdictional conference shall include one-third clergy, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen in keeping with the policies for general Church agencies, except for the Board of Ordained Ministry and the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth, young adults, older adults, single adults, persons with disabilities, persons from churches of small membership, and racial and ethnic persons. (See BOD¶ 705.4b) Every board, standing committee, commission, council, and work area of the jurisdiction shall designate one of its members as its coordinator of witness ministries. These persons shall help the agencies of which they are members to engage in witness ministries and, in particular, to ask, “How are we intentionally reaching new people for Jesus Christ through our ministries?” and “How are we helping new people grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ through our ministries and areas of responsibility?”

[530] 5. *Coordination of Programs*-In each jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church there may be a jurisdictional council on ministries or jurisdictional administrative council, or alternative structure, organized as the jurisdiction shall determine and with the authority to coordinate the programs of

determine.

7. *Archives and History*- There shall be a jurisdictional commission on archives and history, auxiliary to the general commission, to be composed of the chairperson of each annual conference commission on archives and history or the historian of each annual conference, the president of the jurisdictional historical society, and at least five members at large to be elected by the jurisdictional commission, or composed in a way the jurisdictional conference determines.

8. *Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries—*a) Jurisdictions shall engage youth, young adults, and adults who work with them in creative partnership to:

- (1) Network youth, young adults and young people's ministries throughout the region,
- (2) Support young people's ministries in the annual conferences, and
- (3) Provide a process by which representatives are chosen and sent to the Global Young People's Convocation and the Division on Ministries With Young People.

b) Jurisdictions are encouraged to organize their Young People's Ministries in creative ways that work best for their context. The jurisdictional young people's ministries coordinator shall help design, maintain, and revise any processes to accomplish this work.

In any process or coordinating group for Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries, the following representation is encouraged:

- (1) participants from each conference in the jurisdiction
- (2) racial/ethnic representation that reflects the demographic make-up of the jurisdiction
- (3) participants who bring a variety of theological and cultural perspectives
- (4) youth and young adults who may or may not also be serving on Conference Councils of Youth/Young Adult Ministry
- (5) adult workers who may or may not also be conference youth/young adult staff or similar designee

the general agencies within the jurisdiction.

[531] ~~6. *Program Agencies*~~-In each jurisdiction there may be jurisdictional program agencies related to the general program agencies and the appropriate annual conference program agencies organized as the jurisdictional conference shall determine.

[532] ~~7. *Archives and History*~~- There shall be a jurisdictional commission on archives and history, auxiliary to the general commission, to be composed of the chairperson of each annual conference commission on archives and history or the historian of each annual conference, the president of the jurisdictional historical society, and at least five members at large to be elected by the jurisdictional commission, or composed in a way the jurisdictional conference determines.

[533] ~~8. *Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries—*~~a) Jurisdictions shall engage youth, young adults, and adults who work with them in creative partnership to:

- ~~(1)~~a) Network youth, young adults and young people's ministries throughout the region,
- ~~(2)~~b) Support young people's ministries in the annual conferences, and
- ~~(3)~~c) Provide a process by which representatives are chosen and sent to the Global Young People's Convocation and the Division on Ministries With Young People.

~~b)2.~~ Jurisdictions are encouraged to organize their Young People's Ministries in creative ways that work best for their context. The jurisdictional young people's ministries coordinator shall help design, maintain, and revise any processes to accomplish this work.

In any process or coordinating group for Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries, the following representation is encouraged:

- ~~(1)~~a) participants from each conference in the jurisdiction
- ~~(2)~~b) racial/ethnic representation that reflects the demographic make-up of the jurisdiction
- ~~(3)~~c) participants who bring a variety of theological and cultural perspectives

c) There shall be a jurisdictional young people's ministries coordinator who shall be accountable to the jurisdictional council on ministries or equivalent structure and the jurisdictional young people's ministries coordinating team. This coordinator may or may not be the same person as the adult representative to the Division on Ministries with Young People of the General Board of Discipleship.

d) *Responsibility to choose representatives to the Division on Ministries with Young People*--Using a process appropriate to each Jurisdiction's context, the Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries shall:

(1) Choose one youth member to serve on the Division on Ministries With Young People of the General Board of Discipleship for a four-year term. Youth chosen to serve on the Division on Ministries With Young People shall be age sixteen or younger at the time of appointment.

(2) Nominations shall come from annual conference councils on youth ministry or equivalent structure, local churches, districts, conference youth coordinators, or other Interested clergy or laity.

(3) The Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries should ensure that either the youth or young adult representative (who is elected in the jurisdictional election) will be a racial/ethnic young person.

(4) As far as possible, members of the Division on Ministries With Young People from each jurisdiction shall be from two different annual conferences in that jurisdiction.

e) *Responsibility to Choose Representatives to Attend the Global Young People's Convocation*—In the year prior to the Global Young People's Convocation, Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries shall choose five youth and one adult to serve as voting delegates to the Global Young People's Convocation.

f) Other suggested responsibilities for the Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries:

(1) initiate and support jurisdictional events (camps, conferences, workshops, and so forth).

(2) recommend priorities, concerns, and/or policies to the Division on Ministries With Young People.

~~(4)~~ youth and young adults who may or may not also be serving on Conference Councils of Youth/Young Adult Ministry

~~(5)~~ adult workers who may or may not also be conference youth/young adult staff or similar designee

~~c)3-~~ There shall be a jurisdictional young people's ministries coordinator who shall be accountable to the jurisdictional council on ministries or equivalent structure and the jurisdictional young people's ministries coordinating team. This coordinator may or may not be the same person as the adult representative to the Division on Ministries with Young People of the General Board of Discipleship.

~~d)4-~~ *Responsibility to choose representatives to the Division on Ministries with Young People*--Using a process appropriate to each Jurisdiction's context, the Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries shall:

~~(1)~~ Choose one youth member to serve on the Division on Ministries With Young People of the General Board of Discipleship for a four-year term. Youth chosen to serve on the Division on Ministries With Young People shall be age sixteen or younger at the time of appointment.

~~(2)~~ Nominations shall come from annual conference councils on youth ministry or equivalent structure, local churches, districts, conference youth coordinators, or other Interested clergy or laity.

~~(3)~~ The Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries should ensure that either the youth or young adult representative (who is elected in the jurisdictional election) will be a racial/ethnic young person.

~~(4)~~ As far as possible, members of the Division on Ministries With Young People from each jurisdiction shall be from two different annual conferences in that jurisdiction.

~~e)5-~~ *Responsibility to Choose Representatives to Attend the Global Young People's Convocation*—In the year prior to the Global Young People's Convocation, Jurisdictional Young People's Ministries shall choose five youth and one adult to serve as voting delegates to the Global Young People's Convocation.

~~f)6-~~ Other suggested responsibilities for the Jurisdictional

(3) promote the establishment and awareness of the needs, concerns, issues, and so forth, of racial and ethnic persons through caucuses, camps, consultations, and so forth.

(4) promote the spiritual growth of participants in the jurisdictional young people's ministry events and activities.

(5) promote an evangelistic outreach with young people and through young people by providing educational opportunities and resources that increase their awareness, exposure, and engagement in the areas of mission, social justice, discipleship, leadership development and spiritual formation as they relate back to their Annual Conference and local church.

(6) provide training and supportive experiences for conference young people's ministries personnel.

(7) enable communication between general and conference levels of young people's ministries.

9. *Young Adults*-There may be a jurisdictional young-adult organization for the purpose of networking young adults throughout the region, supporting young-adult ministries in the annual conferences, and supporting young adult workers in their ministry.

10. *Committee on Ordained Ministry*-There may be a jurisdictional committee on ordained ministry. This committee shall be comprised of the chair of the conference boards of ordained ministry or their representatives, the deans/presidents of the United Methodist seminaries in the jurisdiction, two representatives from the college of bishops and three members at large, named by the committee to insure inclusivity. Deacons and laypersons shall be represented in the committee. When a jurisdictional board of higher education and ministry exists, this board may be a part of that structure. The duties of the committee may include: providing information on supply and demand and encouraging mobility across conference lines; to create a forum for the discussion of issues related to representative ministry; to deal with matters of enlistment and recruitment; to create dialogue with seminaries serving the

Young People's Ministries:

~~(1)~~ initiate and support jurisdictional events (camps, conferences, workshops, and so forth).

~~(2)~~ recommend priorities, concerns, and/or policies to the Division on Ministries With Young People.

~~(3)~~ promote the establishment and awareness of the needs, concerns, issues, and so forth, of racial and ethnic persons through caucuses, camps, consultations, and so forth.

~~(4)~~ promote the spiritual growth of participants in the jurisdictional young people's ministry events and activities.

~~(5)~~ promote an evangelistic outreach with young people and through young people by providing educational opportunities and resources that increase their awareness, exposure, and engagement in the areas of mission, social justice, discipleship, leadership development and spiritual formation as they relate back to their Annual Conference and local church.

~~(6)~~ provide training and supportive experiences for conference young people's ministries personnel.

~~(7)~~ enable communication between general and conference levels of young people's ministries.

[534] 9. *Young Adults*-There may be a jurisdictional young-adult organization for the purpose of networking young adults throughout the region, supporting young-adult ministries in the annual conferences, and supporting young adult workers in their ministry.

[535] 10. *Committee on Ordained Ministry*-There may be a jurisdictional committee on ordained ministry. This committee shall be comprised of the chair of the conference boards of ordained ministry or their representatives, the deans/presidents of the United Methodist seminaries in the jurisdiction, two representatives from the college of bishops and three members at large, named by the committee to insure inclusivity. Deacons and laypersons shall be represented in the committee. When a jurisdictional board of higher education and ministry exists, this board may be a part of that structure.

jurisdiction; to enable ethnic ministries in the jurisdictions. Funding shall be provided through the jurisdictional conference and the annual conference boards of ordained ministry.

11. *Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Jurisdiction-Article 1. Name*-In each jurisdiction there shall be a jurisdiction organization named United Methodist Women, directly related to the United Methodist Women's national organization.

Article 2. Authority-Each jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the program and policies of the United Methodist Women's national organization.

Article 3. Membership-The voting membership of the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of the members of the Jurisdiction Leadership Team; three members elected by each conference organization, members of the board of directors of United Methodist Women and the members of the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group in organizations within the jurisdiction; a representative of the jurisdiction Association of Deaconesses, Home Missioners/Home Missionaries; and all the active bishops of the jurisdiction.

Article 4. Meetings and Elections-a) There shall be a meeting of the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women during the last year of the quadrennium. At that time the jurisdiction president, members of the Jurisdiction Leadership Team and members of the board of directors of the United Methodist Women's national organization shall be elected according to the *Discipline* (BOD¶¶ 647.6d, 1906).

b) There may be other gatherings as needed to fulfill the purpose.

Article 5. Amendments-Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be sent to the recording secretary of United Methodist Women for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the

The duties of the committee may include: providing information on supply and demand and encouraging mobility across conference lines; to create a forum for the discussion of issues related to representative ministry; to deal with matters of enlistment and recruitment; to create dialogue with seminaries serving the jurisdiction; to enable ethnic ministries in the jurisdictions. Funding shall be provided through the jurisdictional conference and the annual conference boards of ordained ministry.

[536] 11. *Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Jurisdiction-Article 1. Name*-In each jurisdiction there shall be a jurisdiction organization named United Methodist Women, directly related to the United Methodist Women's national organization.

Article 2. Authority-Each jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the program and policies of the United Methodist Women's national organization.

Article 3. Membership-The voting membership of the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of the members of the Jurisdiction Leadership Team; three members elected by each conference organization, members of the board of directors of United Methodist Women and the members of the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group in organizations within the jurisdiction; a representative of the jurisdiction Association of Deaconesses, Home Missioners/Home Missionaries; and all the active bishops of the jurisdiction.

Article 4. Meetings and Elections-a) There shall be a meeting of the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women during the last year of the quadrennium. At that time the jurisdiction president, members of the Jurisdiction Leadership Team and members of the board of directors of the United Methodist Women's national organization shall be elected according to the *Discipline* (BOD¶¶ 647.6d, 1906).

b) There may be other gatherings as needed to fulfill

last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.

12. *Committee on United Methodist Men-a)* In each jurisdiction there shall be a Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the General Commission on United Methodist Men (BOD¶ 2301).

b) The membership of the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall be composed of the elected officers, committee chairpersons, and ministry coordinators as defined by the organizations' bylaws as well as the conference president of United Methodist Men of each annual conference organization within the boundary of the jurisdiction.

c) Each Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the policies and programs of the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

d) The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall elect the jurisdictional president during the last year of the quadrennium. The jurisdictional president shall serve on the General Commission on United Methodist Men (BOD¶ 2303.1.b). Jurisdictional presidents who serve less than a full quadrennial term may be re-elected for a full term. There may be meetings, retreats, and cooperative training events held by the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men.

e) The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. All funds from whatever source secured by the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and/or by-laws and by its order.

f) The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men may have their own bank accounts.

g) It is recommended that there be an annual financial audit.

the purpose.

*Article 5. Amendments-*Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be sent to the recording secretary of United Methodist Women for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.

[537] 12. Committee on United Methodist Men-a) In each jurisdiction there shall be a Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the General Commission on United Methodist Men (BOD¶ 2301).

b) The membership of the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall be composed of the elected officers, committee chairpersons, and ministry coordinators as defined by the organizations' bylaws as well as the conference president of United Methodist Men of each annual conference organization within the boundary of the jurisdiction.

c) Each Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the policies and programs of the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

d) The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall elect the jurisdictional president during the last year of the quadrennium. The jurisdictional president shall serve on the General Commission on United Methodist Men (BOD¶ 2303.1.b). Jurisdictional presidents who serve less than a full quadrennial term may be re-elected for a full term. There may be meetings, retreats, and cooperative training events held by the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men.

e) The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. All funds from whatever source secured by the Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and/or by-laws and by its order.

<p>13. <i>United Methodist Volunteers in Mission</i>—It is recommended that there be a jurisdictional volunteer-in-mission (UMVIM) coordinator for the purpose of coordination of volunteers, in collaboration with annual conference UMVIM and Disaster Response Coordinators within their jurisdiction and the Global Ministries Mission Volunteer Office. The jurisdictional coordinator may network to coordinate opportunities and resources for volunteers in collaboration with the General Board of Global Ministries and other UMC agencies as requested. The Jurisdictional UMVIM Coordinator may communicate the need for Early Response Teams within their region in collaboration with UMCOR.</p> <p>GBOD ¶508.006. = 524, 539, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538</p> <p>⁴ Judicial Council Decision 517</p>	<p>f)α) The Jurisdictional Committee on United Methodist Men may have their own bank accounts.</p> <p>g)β) It is recommended that there be an annual financial audit.</p> <p>[538] <i>13. United Methodist Volunteers in Mission</i>—It is recommended that there be a jurisdictional volunteer-in-mission (UMVIM) coordinator for the purpose of coordination of volunteers, in collaboration with annual conference UMVIM and Disaster Response Coordinators within their jurisdiction and the Global Ministries Mission Volunteer Office. The jurisdictional coordinator may network to coordinate opportunities and resources for volunteers in collaboration with the General Board of Global Ministries and other UMC agencies as requested. The Jurisdictional UMVIM Coordinator may communicate the need for Early Response Teams within their region in collaboration with UMCOR.</p> <p>⁴ Judicial Council Decision 517</p>	
<p>¶508.007. <i>Property</i> - Chapter 6 <i>Property</i> makes provisions for Church property in The United Methodist Church.</p> <p>GBOD¶508.007 = new</p>	<p>¶508.007. <i>Property</i>- <u>Chapter 6 <i>Property</i> makes provisions for Church property in The United Methodist Church.</u></p>	
<p>¶509.001 <i>Purpose</i>-A conference is a missionary conference because of its particular mission opportunities, its limited membership and resources, its unique leadership requirements, its strategic regional or language considerations, and ministerial needs.</p> <p>GBOD ¶509.001 = 585</p>	<p>[585] ¶509.001 <i>Purpose- Definition</i>-A conference is a missionary conference because of its particular mission opportunities, its limited membership and resources, its unique leadership requirements, its strategic regional or language considerations, and ministerial needs. The General Board of Global Ministries shall provide administrative guidance and major financial assistance, including attention to the distinctive property matters.</p>	
<p>¶509.002 <i>Powers and Duties</i>- [586 Intro] 1. A missionary conference shall have the same rights and powers as an annual conference (BOD¶¶ 601-604), but with the exceptions of ¶¶¶ 509.003, 509.004, and 509.007:</p>	<p>[586.Intro] ¶509.002 <i>Powers and Duties</i>- <u>1. A missionary conference shall have be organized in the same manner and with the same rights and powers as an annual conference (BOD¶¶ 601-604), but with the following exceptions of ¶¶¶</u></p>	

<p>2. Only the General Conference can create a missionary conference or change a missionary conference to a provisional annual conference or an annual conference. A petition to the General Conference for change in status from a missionary conference shall set forth details of the history and status of the conference and shall be accompanied by a report and recommendation of the General Board of Global Ministries.</p> <p>3. Missionary conferences shall have the same rights as those given to the central conferences in ¶ 512.3, .6 to make such changes and adaptations regarding the ministry and ordination of ordained ministers as the effective use of indigenous leadership in the missionary conference may require, provided that no action shall be taken that is contrary to the Constitution and the General Rules of The United Methodist Church, and provided further that a missionary conference that does not have a board of ordained ministry must use the process prescribed in ¶ 509.003.g) for approval of candidates for ordination.</p> <p>GBOD ¶509.002 = 586, 587, 588</p>	<p><u>509.003, 509.004, and 509.007:</u></p> <p>[587] <u>2.</u> Only the General Conference can create a missionary conference or change a missionary conference to a provisional annual conference or an annual conference. A petition to the General Conference for change in status from a missionary conference shall set forth details of the history and status of the conference and shall be accompanied by a report and recommendation of the General Board of Global Ministries.</p> <p>[588] <u>3. Rights and Privileges</u>-Missionary conferences shall have the same rights as those given to the central conferences in ¶ <u>512.3, .6</u> 543.7, .8 to make such changes and adaptations regarding the ministry and ordination of ordained ministers as the effective use of indigenous leadership in the missionary conference may require, provided that no action shall be taken that is contrary to the Constitution and the General Rules of The United Methodist Church, and provided further that a missionary conference that does not have a board of ordained ministry must use the process prescribed in ¶ <u>509.003</u>586.4.g) for approval of candidates for ordination.</p>	
<p>¶509.003. Membership- 1.a) <i>Membership</i>-A missionary conference shall determine by majority vote whether it will establish the right of full ministerial membership. With approval and consent of the bishops or other judicatory authorities involved, appointments are to be made by the resident bishop of the conference in which the clergy person is to serve.</p> <p>b) An ordained minister in full connection with an annual conference who is appointed to a missionary conference that has previously voted to include full membership under § 4a may choose either to request the bishop of the missionary conference to seek the transfer of his or her membership into full membership with the missionary conference or retain his or her membership in a home conference and be considered in an affiliated relationship to the missionary conference.</p>	<p>[586.4-5] ¶509.003. <u>Membership-</u> 1.4. a) <i>Membership</i>-A missionary conference shall determine by majority vote whether it will establish the right of full ministerial membership. With approval and consent of the bishops or other judicatory authorities involved, appointments are to be made by the resident bishop of the conference in which the clergy person is to serve.</p> <p>b) An ordained minister in full connection with an annual conference who is appointed to a missionary conference that has previously voted to include full membership under § 4a may choose either to request the bishop of the missionary conference to seek the transfer of his or her membership into full membership with the missionary conference or retain his or her membership in a home conference and be considered in an affiliated relationship to the missionary conference.</p>	

c) In a missionary conference which has not voted to include full membership, each United Methodist cleric appointed by the bishop shall retain his or her membership in a home conference and be considered in an affiliated relationship to the missionary conference.

d) Affiliated relationship shall entitle the ordained minister to the fellowship of the conference, to full participation in its activities, including holding office and representing the missionary conference in General and jurisdictional conferences. An affiliate member of a missionary conference shall not vote in his or her annual conference while retaining the affiliate relationship to a missionary conference. Such affiliate relationship to a missionary conference shall be only for the duration of the ordained minister's appointment to the conference.

An affiliate member elected to a General or jurisdictional conference from a missionary conference shall not be eligible to be elected to such position from the conference where his or her membership is held.

e) A missionary conference may elect into full ministerial membership those persons desiring full membership in accordance with ¶ 588.

f) A pastor under full-time appointment in a missionary conference, upon consultation with and the approval of the bishop and conference or district superintendent or cabinet, may waive his or her claim upon the conference minimum salary. This waiver is to be reviewed annually and is to be effective until the time of subsequent appointment.

g) In a missionary conference that has not established the right of full ministerial membership (§4.a), if the missionary conference is part of an episcopal area consisting of two or more annual and missionary conferences, then for purposes of candidacy for ordination (¶¶ 309-310), provisional membership (¶¶ 320-323), and election to full conference membership (¶¶ 324), the missionary conference may function as a district of an annual conference in the same episcopal area,

c) In a missionary conference which has not voted to include full membership, each United Methodist cleric appointed by the bishop shall retain his or her membership in a home conference and be considered in an affiliated relationship to the missionary conference.

d) Affiliated relationship shall entitle the ordained minister to the fellowship of the conference, to full participation in its activities, including holding office and representing the missionary conference in General and jurisdictional conferences. An affiliate member of a missionary conference shall not vote in his or her annual conference while retaining the affiliate relationship to a missionary conference. Such affiliate relationship to a missionary conference shall be only for the duration of the ordained minister's appointment to the conference.

An affiliate member elected to a General or jurisdictional conference from a missionary conference shall not be eligible to be elected to such position from the conference where his or her membership is held.

e) A missionary conference may elect into full ministerial membership those persons desiring full membership in accordance with ¶ 588.

f) A pastor under full-time appointment in a missionary conference, upon consultation with and the approval of the bishop and conference or district superintendent or cabinet, may waive his or her claim upon the conference minimum salary. This waiver is to be reviewed annually and is to be effective until the time of subsequent appointment.

g) In a missionary conference that has not established the right of full ministerial membership (§4.a), if the missionary conference is part of an episcopal area consisting of two or more annual and missionary conferences, then for purposes of candidacy for ordination (¶¶ ~~309-310~~ 310-314), provisional membership (¶¶ ~~320-323~~ 324-327), and election to full conference membership (¶¶ ~~324~~ 328-336), the missionary conference may function as a district of an annual conference

<p>with and only with the approval of the presiding bishop, the Board of Ordained Ministry of the annual conference, and the committee on ordained ministry of the missionary conference. If the missionary conference does not have a committee on ordained ministry, then approval may be provided by the body of the missionary conference to which the functions of the committee on ordained ministry have been assigned.⁵</p> <p>2. A missionary conference may include in its membership representation of such mission agencies within its boundaries as it deems advisable, provided, however, such representation shall not exceed a number equal to one-third of the total membership of the missionary conference and that such representatives shall be members of The United Methodist Church in accordance with constitutional requirements.⁶</p> <p>GBOD ¶509.003 = 586.4-5</p> <p>⁵ See Judicial Council Decision 448. ⁶ See Judicial Council Decision 511.</p>	<p>in the same episcopal area, with and only with the approval of the presiding bishop, the Board of Ordained Ministry of the annual conference, and the committee on ordained ministry of the missionary conference. If the missionary conference does not have a committee on ordained ministry, then approval may be provided by the body of the missionary conference to which the functions of the committee on ordained ministry have been assigned.⁵</p> <p>2.5. A missionary conference may include in its membership representation of such mission agencies within its boundaries as it deems advisable, provided, however, such representation shall not exceed a number equal to one-third of the total membership of the missionary conference and that such representatives shall be members of The United Methodist Church in accordance with constitutional requirements.⁶</p> <p>⁵ See Judicial Council Decision 448. ⁶ See Judicial Council Decision 511.</p>	
<p>¶509.004. <i>Conference session-1. Presiding Officers-</i>The College of Bishops shall provide episcopal supervision for any missionary conference(s) within its jurisdictional boundaries as are organized. The bishop thus placed in charge and having episcopal supervision within the respective episcopal area in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries shall appoint a conference superintendent and/or district superintendents. Such conference and/or district superintendent(s) shall be an elder(s) and shall be subject to the same limitations on years of service as district superintendents (¶ 416). Years of service may be either consecutive or non-consecutive. Years of service as a conference and/or district superintendent in a missionary conference shall be counted toward the total of twelve years permitted in a regular annual conference.⁷</p> <p>2. <i>Finances-</i> The General Board of Global Ministries shall</p>	<p>[586.1-3+6-7] ¶509.004. <i>Conference session-1. Presiding Officers-</i>The College of Bishops shall provide episcopal supervision for any missionary conference(s) within its jurisdictional boundaries as are organized. The bishop thus placed in charge and having episcopal supervision within the respective episcopal area in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries shall appoint a conference superintendent and/or district superintendents. Such conference and/or district superintendent(s) shall be an elder(s) and shall be subject to the same limitations on years of service as district superintendents (¶ 416 418). Years of service may be either consecutive or non-consecutive. Years of service as a conference and/or district superintendent in a missionary conference shall be counted toward the total of twelve years permitted in a regular annual conference.⁷</p> <p>2. <i>Finances-</i> The General Board of Global Ministries shall</p>	

give close supervision and guidance in setting up the administrative and promotional budgets and Advance projects within the conference and in the promotion of new mission projects. The conference, in making requests for appropriations for support and grants and loans for building projects, shall submit to the General Board of Global Ministries a statement of the proposed annual promotional and administrative budget and the proposed financial plan for new mission and building projects. New work and building projects involving increased appropriations from the General Board of Global Ministries shall first have the approval of the General Board of Global Ministries.

3. *Elections*- Missionary conferences shall elect clergy and lay delegates to General and jurisdictional conference on the same basis as annual conferences as provided in ¶¶ 503 and 518.003.

4. *Appointments*-In order to provide traditional and experimental ministries, the bishop of the missionary conference may appoint an effective elder to other than full-time pastoral appointment combined with secular employment. This will in no way affect the conference relationship. Pension and other benefits shall be provided in consultation with the parties involved and with the approval of the missionary conference.

5. *Ministerial membership*-A missionary conference that has not established the right of full ministerial membership may ordain indigenous racial and ethnic persons as deacons who, although they are not associate members, shall be accorded all the rights and privileges of associate membership in the missionary conference, provided that they have completed all of the necessary requirements for candidacy and such other requirements the missionary conference may establish. Further, these persons have the right to pursue transfer of their ministerial relationship to another annual conference as an associate member and to pursue a relationship of full connection under the guidance of that annual

give close supervision and guidance in setting up the administrative and promotional budgets and Advance projects within the conference and in the promotion of new mission projects. The conference, in making requests for appropriations for support and grants and loans for building projects, shall submit to the General Board of Global Ministries a statement of the proposed annual promotional and administrative budget and the proposed financial plan for new mission and building projects. New work and building projects involving increased appropriations from the General Board of Global Ministries shall first have the approval of the General Board of Global Ministries.

3. *Elections*- Missionary conferences shall elect clergy and lay delegates to General and jurisdictional conference on the same basis as annual conferences as provided in BOD ¶¶ 503 502 and 518.003 514.

~~4.6.~~ *Appointments*-In order to provide traditional and experimental ministries, the bishop of the missionary conference may appoint an effective elder to other than full-time pastoral appointment combined with secular employment. This will in no way affect the conference relationship. Pension and other benefits shall be provided in consultation with the parties involved and with the approval of the missionary conference.

~~5.7.~~ *Ministerial membership*-A missionary conference that has not established the right of full ministerial membership may ordain indigenous racial and ethnic persons as deacons who, although they are not associate members, shall be accorded all the rights and privileges of associate membership in the missionary conference, provided that they have completed all of the necessary requirements for candidacy and such other requirements the missionary conference may establish. Further, these persons have the right to pursue transfer of their ministerial relationship to another annual conference as an associate member and to pursue a relationship of full connection under the guidance of that annual

<p>conference.</p> <p>GBOD¶509.004 =586.1-3+6-7</p> <p>⁷ Judicial Council Decision 512</p>	<p>conference.</p> <p>⁷ Judicial Council Decision 512</p>	
<p>¶509.007. <i>Property</i>-The General Board of Global Ministries shall provide administrative guidance and major financial assistance, including attention to the distinctive property matters.</p> <p>GBOD¶509.007 = 585</p>	<p>[585] ¶509.007. <i>Property</i>-The General Board of Global Ministries shall provide administrative guidance and major financial assistance, including attention to the distinctive property matters.</p> <p>GBOD¶509.007 = 585</p>	
<p>¶516.001. <i>Central Conference Agencies</i>-1. A central conference may have a standing committee on women’s work. This committee should preferably be composed of the women delegates and such other persons as the central conference may elect. The duty of this committee shall be to study the relation of women to the Church and to devise ways and means of developing this portion of the Church membership, to the end that it may assume its rightful responsibilities in the extension of the Kingdom. The committee shall make recommendations to the central conference regarding women’s organizations within its areas. A central conference organization may become a member of the World Federation of Methodist Women and may elect a representative to the World Federation of Methodist Women within the provisions of the federation.</p> <p>2. A central conference may organize a women’s unit, after consultation with the committee on women’s work, in connection with any annual conference or provisional annual conference within its bounds and provide a constitution and bylaws for it.</p> <p>3. A central conference may have a standing committee on young people’s ministry. This committee shall be composed of youth, young adults, and adult leaders of youth or young-adult ministry from each annual conference in the central</p>	<p>[547.1-2+4-5] ¶516.001. <i>Central Conference Agencies</i>-1. A central conference may have a standing committee on women’s work. This committee should preferably be composed of the women delegates and such other persons as the central conference may elect. The duty of this committee shall be to study the relation of women to the Church and to devise ways and means of developing this portion of the Church membership, to the end that it may assume its rightful responsibilities in the extension of the Kingdom. The committee shall make recommendations to the central conference regarding women’s organizations within its areas. A central conference organization may become a member of the World Federation of Methodist Women and may elect a representative to the World Federation of Methodist Women within the provisions of the federation.</p> <p>2. A central conference may organize a women’s unit, after consultation with the committee on women’s work, in connection with any annual conference or provisional annual conference within its bounds and provide a constitution and bylaws for it.</p> <p>3. A central conference that ...</p> <p>3.4. A central conference may have a standing committee on young people’s ministry. This committee shall be composed</p>	<p>GBOD 512.9=547.3</p>

<p>conference. The duty of this committee shall be to study the relation of young people to the Church and to devise ways and means of developing the Church's ministry for, with, and by young people. The committee shall make recommendations to the central conference regarding youth and young-adult organizations within its areas as well as elect delegates to the Global Young People's Convocation (BOD¶ 1210).</p> <p>4. Every board, standing committee, commission, council, and work area of the central conference shall designate one of its members as its coordinator of witness ministries. These persons shall help the agencies of which they are members to engage in witness ministries and, in particular, to ask, "How are we intentionally reaching new people for Jesus Christ through our ministries?" and "How are we helping new people grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ through our ministries and areas of responsibility?"</p> <p>GBOD¶516.001 = 547.1-2+4-5</p>	<p>of youth, young adults, and adult leaders of youth or young-adult ministry from each annual conference in the central conference. The duty of this committee shall be to study the relation of young people to the Church and to devise ways and means of developing the Church's ministry for, with, and by young people. The committee shall make recommendations to the central conference regarding youth and young-adult organizations within its areas as well as elect delegates to the Global Young People's Convocation (BOD¶ 1210).</p> <p>4.5. Every board, standing committee, commission, council, and work area of the central conference shall designate one of its members as its coordinator of witness ministries. These persons shall help the agencies of which they are members to engage in witness ministries and, in particular, to ask, "How are we intentionally reaching new people for Jesus Christ through our ministries?" and "How are we helping new people grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ through our ministries and areas of responsibility?"</p>	
<p>¶532.001 In regards to ¶¶532.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>The annual conference shall secure, during the course of its annual session, the answers to the questions for conducting annual conference sessions, and the secretary to the annual conference shall include the answers to these questions in the conference journal and in the report to the council on finance and administration.</p> <p>GBOD¶532.001 = 604.11</p>	<p>¶532.001 <u>In regards to ¶¶532.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[604.11] 4. The annual conference shall secure, during the course of its annual session, the answers to the questions for conducting annual conference sessions, and the secretary to the annual conference shall include the answers to these questions in the conference journal and in the report to the council on finance and administration.</p>	
<p>¶532.002 In regards to ¶¶532.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>The annual conference shall, through the presiding bishop and the secretary, send to each new church a certificate of organization, which the district superintendent shall, on behalf of the conference, present to the new church in an</p>	<p>¶532.002 <u>In regards to ¶¶532.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[604.10] <u>The annual conference</u> shall, through the presiding bishop and the secretary, send to each new church a certificate of organization, which the district superintendent shall, on behalf of the conference, present to the new church</p>	

<p>appropriate ceremony.</p> <p>GBOD ¶532.002 = 604.10</p>	<p>in an appropriate ceremony.</p>	
<p>¶532.003 In regards to ¶532.7, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>The annual conference shall designate a chancellor, and may designate one or more associate chancellors. The chancellor and any associate chancellors must be members in good standing of a local church or an annual conference in the episcopal area, and be licensed to practice law in the episcopal area. The chancellor and any associate chancellors shall be nominated by the bishop and elected quadrennially by the annual conference. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium, the bishop shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference. The chancellor, assisted by the associate chancellors, if any, shall serve as legal adviser(s) to the bishop and the annual conference. Each annual conference shall report its election of the chancellor and any associate chancellors to the General Council on Finance and Administration.</p> <p>GBOD ¶532.003 = 603.8</p>	<p>¶532.003 <u>In regards to ¶532.7, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[603.8]—Tthe annual conference shall designate, a chancellor, and may designate one or more associate chancellors. The chancellor and any associate chancellors must be members in good standing of a local church or an annual conference in the episcopal area, and be licensed to practice law in the episcopal area. The chancellor and any associate chancellors shall be nominated by the bishop and elected quadrennially by the annual conference. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium, the bishop shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference. The chancellor, assisted by the associate chancellors, if any, shall serve as legal adviser(s) to the bishop and the annual conference. Each annual conference shall report its election of the chancellor and any associate chancellors to the General Council on Finance and Administration.</p>	
<p>¶532.004 In regards to ¶532.8, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Assumption of the obligations of the itineracy, required to be made at the time of admission into the traveling connection, puts upon the Church the counter obligation of providing support for the itinerant ministry of the Church. In view of this, the claim for pastoral support in each pastoral charge shall include provisions for the support of pastors, district superintendents, bishops, and conference claimants.⁸</p> <p>2. <i>Apportionment Distribution</i>-Each annual conference shall determine what plan and method shall be used in</p>	<p><i>PASTORAL SUPPORT</i></p> <p>¶532.004 <u>In regards to ¶532.8, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[620] - <u>1.</u> Assumption of the obligations of the itineracy, required to be made at the time of admission into the traveling connection, puts upon the Church the counter obligation of providing support for the itinerant ministry of the Church. In view of this, the claim for pastoral support in each pastoral charge shall include provisions for the support of pastors, district superintendents, bishops, and conference claimants.⁸</p>	

distributing the apportionments to its several districts and charges for the Episcopal Fund BOD¶818, for the support of district superintendents and conference claimants, and for the Equitable Compensation Fund (¶532.004).⁹

3. When the apportionments for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Compensation Fund for the several districts and charges have been determined, payments made to the same in each pastoral charge shall be exactly proportional to the amount paid on the clergy base compensation (BOD¶ 818.3). The treasurer or treasurers of each pastoral charge shall accordingly make proportional distribution of the funds raised in that charge for the support of the ordained ministry and shall remit monthly if practicable and quarterly at the latest the items for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Compensation Fund to the proper treasurer or treasurers.¹⁰

4. *Base Compensation*-The several charge conferences shall determine the pastor's base compensation according to the provisions of ¶ 229.007. "Base Compensation" shall be defined in "Guidelines: A Resource for the Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation" prepared by The National Association of Commissions on Equitable Compensation (NACEC) and made available by the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) either in print or on the GCFA website.

5. *Payment Obligation-a*) Each church or charge has an obligation to pay the base compensation, the benefits adopted by the annual conference, and other ministerial support (including housing) adopted by the charge conference, to its pastor(s). If it becomes apparent that a church or charge will be unable to so provide the base compensation, support, and benefits adopted by the charge conference, the church or charge SPRC chair, finance chair, or treasurer, shall immediately notify, both in writing and verbally, the pastor, district superintendent and congregation. This communication

[621] 2. Apportionment Distribution-Each annual conference shall determine what plan and method shall be used in distributing the apportionments to its several districts and charges for the Episcopal Fund (BOD¶818), for the support of district superintendents and conference claimants, and for the Equitable Compensation Fund (¶~~532.004~~ 625).⁹

[622] 3. When the apportionments for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Compensation Fund for the several districts and charges have been determined, payments made to the same in each pastoral charge shall be exactly proportional to the amount paid on the clergy base compensation (BOD¶ 818.3). The treasurer or treasurers of each pastoral charge shall accordingly make proportional distribution of the funds raised in that charge for the support of the ordained ministry and shall remit monthly if practicable and quarterly at the latest the items for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Compensation Fund to the proper treasurer or treasurers.¹⁰

[623] 4. Base Compensation-The several charge conferences shall determine the pastor's base compensation according to the provisions of ¶ 229.007. " Base Compensation" shall be defined in "Guidelines: A Resource for the Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation" prepared by The National Association of Commissions on Equitable Compensation (NACEC) and made available by the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) either in print or on the GCFA website.

[624] 5. Payment Obligation-a)~~1~~. Each church or charge has an obligation to pay the base compensation, the benefits adopted by the annual conference, and other ministerial support (including housing) adopted by the charge conference, to its pastor(s). If it becomes apparent that a church or charge will be unable to so provide the base compensation, support, and benefits adopted by the charge conference, the church or charge SPRC chair, finance chair, or treasurer, shall

shall indicate all avenues explored to meet the base compensation, support, and benefits, including requesting consideration for a short-term emergency subsidy grant from the Equitable Compensation Fund (§532.004.g). If it becomes necessary to reduce a pastor's compensation, it shall occur at the end of the conference appointment year.

b) In the event the annual conference has no arrearage policy in place, all such claims shall be subject to, and controlled by, the civil laws applicable to such claims in the state in which the claim arises. Any pastor who does not receive a full scheduled payment of the approved compensation shall immediately report such, in writing, to the church or charge SPRC chair, church council chair, and district superintendent. Failure to report in a timely fashion may result in surrender of any/all arrearage claims, subject to the annual conference arrearage policy (§532.004.6.b.4).

6. *Equitable Compensation-a*) There shall be in each annual conference a commission on equitable compensation or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships. It shall be composed of an equal number of lay and clergypersons, including at least one layperson and one clergyperson from churches of fewer than two hundred members, who are nominated by the conference nominating committee and elected by and amenable to the annual conference. It is recommended that in selection of commission members, consideration shall be given to inclusiveness. In addition, one district superintendent named by the cabinet shall be a member.

b) It is the purpose of the commission on equitable compensation to support full-time clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the annual conference by: (1) recommending conference standards for pastoral support; (2) administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation; and (3) providing counsel and advisory material on pastoral support to district superintendents and committees on pastor-parish relations; and (4) submitting an arrearage policy to be adopted

immediately notify, both in writing and verbally, the pastor, district superintendent and congregation. This communication shall indicate all avenues explored to meet the base compensation, support, and benefits, including requesting consideration for a short-term emergency subsidy grant from the Equitable Compensation Fund (§532.004.g-625.7). If it becomes necessary to reduce a pastor's compensation, it shall occur at the end of the conference appointment year.

~~2-b~~) In the event the annual conference has no arrearage policy in place, all such claims shall be subject to, and controlled by, the civil laws applicable to such claims in the state in which the claim arises. Any pastor who does not receive a full scheduled payment of the approved compensation shall immediately report such, in writing, to the church or charge SPRC chair, church council chair, and district superintendent. Failure to report in a timely fashion may result in surrender of any/all arrearage claims, subject to the annual conference arrearage policy (§532.004.6.b.4 ~~625.2.d~~).

[625] ~~6. Equitable Compensation-1, a~~) There shall be in each annual conference a commission on equitable compensation or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships. It shall be composed of an equal number of lay and clergypersons, including at least one layperson and one clergyperson from churches of fewer than two hundred members, who are nominated by the conference nominating committee and elected by and amenable to the annual conference. It is recommended that in selection of commission members, consideration shall be given to inclusiveness. In addition, one district superintendent named by the cabinet shall be a member.

~~2- b~~) It is the purpose of the commission on equitable compensation to support full-time clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the annual conference by: ~~(1)(a)~~ recommending conference standards for pastoral support; ~~(2)(b)~~ administering funds to be used in base compensation supplementation; and ~~(3)(c)~~ providing counsel and advisory material on pastoral

by the annual conference. For pastors receiving equitable compensation, once the base compensation supplementation has been paid by the annual conference, and the minimum base compensation and base compensation supplementation has been received by the pastor, the annual conference shall have no further financial obligation or responsibility to the pastor, the charge or anyone else regarding the pastor's compensation.

c) The commission shall carefully study the needs for additional support within the conference and the sources of income and shall recommend annually to the conference for its action a schedule of minimum base compensation for all full-time pastors or those clergy members of the annual conference appointed less than full-time to a local church, subject to such rules and regulations as the conference may adopt (§ 332.2, .3).¹¹

d) In some instances, for missional reasons, consideration may be given by the conference commission on equitable compensation to make funds available for the deacon in full connection when the primary appointment is to a local church.

e) Consistent with the provisions of this paragraph, the primary responsibility for the payment of pastoral base compensation remains with individual pastoral charges.

f) On recommendation of the commission on equitable compensation, the annual conference may authorize the utilization of the Equitable Compensation Fund to provide for supplementing base compensation beyond the minimum base compensation schedule. Special attention shall be given to ethnic pastors serving ethnic ministries, with particular attention given to Native American pastors serving Native American ministries. In all cases (ethnic or nonethnic), emphasis shall be given to funding entry-level appointments in a teaching parish in a station church, circuit, or cooperative parish and/or equivalent, or to a cooperative parish.

g) In consultation with the commission on equitable compensation, the council on finance and administration shall recommend to the conference its estimate of the amount

support to district superintendents and committees on pastor-parish relations; and ~~(4)(d)~~ submitting an arrearage policy to be adopted by the annual conference. For pastors receiving equitable compensation, once the base compensation supplementation has been paid by the annual conference, and the minimum base compensation and base compensation supplementation has been received by the pastor, the annual conference shall have no further financial obligation or responsibility to the pastor, the charge or anyone else regarding the pastor's compensation.

~~3-c)~~ The commission shall carefully study the needs for additional support within the conference and the sources of income and shall recommend annually to the conference for its action a schedule of minimum base compensation for all full-time pastors or those clergy members of the annual conference appointed less than full-time to a local church, subject to such rules and regulations as the conference may adopt (§ 332.2, .3).¹¹

~~4-d)~~ In some instances, for missional reasons, consideration may be given by the conference commission on equitable compensation to make funds available for the deacon in full connection when the primary appointment is to a local church.

~~5-e)~~ Consistent with the provisions of this paragraph, the primary responsibility for the payment of pastoral base compensation remains with individual pastoral charges.

~~6-f)~~ On recommendation of the commission on equitable compensation, the annual conference may authorize the utilization of the Equitable Compensation Fund to provide for supplementing base compensation beyond the minimum base compensation schedule. Special attention shall be given to ethnic pastors serving ethnic ministries, with particular attention given to Native American pastors serving Native American ministries. In all cases (ethnic or nonethnic), emphasis shall be given to funding entry-level appointments in a teaching parish in a station church, circuit, or cooperative parish and/or equivalent, or to a cooperative parish.

required to support the schedule of minimum base compensation and base compensation supplements for the pastors, as adopted by the conference. The conference council on finance and administration shall apportion the amount approved by the conference as an item of clergy support to the districts or the charges as the conference may direct (§ 538.003.2e).¹²

h) The Equitable Compensation Fund, secured as described above in §§ 538.003.2e and 532.004.g, shall be disbursed under the direction of the commission on equitable compensation.

i) The Equitable Compensation Fund, secured as described in 7, shall be used to provide each pastor who receives less than the minimum base compensation with an additional amount sufficient to make the base compensation approved by the pastoral charge plus the supplemental aid or income from other sources equal to the minimum base compensation approved by the conference. An annual conference may set a maximum amount to be used in attaining such minimum base compensation in any given case, and it may set its own policy regarding the number of years for which a pastoral charge is eligible to receive equitable base compensation funds, provided that no member in good standing who is appointed to a pastoral charge is denied the minimum base compensation (§ 349.005).¹³

j) In light of our constitutional commitment to Ecumenical Relations (Division One-General, § 6, Article VI), the commission should give consideration in setting standards for clergy support for those ministers who have had their orders recognized for service in The United Methodist Church (§ 336.2) and whose years of service include ministry exercised in other denominations, especially those coming from the churches of the Pan-Methodist Commission and other member churches of the Churches Uniting In Christ.

k) The commission shall assemble and distribute to the charges and the district superintendents advisory material for use in the process of negotiating the total of each pastoral

~~7.g)~~ In consultation with the commission on equitable compensation, the council on finance and administration shall recommend to the conference its estimate of the amount required to support the schedule of minimum base compensation and base compensation supplements for the pastors, as adopted by the conference. The conference council on finance and administration shall apportion the amount approved by the conference as an item of clergy support to the districts or the charges as the conference may direct (~~§538.003.2e 614.1e~~).¹²

~~8.h)~~ The Equitable Compensation Fund, secured as described above in §§ ~~538.003.2e 614.1e~~ and ~~532.004.g-625.7~~, shall be disbursed under the direction of the commission on equitable compensation.

~~9.i)~~ The Equitable Compensation Fund, secured as described in 7, shall be used to provide each pastor who receives less than the minimum base compensation with an additional amount sufficient to make the base compensation approved by the pastoral charge plus the supplemental aid or income from other sources equal to the minimum base compensation approved by the conference. An annual conference may set a maximum amount to be used in attaining such minimum base compensation in any given case, and it may set its own policy regarding the number of years for which a pastoral charge is eligible to receive equitable base compensation funds, provided that no member in good standing who is appointed to a pastoral charge is denied the minimum base compensation (~~§ 349.005 342~~).¹³

~~10.j)~~ In light of our constitutional commitment to Ecumenical Relations (Division One-General, § 6, Article VI), the commission should give consideration in setting standards for clergy support for those ministers who have had their orders recognized for service in The United Methodist Church (§ 336.2) and whose years of service include ministry exercised in other denominations, especially those coming from the churches of the Pan-Methodist Commission and other member

support package, the schedule of minimum base compensation, and other information relevant to the establishment of more equitable base compensation by all the charges of the conference.

l) The guidelines of the annual conference program of equitable clergy support shall, insofar as possible, be observed by the bishops and district superintendents in arranging charges and making appointments. Each full-time pastor or those clergy members of the annual conference appointed less than full-time under episcopal appointment to a local church are eligible for participation in the annual conference program of equitable base compensation (§ 349.005).

m) The commission may suggest to the annual conference for its consideration equitable base compensation ranges for the pastors and/or charges, and the annual conference may suggest such equitable base compensation ranges to the charges for their consideration.

7. Sustentation Fund-An annual conference may establish a Sustentation Fund for the purpose of providing emergency aid to the clergy of the conference who may be in special need. On recommendation of the conference council on finance and administration, the amount needed for this purpose may be apportioned to the pastoral charges as the conference may determine. The fund, if established, shall be administered jointly by the bishop, the appropriate district superintendent, and the chairperson of the commission on equitable compensation or the chairperson of such other agency as the annual conference may determine.

8. Pastors' Expenses and Allowances-Local churches shall report to the annual conference, in the manner indicated on the annual conference report form, expenditures for the following purposes: *a)* amounts reimbursed to pastors for expenses incurred by them in the fulfillment of their professional responsibilities; *b)* amounts paid to or for pastors as allowances (including housing allowance) in addition to base compensation. Local churches are encouraged to consider

churches of the Churches Uniting In Christ.

~~11.k)~~ The commission shall assemble and distribute to the charges and the district superintendents advisory material for use in the process of negotiating the total of each pastoral support package, the schedule of minimum base compensation, and other information relevant to the establishment of more equitable base compensation by all the charges of the conference.

~~12.l)~~ The guidelines of the annual conference program of equitable clergy support shall, insofar as possible, be observed by the bishops and district superintendents in arranging charges and making appointments. Each full-time pastor or those clergy members of the annual conference appointed less than full-time under episcopal appointment to a local church are eligible for participation in the annual conference program of equitable base compensation (§ 349.005 ~~342.1, .2~~).

~~13.m)~~ The commission may suggest to the annual conference for its consideration equitable base compensation ranges for the pastors and/or charges, and the annual conference may suggest such equitable base compensation ranges to the charges for their consideration.

[626] *7. Sustentation Fund*-An annual conference may establish a Sustentation Fund for the purpose of providing emergency aid to the clergy of the conference who may be in special need. On recommendation of the conference council on finance and administration, the amount needed for this purpose may be apportioned to the pastoral charges as the conference may determine. The fund, if established, shall be administered jointly by the bishop, the appropriate district superintendent, and the chairperson of the commission on equitable compensation or the chairperson of such other agency as the annual conference may determine.

[627] *8. Pastors' Expenses and Allowances*-Local churches shall report to the annual conference, in the manner indicated on the annual conference report form, expenditures for the following purposes: *a)*(1) amounts reimbursed to pastors for

<p>guidelines provided by the annual conference and/or the General Council on Finance and Administration in setting and reporting the amounts of such allowances and reimbursements.</p> <p>9. <i>Compensation for Extension Ministries</i>-Every clergy member of an annual conference appointed to extension ministry shall furnish annually to the conference secretary at such time as the secretary shall direct a statement of his or her total compensation (including base compensation, travel, automobile, housing, and other expenses allowed and paid) for the year then ending, and said compensation of all clergy appointed to extension ministry shall be published in the journal of the annual conference.¹⁴ When this information is not furnished, the appointment of the clergyperson shall be subject to review by the resident bishop and the cabinet.</p> <p>GBOD ¶532.004 = 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628</p> <p>⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 306, 455, 579. ⁹ Judicial Council Decisions 208, 455 ¹⁰ Judicial Council Decisions 320, 401 ¹¹ Judicial Council Decisions 579 ¹² Judicial Council Decisions 90, 179, 1013 ¹³ Judicial Council Decisions 456, 579, 587, 1013 ¹⁴ Judicial Council Decisions 345, 465</p>	<p>expenses incurred by them in the fulfillment of their professional responsibilities; b)(2) amounts paid to or for pastors as allowances (including housing allowance) in addition to base compensation. Local churches are encouraged to consider guidelines provided by the annual conference and/or the General Council on Finance and Administration in setting and reporting the amounts of such allowances and reimbursements.</p> <p>[628] <u>9. Compensation for Extension Ministries</u>-Every clergy member of an annual conference appointed to extension ministry shall furnish annually to the conference secretary at such time as the secretary shall direct a statement of his or her total compensation (including base compensation, travel, automobile, housing, and other expenses allowed and paid) for the year then ending, and said compensation of all clergy appointed to extension ministry shall be published in the journal of the annual conference.¹⁴ When this information is not furnished, the appointment of the clergyperson shall be subject to review by the resident bishop and the cabinet.</p> <p>⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 306, 455, 579. ⁹ Judicial Council Decisions 208, 455 ¹⁰ Judicial Council Decisions 320, 401 ¹¹ Judicial Council Decisions 579 ¹² Judicial Council Decisions 90, 179, 1013 ¹³ Judicial Council Decisions 456, 579, 587, 1013 ¹⁴ Judicial Council Decisions 345, 465</p>	
<p>¶533.001 In annual conference's clergy membership according to ¶533.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consecrated diaconal ministers serve as lay members of the annual conference as long as they maintain this status in The United Methodist Church. 2. Persons who become associate members prior to January 1, 1997, shall be allowed to continue in this 	<p>¶533.001 - <u>In annual conference's clergy membership according to ¶533.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> [602.2] 2-1. Consecrated diaconal ministers serve as lay members of the annual conference as long as they maintain this status in The United Methodist Church. [602.3] 3-2. Persons who become associate members prior to January 1, 1997, shall be allowed to continue in this 	

<p>relationship and serve under the provision of the 1992 <i>Book of Discipline</i> as long as they hold this status.</p> <p>3. Each annual conference having campus ministers, chaplains and Wesley Foundation directors shall include the same in its lay and clergy annual conference composition. In districts where United Methodist laypersons serve as campus ministers/directors of Wesley Foundations, they shall be added as district-at-large lay members to the annual conference. In districts where United Methodist clergy serve as chaplains, campus ministers, and directors of Wesley Foundations, the laypersons elected as their balancing counterpart shall be elected from either the campus ministry board of directors or a student from that ministry/foundation. In making sure that such inclusion is adhered to, special consideration shall be given to the inclusion of United Methodist young adults who are active participants in campus ministry.</p> <p>GBOD ¶533.001 = 602.1-602.3</p>	<p>relationship and serve under the provision of the 1992 <i>Book of Discipline</i> as long as they hold this status.</p> <p>[602.1e] e3. Each annual conference having campus ministers, chaplains and Wesley Foundation directors shall include the same in its lay and clergy annual conference composition. In districts where United Methodist laypersons serve as campus ministers/directors of Wesley Foundations, they shall be added as district-at-large lay members to the annual conference. In districts where United Methodist clergy serve as chaplains, campus ministers, and directors of Wesley Foundations, the laypersons elected as their balancing counterpart shall be elected from either the campus ministry board of directors or a student from that ministry/foundation. In making sure that such inclusion is adhered to, special consideration shall be given to the inclusion of United Methodist young adults who are active participants in campus ministry.</p>	
<p>¶533.002 In annual conference's lay membership according to ¶¶533.2-4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>When at any time a lay member is excused by the annual conference from further attendance during the session, the alternate lay member, if present, shall be seated. The lay member or the alternate shall be the lay member of the annual conference, and it shall be the duty of the lay member to report to the local church on actions of the annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD ¶533.002 = 602.7</p>	<p>¶533.002 - <u>In annual conference's lay membership according to ¶¶533.2-4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[602.7] 7. When at any time a lay member is excused by the annual conference from further attendance during the session, the alternate lay member, if present, shall be seated. The lay member or the alternate shall be the lay member of the annual conference, and it shall be the duty of the lay member to report to the local church on actions of the annual conference.</p>	
<p>¶533.003. In annual conference seating according to ¶¶533.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The following shall be seated in the annual conference and shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote:</p>	<p>¶533.003 - <u>In annual conference seating according to ¶¶533.6, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[602.9] 1. The following shall be seated in the annual</p>	

<p>official representatives from other denominations invited by the annual conference; missionaries regularly assigned by the General Board of Global Ministries and serving within the bounds of the annual conference; lay missionaries regularly appointed by the General Board of Global Ministries in nations other than the United States and certified lay missionaries from nations other than the United States serving within the bounds of the annual conference.</p> <p>2. If not otherwise a voting member of the annual conference, the conference chancellor shall be seated in the annual conference and shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote.</p> <p>GBOD ¶533.003 = 602.9-10</p>	<p>conference and shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote: official representatives from other denominations invited by the annual conference; missionaries regularly assigned by the General Board of Global Ministries and serving within the bounds of the annual conference; lay missionaries regularly appointed by the General Board of Global Ministries in nations other than the United States and certified lay missionaries from nations other than the United States serving within the bounds of the annual conference.</p> <p>[602.10] 40-2. If not otherwise a voting member of the annual conference, the conference chancellor shall be seated in the annual conference and shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote.</p>	
<p>¶534.001 - In selection of the place for annual conference according to ¶¶ 534.2. the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. If it becomes necessary for any reason to change the meeting place of the annual conference, a majority of the district superintendents, with the consent of the bishop in charge, may change the place.</p> <p>2. The annual conference sessions shall be held in places that are accessible to people with disabilities.</p> <p>GBOD ¶534.001 = 603.3-4</p>	<p>¶534.001 - <u>In selection of the place for annual conference according to ¶¶ 534.2. the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[603.3] 1. If, but should it becomes necessary for any reason to change the <u>meeting place of the annual conference meeting</u>, a majority of the district superintendents, with the consent of the bishop in charge, may change the place.</p> <p>[603.4] <u>2.</u> The annual conference sessions shall be held in places that are accessible to people with disabilities.</p>	
<p>¶534.002. Concerning the business of the conference according to ¶¶ 534.3. the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. The session shall open with a period of devotion, followed by a call of the roll, including the roll of the local pastors.</p> <p>2. The business of the annual conference shall include receiving and acting upon reports from district superintendents, officers, standing and special committees, boards, commissions, and societies and also making such inquiries as</p>	<p>[605.1+4-6] ¶534.002. <u>Concerning the business of the conference according to ¶¶ 534.3. the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>1. The session shall open with a period of devotion, followed by a call of the roll, including the roll of the local pastors.</p> <p><u>2.</u> The business of the annual conference shall include receiving and acting upon reports from district superintendents, officers, standing and special committees, boards, commissions, and societies and also making such inquiries as</p>	

<p>the Council of Bishops shall recommend by the provision of a supplemental guide.¹⁵</p> <p>3. The agenda of the annual conference shall provide time for an address or report that shall be the responsibility of the conference lay leader.</p> <p>4. At the request of the General Secretary of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the agenda of the annual conference shall provide time for an address of or report from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits in consultation with the annual conference board of pensions for the purpose of discussing benefit plans and related issues.</p> <p>GBOD¶534.002 =605.1+4-6</p> <p>¹⁵ Judicial Council Decision 367</p>	<p>the Council of Bishops shall recommend by the provision of a supplemental guide.¹⁵</p> <p><u>3</u>. The agenda of the annual conference shall provide time for an address or report that shall be the responsibility of the conference lay leader.</p> <p><u>4</u>. At the request of the General Secretary of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, the agenda of the annual conference shall provide time for an address of or report from the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits in consultation with the annual conference board of pensions for the purpose of discussing benefit plans and related issues.</p>	
<p>¶534.003. – Concerning the clergy session according to ¶¶ 534.6. the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>The annual conference shall make inquiry into the moral and official conduct of its clergy. In response to the inquiry whether all such persons are blameless in their life and official administration, the district superintendent may answer for all the preachers in the district in one answer, or the Board of Ordained Ministry may make inquiry of each district superintendent about each clergy in the district and make one report to the bishop and the conference in open session.¹² Questions relating to matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy shall be the business of the clergy session. The actions of the clergy session shall be for and on behalf of the annual conference. The provisions of the <i>Discipline</i> applicable to an annual conference shall also be applicable to the clergy session. All clergy members (¶¶ 531, 533.1) of the annual conference and the lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry may attend and shall have voice in the clergy session. Only the ordained clergy in full</p>	<p>¶534.003. – <u>Concerning the clergy session according to ¶¶ 534.6. the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[605.7] <u>3</u>. The annual conference shall make inquiry into the moral and official conduct of its <u>clergy</u>. In response to the inquiry whether all such persons are blameless in their life and official administration, the district superintendent may answer for all the preachers in the district in one answer, or the Board of Ordained Ministry may make inquiry of each district superintendent about each <u>clergy</u> in the district and make one report to the bishop and the conference in open session.¹² Questions relating to matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy shall be the business of the clergy session. The actions of the clergy session shall be for and on behalf of the annual conference. The provisions of the <i>Discipline</i> applicable to an annual conference shall also be applicable to the clergy session. All clergy members (¶¶ <u>531</u> 604.4, <u>533.1</u> 602.4) of the annual conference and the lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry may attend and shall have voice in the clergy session. Only the ordained</p>	

<p>connection and the members of the Board of Ordained Ministry may vote (§ 533.1a). Others may be admitted by express action of the clergy session, but shall not have vote, nor, unless specifically granted by the clergy session, shall have voice.¹⁶</p> <p>GBOD§534.003 = 605.7</p> <p>¹⁶Judicial Council Decisions 686, 690, 769, 782, 1009.</p>	<p>clergy in full connection and the members of the Board of Ordained Ministry may vote (§ 533 <u>602.1a</u>). Others may be admitted by express action of the clergy session, but shall not have vote, nor, unless specifically granted by the clergy session, shall have voice.</p> <p>¹⁶Judicial Council Decisions 686, 690, 769, 782, 1009.</p>	
<p>§534.004. - In selection of members according to §§ 534.8. the following additional regulations on tenure shall be implemented:</p> <p>[605.3] For the purpose of adjusting tenure, a certain number of members for committees, boards, and commissions of the annual conference may be elected or appointed for particular terms. Members shall hold office until their successors are elected. For the annual conference agencies provided for by the <i>Discipline</i>, see § 536; and for the agencies established by the annual conference itself, see § 536.001.1.</p> <p>GBOD§534.004 = 605.3</p>	<p><u>§534.004.</u> - <u>In selection of members according to §§ 534.8. the following additional regulations on tenure shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[605.3] 3. For the purpose of adjusting tenure, a certain number of members <u>for committees, boards, and commissions of the annual conference</u> may be elected or appointed for particular terms. Members shall hold office until their successors are elected. For the annual conference agencies provided for by the <i>Discipline</i>, see § 536 <u>610.1</u>; and for the agencies established by the annual conference itself, see § 536.001.1 610.2.</p>	
<p>§534.005. – Concerning the lay leader according to §§ 534.9a). the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>[607.2-10]. <i>The Conference Lay Leader</i>- 1. The conference lay leader shall relate to the organized lay groups in the conference such as United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Youth, and Scouting Ministries, encourage and support their work, and help them coordinate their activities. The conference lay leader shall also have the general responsibility in: a) developing the advocacy role for laity in the life of the Church; b) increasing the participation of laity in the sessions and structure of the annual</p>	<p><u>§534.005.</u> – <u>Concerning the lay leader according to §§ 534.9a).</u> the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>[607.2-10]. <i>The Conference Lay Leader</i>-<u>1.</u> The conference lay leader shall relate to the organized lay groups in the conference such as United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Youth, and Scouting Ministries, encourage and support their work, and help them coordinate their activities. The conference lay leader shall also have the general responsibility in: <u>a)</u> developing the advocacy role for laity in the life of the Church; <u>b)</u> increasing the participation of laity in the sessions and structure of the annual</p>	

conference; and *c*) encouraging laypersons in the general ministry of the Church.

2. The conference lay leader shall be the chairperson of the conference board of laity, or its equivalent structure, and shall be a member of the annual conference, the conference council on ministries or equivalent structure, the executive committee, if any, of the conference council on ministries, the conference committee on nominations, the conference committee on episcopacy, and the committee planning annual conference sessions; and may be designated by virtue of office to membership on any conference agency by the annual conference.

3. The annual conference shall provide time for an address that shall be the responsibility of the conference lay leader.

4. The conference lay leader may serve on the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and will participate in the Service of Ordination at annual conference.

5. The conference lay leader shall meet with the cabinet when matters relating to the coordination, implementation, or administration of the conference program, or other matters as the cabinet may determine are on the agenda.

6. The conference lay leader will meet regularly with the bishop to discuss the state of the annual conference, the Church, and the needs for ministry both locally and globally.

7. The conference lay leader shall ensure that the annual conference has a conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries filled in the manner determined by the annual conference and the conference lay leader shall participate in Lay Servant Ministries.

8. The conference lay leader shall be elected for a term of not less than four years by the annual conference as the annual conference may determine. The method of nomination and term of office shall be determined by the annual conference. Associate lay leader(s), to work with the conference lay leader, may be elected by the annual conference as it may determine. The conference lay leader and associate lay leader(s) will

conference; and *c*) encouraging laypersons in the general ministry of the Church.

2. The conference lay leader shall be the chairperson of the conference board of laity, or its equivalent structure, and shall be a member of the annual conference, the conference council on ministries or equivalent structure, the executive committee, if any, of the conference council on ministries, the conference committee on nominations, the conference committee on episcopacy, and the committee planning annual conference sessions; and may be designated by virtue of office to membership on any conference agency by the annual conference.

3. The annual conference shall provide time for an address that shall be the responsibility of the conference lay leader.

4. The conference lay leader may serve on the conference Board of Ordained Ministry and will participate in the Service of Ordination at annual conference.

5. The conference lay leader shall meet with the cabinet when matters relating to the coordination, implementation, or administration of the conference program, or other matters as the cabinet may determine are on the agenda.

6. The conference lay leader will meet regularly with the bishop to discuss the state of the annual conference, the Church, and the needs for ministry both locally and globally.

7. The conference lay leader shall ensure that the annual conference has a conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries filled in the manner determined by the annual conference and the conference lay leader shall participate in Lay Servant Ministries.

8. The conference lay leader shall be elected for a term of not less than four years by the annual conference as the annual conference may determine. The method of nomination and term of office shall be determined by the annual conference. Associate lay leader(s), to work with the conference lay leader, may be elected by the annual conference as it may determine. The conference lay leader and associate lay leader(s) will

<p>receive reasonable reimbursement for approved dues and expenses necessary for the ministry.</p> <p>9. The conference lay leader shall be a member of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders.</p> <p>GBOD¶534.005 = 607.2-10</p>	<p>receive reasonable reimbursement for approved dues and expenses necessary for the ministry.</p> <p>9. The conference lay leader shall be a member of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders.</p>	
<p>¶534.006. – Concerning the Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services according to ¶¶ 534.9b) the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. As conference treasurer, this officer shall have the following functions:</p> <p>a) The conference treasurer shall receive and disburse, in accordance with the actions of the annual conference and the provisions of the <i>Discipline</i>, remittances from local church treasurers for all duly authorized General, jurisdictional, annual conference, and district causes.¹⁷</p> <p>(1) Local church treasurers shall remit monthly to the conference treasurer all amounts contributed in each local church for: (a) the World Service Fund and the Conference Benevolences fund, whether apportioned separately or as one combined fund; (b) all other funds authorized by the General Conference and apportioned to the annual conferences by the General Council on Finance and Administration; (c) all other jurisdictional, annual conference, and district funds or causes apportioned in accordance with ¶ 538.004, unless otherwise directed by the annual conference; (d) special Sunday offerings (¶234.005); (e) special appeals (¶¶ 538.003.6, 819); (f) Advance Special Gifts (BOD¶ 822); (g) World Service Special Gifts (BOD¶ 820); (h) Youth Service Fund (BOD¶ 1208); and (i) all other General, jurisdictional, annual conference, and district funds not otherwise directed.¹⁸</p> <p>(2) <i>The World Service Fund and the Conference Benevolences Fund</i>-(a) If apportioned as one combined fund,</p>	<p>¶534.006. – Concerning the Conference Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services according to ¶¶ 534.9b) the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>[619] 1. As conference treasurer, this officer shall have the following functions:</p> <p>a) The conference treasurer shall receive and disburse, in accordance with the actions of the annual conference and the provisions of the <i>Discipline</i>, remittances from local church treasurers for all duly authorized General, jurisdictional, annual conference, and district causes.¹⁷</p> <p>(1) Local church treasurers shall remit monthly to the conference treasurer all amounts contributed in each local church for: (a) the World Service Fund and the Conference Benevolences fund, whether apportioned separately or as one combined fund; (b) all other funds authorized by the General Conference and apportioned to the annual conferences by the General Council on Finance and Administration; (c) all other jurisdictional, annual conference, and district funds or causes apportioned in accordance with ¶ <u>538.004</u> 615, unless otherwise directed by the annual conference; (d) special Sunday offerings (<u>¶234.005</u> 262) (e) special appeals (¶¶<u>538.003.6</u> 614.5, 819); (f) Advance Special Gifts (BOD¶ 822); (g) World Service Special Gifts (BOD¶ 820); (h) Youth Service Fund (BOD¶ 1208); and (i) all other General, jurisdictional, annual conference, and district funds not otherwise directed.¹⁸</p> <p>(2) <i>The World Service Fund and the Conference</i></p>	

the treasurer shall each month divide the total amount received from local churches for World Service and Conference Benevolences, setting aside the proper amount for World Service and the proper amount for conference benevolences, according to the ratio of each established by the annual conference in the total World Service and Conference Benevolences budget (§ 538.003.4c).¹⁹

(b) Whether apportioned separately or as one combined fund, the treasurer shall, from the share received for conference benevolences, credit monthly the accounts of the several agencies or causes included in the conference benevolences budget or make monthly remittances to the treasurers of such agencies or causes according to the rightful share and proportion of each (§ 538.003.4a) or according to a payment schedule approved by the conference council on finance and administration, which shall provide that the total allocated to each agency or cause during the year shall be equal to the rightful share and proportion of each.

(c) Whether apportioned separately or as one combined fund, the treasurer shall remit each month to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration the total share received during the month for World Service. When the share so designated for World Service during a year exceeds the amount apportioned to the annual conference, the entire share contributed for World Service shall be remitted in regular order to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration before the end of the fiscal year.²⁰

(d) If an annual conference establishes an apportioned fund which combines two or more general funds with one another, or which combines one or more general church funds with funds other than general church funds, the conference treasurer shall allocate to the general church funds amounts at least equal to the percentage of receipts set under § 538.003.4-.6. Amounts so allocated shall be remitted at least monthly to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and

Benevolences Fund-(a) If apportioned as one combined fund, the treasurer shall each month divide the total amount received from local churches for World Service and Conference Benevolences, setting aside the proper amount for World Service and the proper amount for conference benevolences, according to the ratio of each established by the annual conference in the total World Service and Conference Benevolences budget (§ 538.003.4c ~~614.3e~~).¹⁹

(b) Whether apportioned separately or as one combined fund, the treasurer shall, from the share received for conference benevolences, credit monthly the accounts of the several agencies or causes included in the conference benevolences budget or make monthly remittances to the treasurers of such agencies or causes according to the rightful share and proportion of each (§ 538.003.4a ~~614.3a~~) or according to a payment schedule approved by the conference council on finance and administration, which shall provide that the total allocated to each agency or cause during the year shall be equal to the rightful share and proportion of each.

(c) Whether apportioned separately or as one combined fund, the treasurer shall remit each month to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration the total share received during the month for World Service. When the share so designated for World Service during a year exceeds the amount apportioned to the annual conference, the entire share contributed for World Service shall be remitted in regular order to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration before the end of the fiscal year.²⁰

(d) If an annual conference establishes an apportioned fund which combines two or more general funds with one another, or which combines one or more general church funds with funds other than general church funds, the conference treasurer shall allocate to the general church funds amounts at least equal to the percentage of receipts set under § 538.003.4-.6 ~~614.3~~ .5. Amounts so allocated shall be remitted

Administration.

(3) The treasurer shall, as far as practicable, remit monthly to the several district superintendents the amount due each of them (§538.003.2a).

(4) The treasurer shall likewise credit or remit each month all funds received and payable for other jurisdictional, annual conference, and district causes in accordance with budgets adopted by the annual conference.

(5) The conference treasurer shall remit each month to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration the amounts received during the month for the General Administration Fund, the Episcopal Fund, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, the Black College Fund, the Ministerial Education Fund, World Service Special Gifts, Advance Special Gifts, general Church special Sunday offerings (§234.005), special churchwide appeals (BOD§ 819), and all other general causes not otherwise directed.²¹

b) The treasurer shall enter the proper credits to each agency served by a conference central treasury at the end of each month's business. Disbursements from funds allocated to any conference agency shall be made only on proper order from the agency.²²

c) The treasurer shall prepare at regular intervals such financial statements and reports as may be required for the bishop in charge, the district superintendents, the annual conference, the council, the agencies served by the conference central treasury and its officers, and the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration.

(1) The treasurer shall make each month a full report of all general funds handled to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration and to the presiding bishop of the conference.

(2) The treasurer's annual reports shall be printed in the conference journal.

d) The treasurer may be authorized by the council to invest funds in accordance with policies and procedures

at least monthly to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration.

(3) The treasurer shall, as far as practicable, remit monthly to the several district superintendents the amount due each of them (§ 538.003.2a ~~614.1a~~).

(4) The treasurer shall likewise credit or remit each month all funds received and payable for other jurisdictional, annual conference, and district causes in accordance with budgets adopted by the annual conference.

(5) The conference treasurer shall remit each month to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration the amounts received during the month for the General Administration Fund, the Episcopal Fund, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, the Black College Fund, the Ministerial Education Fund, World Service Special Gifts, Advance Special Gifts, general Church special Sunday offerings (§234.005 ~~262~~), special churchwide appeals (BOD§ 819), and all other general causes not otherwise directed.²¹

b) The treasurer shall enter the proper credits to each agency served by a conference central treasury at the end of each month's business. Disbursements from funds allocated to any conference agency shall be made only on proper order from the agency.²²

c) The treasurer shall prepare at regular intervals such financial statements and reports as may be required for the bishop in charge, the district superintendents, the annual conference, the council, the agencies served by the conference central treasury and its officers, and the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration.

(1) The treasurer shall make each month a full report of all general funds handled to the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration and to the presiding bishop of the conference.

(2) The treasurer's annual reports shall be printed in the conference journal.

d) The treasurer may be authorized by the council to

established by the council (¶ 538.3f). A listing of securities held shall be printed annually in the conference journal.

e) The treasurer shall provide counsel and guidance to local church business administrators, treasurers, financial secretaries, and committees on finance in the development of standardized financial recording and reporting

2. As director of administrative services, this officer may have responsibility in one or more of the following areas: office management; payroll and personnel services; the provision of administrative services for annual conference officers and agencies; property management with respect to property owned by the annual conference or any of its agencies; and such other responsibilities of an administrative nature as the council, by mutual agreement with other annual conference officers and agencies, may assign. The director shall be present when the cabinet considers matters relating to conference administration related to the conference treasurer's or conference treasurer/director of administrative services' responsibilities, and other matters as the cabinet and director may determine. The director shall not be present during the cabinet discussions on matters related to the making of appointments.

3. The council shall have authority and supervision over the director and shall, after consultation with those annual conference officers and agencies for whom the director might be expected to perform services, define his or her specific responsibilities and do regular evaluation.

4. After consultation with the bishop in charge, the council may remove the treasurer or treasurer/director from office for cause and fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

GBOD ¶ 534.006 = 619

¹⁷ Judicial Council Decisions 456, 591

¹⁸ Judicial Council Decision 591

invest funds in accordance with policies and procedures established by the council (¶ ~~538.3f~~ 613.5). A listing of securities held shall be printed annually in the conference journal.

e) The treasurer shall provide counsel and guidance to local church business administrators, treasurers, financial secretaries, and committees on finance in the development of standardized financial recording and reporting systems—(¶ ~~613.13~~).

2. As director of administrative services, this officer may have responsibility in one or more of the following areas: office management; payroll and personnel services; the provision of administrative services for annual conference officers and agencies; property management with respect to property owned by the annual conference or any of its agencies; and such other responsibilities of an administrative nature as the council, by mutual agreement with other annual conference officers and agencies, may assign. The director shall be present when the cabinet considers matters relating to conference administration related to the conference treasurer's or conference treasurer/director of administrative services' responsibilities, and other matters as the cabinet and director may determine. The director shall not be present during the cabinet discussions on matters related to the making of appointments.

3. The council shall have authority and supervision over the director and shall, after consultation with those annual conference officers and agencies for whom the director might be expected to perform services, define his or her specific responsibilities and do regular evaluation.

4. After consultation with the bishop in charge, the council may remove the treasurer or treasurer/director from office for cause and fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

<p>¹⁹ Judicial Council Decision 332 ²⁰ Judicial Council Decision 400 ²¹ Judicial Council Decision 400 ²² Judicial Council Decision 591</p>	<p>¹⁷ Judicial Council Decisions 456, 591 ¹⁸ Judicial Council Decision 591 ¹⁹ Judicial Council Decision 332 ²⁰ Judicial Council Decision 400 ²¹ Judicial Council Decision 400 ²² Judicial Council Decision 591</p>	
<p>¶535.001. <i>Records and Archives</i> – In journal publication according to ¶¶ 535.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</p> <p>1. Each annual conference shall send without charge to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits a copy of its annual journal, in printed or electronic format.</p> <p>2. An annual conference in the United States and Puerto Rico shall include in its journal a list of the deaconesses and missionaries, clergy and lay, active and retired, who have gone from the conference into mission service or who are presently serving in such capacity within the bounds of the annual conference.</p> <p>3. The annual conference journal shall include a listing of the consecrated diaconal ministers and their service records.</p> <p>4. The local church annual report to the conference shall be submitted on the prescribed forms no later than thirty days following the close of the calendar year. If the annual conference sets an earlier deadline for receiving the reports, the earlier deadline shall apply.</p> <p>5. The official statistical and financial items shall be handled alike in all annual conferences.</p> <p>GBOD¶535.001 = 606.4-5+7-8</p>	<p>[606.4-5+7-8] ¶535.001. <i>Records and Archives</i> – <u>In journal publication according to ¶¶ 535.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u></p> <p>[606.2] <u>1. Each annual conference shall send without charge to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits a copy of its annual journal, in printed or electronic format.</u></p> <p>[606.4] <u>2. An annual conference in the United States and Puerto Rico shall include in its journal a list of the deaconesses and missionaries, clergy and lay, active and retired, who have gone from the conference into mission service or who are presently serving in such capacity within the bounds of the annual conference.</u></p> <p>[606.5] <u>3. The annual conference journal shall include a listing of the consecrated diaconal ministers and their service records.</u></p> <p>[606.7] <u>4. The local church annual report to the conference shall be submitted</u> on the prescribed forms no later than thirty days following the close of the calendar year. If the annual conference sets an earlier deadline for receiving the reports, the earlier deadline shall apply.</p> <p>[606.8] <u>5. The official statistical and financial items shall be handled alike in all annual conferences.</u></p>	
<p>¶536.001. In conference agencies according to ¶¶ 536.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: 1. The annual conference may appoint additional committees for the</p>	<p>[610.2-8] ¶536.001. <u>In conference agencies according to ¶¶ 536.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented:</u> 1. The annual conference may appoint additional</p>	

purpose of promoting the work of The United Methodist Church within the bounds of the said annual conference and may prescribe their membership and their powers and duties.

2. Each annual conference may make its agencies of such size as its work may require, provided that consideration shall be given to the inclusion of lay and clergypersons from small membership churches. All local pastors serving charges are eligible for election or appointment to such agencies, except those dealing with qualifications, orders, and status of clergy and local pastors.

3. Whenever possible, meetings scheduled by the annual conference and its districts, boards, or committees should be held in places that are accessible to persons with disabilities even if this means scheduling meetings outside church-related facilities.

4. In the nomination and election of the membership on councils, boards, and agencies of the annual conference, special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth (§ 233.004.), young adults, older adults, persons from churches with small memberships, people with disabilities, and racial and ethnic persons, in keeping with policies for general Church agencies. It is further recommended that the membership of such agencies, except for the Board of Ordained Ministry, include one-third clergy, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen, who are professing members of local churches.²³

5. Members of general agencies (BOD¶ 701) shall serve as ex officio members of the corresponding annual conference agency or its equivalent structure (see BOD¶ 710.4, .6). If this results in a person being a member of more than one annual conference agency in violation of either annual conference policy or another provision of the *Discipline*, the person shall choose the annual conference agency on which to serve.

6. It is strongly recommended that the annual conference provide for child and dependent care both during the sessions of the annual conference and during meetings of the annual

committees for the purpose of promoting the work of The United Methodist Church within the bounds of the said annual conference and may prescribe their membership and their powers and duties.

2. Each annual conference may make its agencies of such size as its work may require, provided that consideration shall be given to the inclusion of lay and clergypersons from small membership churches. All local pastors serving charges are eligible for election or appointment to such agencies, except those dealing with qualifications, orders, and status of clergy and local pastors.

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4. In the nomination and election of the membership on councils, boards, and agencies of the annual conference, special attention shall be given to the inclusion of clergywomen, youth (§~~233.004~~ 256.3), young adults, older adults, persons from churches with small memberships, people with disabilities, and racial and ethnic persons, in keeping with policies for general Church agencies. It is further recommended that the membership of such agencies, except for the Board of Ordained Ministry, include one-third clergy, one-third laywomen, and one-third laymen, who are professing members of local churches.²³

5. Members of general agencies (BOD¶ 701) shall serve as ex officio members of the corresponding annual conference agency or its equivalent structure (see BOD¶ 710.4, .6). If this results in a person being a member of more than one annual conference agency in violation of either annual conference policy or another provision of the *Discipline*, the person shall choose the annual conference agency on which to serve.

6. It is strongly recommended that the annual conference provide for child and dependent care both during the sessions

<p>conference boards and agencies. Child and dependent care should follow the annual conference policy of child protection. If no policy is in place, care should be given to keep all people safe, and procedures should be followed as suggested by the General Board of Discipleship and the General Council on Finance and Administration.</p> <p>7. Whenever possible, meetings scheduled by the annual conference and its districts, boards, or committees shall be held at a time and place that accommodates young people's schooling schedules.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.001 = 610.2-8</p> <p>²³ Judicial Council Decisions 46, 558</p>	<p>of the annual conference and during meetings of the annual conference boards and agencies. Child and dependent care should follow the annual conference policy of child protection. If no policy is in place, care should be given to keep all people safe, and procedures should be followed as suggested by the General Board of Discipleship and the General Council on Finance and Administration.</p> <p>7. Whenever possible, meetings scheduled by the annual conference and its districts, boards, or committees shall be held at a time and place that accommodates young people's schooling schedules.</p> <p>²³ Judicial Council Decisions 46, 558</p>	
<p>¶536.002. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for Connectional Ministries as each annual conference is responsible to focus and guide the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church within its boundaries by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. envisioning the ministries necessary to live out the mission of the church in and through the annual conference; 2. creating and nurturing relationships and connections among the local, district, annual conference, and general church ministries; 3. providing encouragement, coordination, and support for the ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness in districts and congregations for the transformation of the world; 4. ensuring the alignment of the total resources of the annual conference to its mission; 5. developing and strengthening ethnic ministries, including ethnic local churches and concerns; 6. providing for advocacy and monitoring functions to ensure that the church is consistent with its stated values. 7. In partnership with the bishop and cabinet and the elected leadership of the conference, the director of connectional 	<p>[608] ¶536.002. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for Connectional Ministries as e</u>Each annual conference is responsible to focus and guide the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church within its boundaries by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. envisioning the ministries necessary to live out the mission of the church in and through the annual conference; 2. creating and nurturing relationships and connections among the local, district, annual conference, and general church ministries; 3. providing encouragement, coordination, and support for the ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness in districts and congregations for the transformation of the world; 4. ensuring the alignment of the total resources of the annual conference to its mission; 5. developing and strengthening ethnic ministries, including ethnic local churches and concerns; 6. providing for advocacy and monitoring functions to ensure that the church is consistent with its stated values. 7. In partnership with the bishop and cabinet and the elected leadership of the conference, the director of connectional 	

<p>ministries shall have the following primary responsibilities:</p> <p><i>a)</i> to serve as steward of the vision of the annual conference, including the development, clarification, interpretation, and embodiment of the vision;</p> <p><i>b)</i> to serve as leader of the continuous process of transformation and renewal necessary for the annual conference to be faithful to our Christian identity in a changing world;</p> <p><i>c)</i> to ensure alignment of the total resources of the conference to its vision;</p> <p><i>d)</i> to ensure the connections among the local, district, annual conference, and general church ministries for the purpose of networking, resourcing, and communicating their shared ministry.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.002 = 608</p>	<p>ministries shall have the following primary responsibilities:</p> <p><u><i>a)</i></u> to serve as steward of the vision of the annual conference, including the development, clarification, interpretation, and embodiment of the vision;</p> <p><u><i>b)</i></u> to serve as leader of the continuous process of transformation and renewal necessary for the annual conference to be faithful to our Christian identity in a changing world;</p> <p><u><i>c)</i></u> to ensure alignment of the total resources of the conference to its vision;</p> <p><u><i>d)</i></u> to ensure the connections among the local, district, annual conference, and general church ministries for the purpose of networking, resourcing, and communicating their shared ministry.</p>	
<p>¶536.003. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for communication:</p> <p>1. There shall be in each annual conference or episcopal area a director of communications or designated person to focus and guide the communications ministry of The United Methodist Church within the annual conference or episcopal area.</p> <p><i>a)</i> It is recommended that the director have the following primary responsibilities:</p> <p>(1) to help identify, equip, and coordinate the work of a communications team (staff and/or volunteer);</p> <p>(2) to develop and guide the implementation of strategies for effective communication among annual conference agencies, districts, and local churches;</p> <p>(3) to promote and coordinate activities to enhance the awareness and reputation of the Church;</p> <p>(4) to help guide the strategy to interpret the conference budget and other benevolences;</p> <p>(5) to provide guidance and training in effective communications for annual conference, district, and/or local</p>	<p>[609] ¶536.003. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for communication:</u></p> <p><u>1.</u> There shall be in each annual conference or episcopal area a director of communications or designated person to focus and guide the communications ministry of The United Methodist Church within the annual conference or episcopal area.</p> <p><i>a)</i> It is recommended that the director have the following primary responsibilities:</p> <p>(1) to help identify, equip, and coordinate the work of a communications team (staff and/or volunteer);</p> <p>(2) to develop and guide the implementation of strategies for effective communication among annual conference agencies, districts, and local churches;</p> <p>(3) to promote and coordinate activities to enhance the awareness and reputation of the Church;</p> <p>(4) to help guide the strategy to interpret the conference budget and other benevolences;</p> <p>(5) to provide guidance and training in effective</p>	

church leaders;

(6) to lead the conference in developing effective relationships with the news media within the annual conference;

(7) to guide conference leaders in developing and implementing an effective communication strategy under the connectional ministry;

(8) to lead the conference in using new and emerging technologies as tools for ministry;

(9) to provide the connectional relationship between the conference and United Methodist Communications.

b) It is recommended that the director or designated person be a part of the extended cabinet (or equivalent leadership structure) to provide advice and counsel concerning communications strategies relating to the conference program, apportionment and benevolence interpretation, crisis management, and other matters as the cabinet and director may determine.

2. *a)* In each annual conference there shall be a commission on communications or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationship. It shall include persons with skills in communications nominated for membership in a manner determined by the conference in accordance with ¶ 536.001.4.

b) The commission shall be a service agency to meet the communication, publication, multimedia, public and media relations, interpretation, and promotional needs of the annual conference. It may be responsible for providing resources and services to conference agencies, districts, and local churches in the field of communication. The commission shall have a consultative relationship with agencies and bodies within the conference structure.

GBOD ¶ 536.003 = 609 and 646

communications for annual conference, district, and/or local church leaders;

(6) to lead the conference in developing effective relationships with the news media within the annual conference;

(7) to guide conference leaders in developing and implementing an effective communication strategy under the connectional ministry;

(8) to lead the conference in using new and emerging technologies as tools for ministry;

(9) to provide the connectional relationship between the conference and United Methodist Communications.

b) It is recommended that the director or designated person be a part of the extended cabinet (or equivalent leadership structure) to provide advice and counsel concerning communications strategies relating to the conference program, apportionment and benevolence interpretation, crisis management, and other matters as the cabinet and director may determine.

[646] 2. a) In each annual conference there shall be a commission on communications or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationship. It shall include persons with skills in communications nominated for membership in a manner determined by the conference in accordance with ¶ 536.001.4 ~~610.5~~.

b) The commission shall be a service agency to meet the communication, publication, multimedia, public and media relations, interpretation, and promotional needs of the annual conference. It may be responsible for providing resources and services to conference agencies, districts, and local churches in the field of communication. The commission shall have a consultative relationship with agencies and bodies within the conference structure.

¶536.004. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a *Conference Board of Church and Society-1*. The annual conference shall organize a board of church and society or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry and maintain the connectional relationship between the General Board of Church and Society and the conference, district, and local church, as well as for church and society responsibilities related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Church and Society as set forth in BOD¶¶ 1002-1004.

2. The conference board of church and society or equivalent structure shall be composed of those persons as determined by the annual conference, including, by virtue of their offices, the mission coordinator for social action of the conference United Methodist Women and members of the General Board of Church and Society from the annual conference who shall serve within limits set by ¶¶ 536.001.5 and BOD 710.6. The conference board of church and society or equivalent structure shall also name a conference Peace with Justice Coordinator who will be responsible for administering the conference Peace with Justice Special Sunday Offering receipts and for coordinating peace and justice ministries. Guidelines for inclusiveness in the membership shall be followed (¶ 536.001.4).

3. The conference board, in cooperation with the General Board of Church and Society and the annual conference council on ministries, shall develop and promote programs on church and society within the bounds of the conference that include prison ministry and reform concerns. To this end, it may divide its membership into committees of approximately equal size patterned after the organization of the General Board of Church and Society. Committees of the board shall have responsibility to cooperate with one another to advance the respective and mutual concerns of their respective areas in

[629] **¶536.004.** In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a *Conference Board of Church and Society-1*. The annual conference shall organize a board of church and society or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry and maintain the connectional relationship between the General Board of Church and Society and the conference, district, and local church, as well as for church and society responsibilities related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Church and Society as set forth in BOD¶¶ 1002-1004.

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<p>social education, service, witness, and action.</p> <p>4. The conference board of church and society shall serve to connect the General Board of Church and Society and the district and local churches in relating the gospel of Jesus Christ to the members of the Church and to the persons and structures of the communities, nation, and world in which they live. Program shall be developed that provides education and action on issues confronting the Church consistent with the Social Principles and the policies adopted by the General Conference.</p> <p>5. The board shall estimate annually the amount necessary for support of its work and shall report this amount according to the procedure of the annual conference. The work of the board may be considered a benevolence interest of the Church within the conference.</p> <p>6. The annual conference may employ a person or persons to further its purposes. Two or more annual conferences may cooperate in developing their programs and in employing one or more persons.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.004 = 629</p>	<p>social education, service, witness, and action.</p> <p>4. The conference board of church and society shall serve to connect the General Board of Church and Society and the district and local churches in relating the gospel of Jesus Christ to the members of the Church and to the persons and structures of the communities, nation, and world in which they live. Program shall be developed that provides education and action on issues confronting the Church consistent with the Social Principles and the policies adopted by the General Conference.</p> <p>5. The board shall estimate annually the amount necessary for support of its work and shall report this amount according to the procedure of the annual conference. The work of the board may be considered a benevolence interest of the Church within the conference.</p> <p>6. The annual conference may employ a person or persons to further its purposes. Two or more annual conferences may cooperate in developing their programs and in employing one or more persons.</p>	
<p>¶536.005. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Discipleship</i>-The annual conference shall organize a board of discipleship or other <i>equivalent</i> structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationship between the General Board of Discipleship and the conference, district, and local church, and to provide for discipleship functions related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Discipleship as set forth in BOD ¶¶ 1101, 1102. The person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Board of Discipleship shall be member(s) of the conference board of discipleship and may be granted voting privileges.</p> <p>1. <i>General Responsibilities-a)</i> To lead and assist the congregations and districts in the conference in their efforts to</p>	<p>[630] ¶536.005. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Discipleship</i></u>-The annual conference shall organize a board of discipleship or other <i>equivalent</i> structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationship between the General Board of Discipleship and the conference, district, and local church, and to provide for discipleship functions related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Discipleship as set forth in BOD ¶¶ 1101, 1102. The person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Board of Discipleship shall be member(s) of the conference board of discipleship and may be granted voting privileges.</p> <p>1. <i>General Responsibilities-a)</i> To lead and assist the</p>	

communicate and celebrate the redeeming and reconciling love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ to persons of every age, ethnic background, and social condition; to invite persons to commit their lives to Christ and to his church; and to enable persons to live as Christian disciples in the world.

b) To foster and promote a holistic approach to the development of Christian disciples. This shall include such minis-tries as Christian education and other small-group ministries; camping, retreat, and outdoor activities; evangelism; stewardship; worship; lay development; Christian spiritual formation and devotional life; age-level, life-span, and family-life ministries; leadership education; and such other areas of work as the annual conference may determine.

c) To foster and promote camping experiences for persons with disabilities, including camps specifically designed for persons with disabilities, and the participation of persons with disabilities, when feasible, in camps sponsored by the district and conference.

d) To provide training for clergy and laity in ministries with persons with disabilities, including the areas of the Sunday school, camps and retreats, and faith development.

e) To provide guidance and training for related district leaders and agencies and for local church councils, officers, and committees.

f) To develop a unified and comprehensive program for leadership training to serve all age groups in the home, church, and community.

g) To provide continued training for pastors in effective ministry with children, child and faith development of children, and interpretation of curriculum resources.

h) To enable and strengthen the ministry with and to youth at all levels of the Church.

i) To determine the necessary directors, coordinators, or designated leaders for discipleship responsibilities at the annual conference level, including the maintenance of linkage with the General Board of Discipleship and related district

congregations and districts in the conference in their efforts to communicate and celebrate the redeeming and reconciling love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ to persons of every age, ethnic background, and social condition; to invite persons to commit their lives to Christ and to his church; and to enable persons to live as Christian disciples in the world.

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i) To determine the necessary directors, coordinators, or designated leaders for discipleship responsibilities at the annual conference level, including the maintenance of linkage

committees within the annual conference.

2. Responsibilities in the Area of Christian Education-a)

To develop and promote a conference program of Christian education for the whole life span, to lead, assist, and support congregations and districts in developing systems for educational and small-group ministries that give children, youth, young adults, adults, older adults, and families knowledge of and experience in the Christian faith and the spiritual disciplines as motivation for Christian service in the Church, the community, and the world. This may include guidance and training for district leaders responsible for Christian education and for local church ministry areas and commissions on education, superintendents of the church school, church school division superintendents, church school teachers, and other leaders in the educational ministry of local churches.

b) To develop and maintain an organized system for communicating and working with persons responsible for Christian education programs in local churches, districts, jurisdictions, and the General Board of Discipleship.

c) To provide training for confirmation leaders and to equip local congregations in confirmation experiences and in the use of approved resources.

d) To encourage the observance of the first Sunday of Christian Education Week, or some other day designated by the annual conference, in each local church as Christian Education Sunday for the purpose of emphasizing the importance of Christian education and for receiving an offering for the work of Christian education. (See ¶ 234.008.1.)

e) To develop and recommend to the annual conference plans for the acquisition or disposition of conference camps and/or retreat properties in accordance with standards of camping developed by the General Board of Discipleship (BOD¶ 1109.10).

f) To promote church school extension by: (1) encouraging the development of new United Methodist church

with the General Board of Discipleship and related district committees within the annual conference.

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f) To promote church school extension by: (1)

schools; (2) starting new classes; (3) expanding teaching and learning opportunities in the congregation and community.

g) To assist local congregations in initiating programs of teacher recruitment, development, training, and retraining in biblical, theological, and ethical thinking as well as in the procedures and methods of Christian education.

h) To cooperate in the promotion of knowledge about the support for all schools, colleges, universities, and seminaries related to the conference, the United Methodist Student Movement, and the campus ministry of the conference, region, or area through the establishment and support of such programs as may be approved by the annual conference in harmony with the policies and procedures of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

3. Responsibilities in the Area of Evangelism-a) To plan and promote an effective, comprehensive ministry of evangelism for people of all ages.

b) To create an understanding of, interest in, and commitment to evangelism throughout the conference.

c) To provide for the training of clergy and laypersons in leadership in ministries of evangelism, the distribution of promotional literature, the encouragement and enlistment of local church participation in an ongoing ministry of evangelism, and the support of church revitalization and new church development.

d) To give guidance to the groups responsible for the work of evangelism in the districts and to the ministry area of evangelism in the local church.

e) To give particular emphasis to the promotion of ministries of evangelism, which may include ministries in jails and prisons with offenders, victims, and their families, in order that all persons living in a community where there is a local United Methodist church, and who are without a church affiliation or who make no profession of faith, will be included within the nurturing and caring responsibility of that local church.

encouraging the development of new United Methodist church schools; (2) starting new classes; (3) expanding teaching and learning opportunities in the congregation and community.

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f) To recommend annually, in consultation with the Board of Ordained Ministry, to the conference and to the bishop in charge the appointment of certain effective members of the conference as general evangelists, provided that such persons shall meet the standards set for general evangelists by the General Board of Discipleship. This person shall serve as an ex officio member of the conference board of discipleship area of evangelism. In the event that there is more than one general evangelist in said annual conference, at least one shall be selected by the conference committee on nominations.

g) To recommend and endorse the ministry of said general evangelist to the pastors and leadership of the annual conference.

4. *Responsibilities in the Area of Worship-a)* To be responsible for the concerns of worship for people of all ages within the annual conference.

b) To foster the use of the best resources for worship at conference meetings and in all the churches of the conference, promote the use of *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989) and *The United Methodist Book of Worship* (1992) in all the churches of the conference. To plan and promote seminars and demonstrations on cooperative planning for worship involving pastors and musicians, forms of worship, and the use of music and other arts, with particular emphasis on congregational singing. This includes cooperating with the resident bishop, who has primary responsibility for planning all worship services at each annual conference.

c) To provide exhibits at the conference sessions, cooperate with the General Board of Discipleship, the conference council on ministries, the conference chapter of The Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts, and the Order of St. Luke in promoting seminars and training events in the area of worship, including music and other arts.

d) To assist local congregations in discovering and recruiting persons to serve as musicians (instrumentalists,

church.

f) To recommend annually, in consultation with the Board of Ordained Ministry, to the conference and to the bishop in charge the appointment of certain effective members of the conference as general evangelists, provided that such persons shall meet the standards set for general evangelists by the General Board of Discipleship. This person shall serve as an ex officio member of the conference board of discipleship area of evangelism. In the event that there is more than one general evangelist in said annual conference, at least one shall be selected by the conference committee on nominations.

g) To recommend and endorse the ministry of said general evangelist to the pastors and leadership of the annual conference.

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d) To assist local congregations in discovering and

singers, and song leaders) and in developing the skills of those serving in local congregations in cooperation with the General Board of Discipleship. This focus shall include persons who work full-time, part-time, and especially as volunteers in church music.

5. *Responsibilities in the Area of Stewardship-a)* To plan and promote a comprehensive program of stewardship for people of all ages throughout the conference in such areas as stewardship education, proportionate giving and tithing, funding the Church's ministries, planned giving, time and abilities, economics and money management, and lifestyle.

b) To interpret the biblical and theological basis for stewardship.

c) To promote giving consistent with a Christian lifestyle.

d) To develop funding concepts within annual conference, district, and local church consistent with sound stewardship principles and the doctrine of The United Methodist Church.

e) To educate the local church that tithing is the minimum goal of giving in The United Methodist Church.

f) To design and schedule training events, distribute promotional material, and enlist local church participation in a year-round program of stewardship.

g) To give guidance to the ministry area of stewardship in the districts and to the ministry area of stewardship and the committee on finance in the local church.

h) To develop a program that will create concern on the part of every local church for the ecological and environmental problems that confront the world and to motivate them to accept responsibility for aiding in the solution of such problems.

i) To participate in the work of national and jurisdictional organizations related to stewardship, such as the National Association of Stewardship Leaders and the National Association of United Methodist Foundations.

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g) To give guidance to the ministry area of stewardship in the districts and to the ministry area of stewardship and the committee on finance in the local church.

h) To develop a program that will create concern on the part of every local church for the ecological and environmental problems that confront the world and to motivate them to accept responsibility for aiding in the solution of such problems.

i) To participate in the work of national and jurisdictional organizations related to stewardship, such as the National Association of Stewardship Leaders and the National

<p>6. <i>Responsibilities in the Area of Spiritual Formation</i>-It is recommended that a separate committee be established to carry out the following responsibilities:</p> <p>a) To promote spiritual formation and the development of the devotional life for families and people of all ages, <i>clergy and laity</i>, throughout the conference.</p> <p>b) To conduct seminars and training events in the areas of private and corporate prayer.</p> <p>c) To encourage and assist with the distribution and use of resources for spiritual formation as provided by The Upper Room and the General Board of Discipleship.</p> <p>d) To encourage every local church to have a prayer coordinator to promote prayer and mobilize the local church to pray.</p> <p>e) To encourage every local church to have a prayer room or designated place for prayer and prayer resources.</p> <p>f) To encourage intentional prayer for pastoral leadership of the local church.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.005 = 630</p>	<p>Association of United Methodist Foundations.</p> <p>6. <i>Responsibilities in the Area of Spiritual Formation</i>-It is recommended that a separate committee be established to carry out the following responsibilities:</p> <p>a) To promote spiritual formation and the development of the devotional life for families and people of all ages, <i>clergy and laity</i>, throughout the conference.</p> <p>b) To conduct seminars and training events in the areas of private and corporate prayer.</p> <p>c) To encourage and assist with the distribution and use of resources for spiritual formation as provided by The Upper Room and the General Board of Discipleship.</p> <p>d) To encourage every local church to have a prayer coordinator to promote prayer and mobilize the local church to pray.</p> <p>e) To encourage every local church to have a prayer room or designated place for prayer and prayer resources.</p> <p>f) To encourage intentional prayer for pastoral leadership of the local church.</p>	
<p>¶536.006. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Laity</i>-1. There shall be in every annual conference a conference board of laity or other equivalent structure to provide for these functions and maintain connectional relationship.²³ It shall provide for the ministry of the laity related to the objectives of the General Board of Discipleship as set forth in BOD ¶¶ 1101-1126.</p> <p>2. The purpose of the conference board of laity shall be:</p> <p>a) To foster an awareness of the role of the laity both within the local congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church; to develop and promote programs to cultivate an adequate understanding of the theological and biblical basis for lay life and work among the members of the</p>	<p>[631] ¶536.006. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Laity</i>-1. There shall be in every annual conference a conference board of laity or other equivalent structure to provide for these functions and maintain connectional relationship.²³ It shall provide for the ministry of the laity related to the objectives of the General Board of Discipleship as set forth in BOD ¶¶ 1101-1126.</p> <p>2. The purpose of the conference board of laity shall be:</p> <p>a) To foster an awareness of the role of the laity both within the local congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church; to develop and promote programs to cultivate an adequate understanding of the theological and biblical basis for lay life and work among the members of the</p>	

churches of the annual conference.

b) To develop and promote stewardship of time, talent, and possessions within the annual conference in cooperation with the conference council on ministries or other appropriate conference bodies.

c) To provide for the training of lay members of annual conference.

d) To provide support and direction for the ministry of the laity on the local, district, and annual conference levels and to promote the observance of Laity Sunday.

e) To provide organization, direction, and support for the development of local church leaders.

3. The following membership of the board is recommended: the conference lay leader, associate conference lay leaders, the conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, the conference scouting coordinator, and the presidents and two representatives elected by each of the conference organizations of United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Young Adults, and the conference council on youth ministries; and in addition, the district lay leaders, two laymen, two laywomen, and two youth elected by the annual conference upon nomination of the conference nominating committee, a district superintendent designated by the cabinet, the director of the conference council on ministries, and the presiding bishop. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of people with disabilities and racial and ethnic persons. All members shall be professing members of local churches.

4. The conference lay leader shall chair the board. Other officers shall be elected as the board shall deem necessary.

5. The board shall relate to Lay Servant Ministries and other organized lay groups in the conference, such as United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Young Adults, and United Methodist Youth and shall support their work and help them coordinate the activities of the organized laity of the conference.

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b) To develop and promote stewardship of time, talent, and possessions within the annual conference in cooperation with the conference council on ministries or other appropriate conference bodies.

c) To provide for the training of lay members of annual conference.

d) To provide support and direction for the ministry of the laity on the local, district, and annual conference levels and to promote the observance of Laity Sunday.

e) To provide organization, direction, and support for the development of local church leaders.

3. The following membership of the board is recommended: the conference lay leader, associate conference lay leaders, the conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, the conference scouting coordinator, and the presidents and two representatives elected by each of the conference organizations of United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Young Adults, and the conference council on youth ministries; and in addition, the district lay leaders, two laymen, two laywomen, and two youth elected by the annual conference upon nomination of the conference nominating committee, a district superintendent designated by the cabinet, the director of the conference council on ministries, and the presiding bishop. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of people with disabilities and racial and ethnic persons. All members shall be professing members of local churches.

4. The conference lay leader shall chair the board. Other officers shall be elected as the board shall deem necessary.

5. The board shall relate to Lay Servant Ministries and other organized lay groups in the conference, such as United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Young Adults, and United Methodist Youth and shall support their work and help them coordinate the activities of the organized laity of the conference.

6. *Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries-a)* Every annual conference is encouraged to create a conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or other equivalent structure to fulfill the requirements of ¶¶ 213.001-213.003, and to relate to the conference board of laity and the General Board of Discipleship as per BOD¶ 1116 and others that might apply.

b) The purpose of a conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries is to set criteria and guidelines for district committees on Lay Servant Ministries, to develop lay servant courses and approve courses developed by district committees, and to organize conference-wide lay servant events.

c) A conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries will consist, at a minimum, of the district directors of Lay Servant Ministries or their equivalent.

d) There will be a conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries. This position will be filled in a manner to be determined by the annual conference. This position shall be filled by a certified lay servant. The conference director will chair the committee. Other officers will be elected by the committee as the committee deems necessary.

7. *Responsibilities in the area of Ministry of the Laity-a)* To develop and promote programs to cultivate an adequate understanding of the theological and biblical basis for ministry of the laity among the members of the churches of the annual conference; to give special emphasis to programs and services that will enable laity of all ages to serve more effectively as leaders in both church and community.

b) To provide support and direction for such lay programs as Lay Servant Ministries, the observance of Laity Day, and the work of lay leaders on the local and district levels.

c) To give support and direction to the conference and district program for local church leadership development, coordinating and developing training experiences that will enable persons of all ages to serve more effectively as members of local church councils on ministries, church councils, and the committees, commissions, and task forces related to these

6. *Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministries-a)* Every annual conference is encouraged to create a conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries or other equivalent structure to fulfill the requirements of ¶¶ 213.001-213.003 ~~266-268~~, and to relate to the conference board of laity and the General Board of Discipleship as per BOD¶ 1116 and others that might apply.

b) The purpose of a conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries is to set criteria and guidelines for district committees on Lay Servant Ministries, to develop lay servant courses and approve courses developed by district committees, and to organize conference-wide lay servant events.

c) A conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries will consist, at a minimum, of the district directors of Lay Servant Ministries or their equivalent.

d) There will be a conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries. This position will be filled in a manner to be determined by the annual conference. This position shall be filled by a certified lay servant. The conference director will chair the committee. Other officers will be elected by the committee as the committee deems necessary.

7. *Responsibilities in the area of Ministry of the Laity-a)* To develop and promote programs to cultivate an adequate understanding of the theological and biblical basis for ministry of the laity among the members of the churches of the annual conference; to give special emphasis to programs and services that will enable laity of all ages to serve more effectively as leaders in both church and community.

b) To provide support and direction for such lay programs as Lay Servant Ministries, the observance of Laity Day, and the work of lay leaders on the local and district levels.

c) To give support and direction to the conference and district program for local church leadership development, coordinating and developing training experiences that will enable persons of all ages to serve more effectively as members of local church councils on ministries, church councils, and the

<p>groups. <i>d)</i> To organize a conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries that will fulfill the requirements of ¶¶ 213.001-213.003 on behalf of the conference. This committee shall set guidelines and criteria to be used by district committees (see ¶551.006.8).</p> <p>GBOD¶536.006 = 631</p> <p>²⁴ Judicial Council Decision 835</p>	<p>committees, commissions, and task forces related to these groups. <i>d)</i> To organize a conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries that will fulfill the requirements of ¶¶ <u>213.001-213.003</u> 266-268 on behalf of the conference. This committee shall set guidelines and criteria to be used by district committees (see ¶<u>551.006.8</u> 668).</p> <p>²⁴ Judicial Council Decision 835</p>	
<p>¶536.007. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns</i></u></p> <p>1. There shall be in every annual conference a conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns or other structure to provide for these basic functions and to maintain connectional relationship.</p> <p>2. It shall provide for these functions:</p> <p><i>a)</i> Keeping the vision of ethnic local church concerns before the annual conference;</p> <p><i>b)</i> Providing guidance and resources to churches in the annual conference as they minister with and to ethnic constituencies;</p> <p><i>c)</i> Coordinating annual conference strategies related to ethnic local church concerns including general church emphases and initiatives;</p> <p><i>d)</i> Providing a forum for dialogue among the ethnic constituencies, as well as with annual conference agencies;</p> <p><i>e)</i> Providing training for annual conference and congregational leaders;</p> <p><i>f)</i> Promoting and interpreting ethnic local church concerns to the annual conference; and</p> <p><i>g)</i> Working with annual conferences to identify and nurture leaders, lay and clergy, of ethnic communities.</p>	<p>[632] ¶536.007. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns</i></u></p> <p>1. There shall be in every annual conference a conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns or other structure to provide for these basic functions and to maintain connectional relationship.</p> <p>2. It shall provide for these functions:</p> <p><i>a)</i> Keeping the vision of ethnic local church concerns before the annual conference;</p> <p><i>b)</i> Providing guidance and resources to churches in the annual conference as they minister with and to ethnic constituencies;</p> <p><i>c)</i> Coordinating annual conference strategies related to ethnic local church concerns including general church emphases and initiatives;</p> <p><i>d)</i> Providing a forum for dialogue among the ethnic constituencies, as well as with annual conference agencies;</p> <p><i>e)</i> Providing training for annual conference and congregational leaders;</p> <p><i>f)</i> Promoting and interpreting ethnic local church concerns to the annual conference; and</p> <p><i>g)</i> Working with annual conferences to identify and nurture leaders, lay and clergy, of ethnic communities.</p>	

<p>3. The membership of this committee shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the annual conference. The annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the membership of the committee. It is recommended that the committee be constituted so that the majority of the membership be representative of racial and ethnic people, reflecting the racial and ethnic constituencies and local churches of the annual conference (BOD¶ 705.3). Care should be taken, where feasible, to ensure balance of membership with clergy and laity, men and women, youth and young adults.</p> <p>GBOD¶536.007 = 632</p>	<p>3. The membership of this committee shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the annual conference. The annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the membership of the committee. It is recommended that the committee be constituted so that the majority of the membership be representative of racial and ethnic people, reflecting the racial and ethnic constituencies and local churches of the annual conference (BOD¶ 705.3). Care should be taken, where feasible, to ensure balance of membership with clergy and laity, men and women, youth and young adults.</p>	
<p>¶536.008. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Global Ministries-1</i>. The annual conference shall organize a board of global ministries or other structure to maintain the connectional relationship and provide for global ministries responsibilities related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries as set forth in ¶¶¶ 1302-1303.</p> <p>2. The conference board of global ministries or equivalent structure shall be composed of those persons as determined by the annual conference and shall fulfill those responsibilities as assigned. The Mission Coordinator of Education and Interpretation of the conference United Methodist Women, by virtue of office, shall be a member of the conference board of global ministries.</p> <p>The chairperson of the conference board of global ministries shall work with the conference secretary of global ministries to relate the annual conference board of global ministries to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries. A person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Board of Global Ministries from the annual conference shall, by virtue of their office, be member(s)</p>	<p>[633] ¶536.008. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Global Ministries-1</i>.</u> The annual conference shall organize a board of global ministries or other structure to maintain the connectional relationship and provide for global ministries responsibilities related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries as set forth in ¶¶¶ 1302-1303.</p> <p>2. The conference board of global ministries or equivalent structure shall be composed of those persons as determined by the annual conference and shall fulfill those responsibilities as assigned. The Mission Coordinator of Education and Interpretation of the conference United Methodist Women, by virtue of office, shall be a member of the conference board of global ministries.</p> <p>The chairperson of the conference board of global ministries shall work with the conference secretary of global ministries to relate the annual conference board of global ministries to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries. A person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Board of Global Ministries from the annual conference shall, by virtue of their office, be member(s)</p>	

of the conference board of global ministries (see ¶¶ 536.001.5 and BOD 710.6).

3. There shall be a conference secretary of global ministries who shall be a member of the annual conference board and may be a member of the annual conference council on ministries or equivalent structure.

The conference secretary of global ministries shall work with the chairperson of the conference board of global ministries to relate the annual conference board of global ministries to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries.

4. *a)* The annual conference and the General Board of Global Ministries shall cooperate in carrying out the policies and promoting all phases of the work as related to the scope of the board as set forth in BOD¶ 1302.

b) Responsibilities-(1) To designate the necessary committees, sections, or commissions and individual secretaries, coordinators, or other leaders for global ministries responsibilities at the annual conference level.

(2) To interpret to the annual conference the programs, plans, and policies of the General Board of Global Ministries and to plan and promote emphases on global ministries. To undergird with education, constructive evaluation, communication, and cultivation the total program of the General Board of Global Ministries.

(3) To receive reports of the liaison to the annual conference from the General Board of Global Ministries.

(4) To interpret to the General Board of Global Ministries the mission program, priorities, and concerns of the annual conference and the local churches to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities as an extension of the local church.

(5) To plan and promote various kinds of meetings and experiences throughout the conference for the purpose of developing a spirit of mission and participation in global ministries for training, education, and leadership development of mission leaders and persons in the field of human services

of the conference board of global ministries (see ¶¶ ~~536.001.5~~ 536.001.5 ~~610.6~~ and BOD 710.6).

3. There shall be a conference secretary of global ministries who shall be a member of the annual conference board and may be a member of the annual conference council on ministries or equivalent structure.

The conference secretary of global ministries shall work with the chairperson of the conference board of global ministries to relate the annual conference board of global ministries to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries.

4. *a)* The annual conference and the General Board of Global Ministries shall cooperate in carrying out the policies and promoting all phases of the work as related to the scope of the board as set forth in BOD¶ 1302.

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(4) To interpret to the General Board of Global Ministries the mission program, priorities, and concerns of the annual conference and the local churches to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities as an extension of the local church.

(5) To plan and promote various kinds of meetings and experiences throughout the conference for the purpose of developing a spirit of mission and participation in global ministries for training, education, and leadership development of mission leaders and persons in the field of human services

and health and welfare ministries.

(6) To cooperate with the General Board of Global Ministries in its program outside the United States.

(7) To identify with all who are alienated and dispossessed and to assist them in achieving their full human development-body, mind, and spirit-including encouraging and implementing affirmative action programs.

(8) To engage in direct ministries to human need, both emergency and continuing institutional and noninstitutional, however caused.

(9) To cooperate with the conference organization of United Methodist Women in helping to equip all women for full participation in the mission of the Church.

(10) To cultivate, through the channels of the Church other than United Methodist Women, the Advance Special Gifts for ministries administered by designated units of the General Board of Global Ministries, including United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

(11) To promote the development of covenant relationships between local churches and General Board of Global Ministries personnel.

(12) To encourage, maintain, and strengthen the relationships between the annual conference and agencies related to the appropriate divisions and departments of the General Board of Global Ministries and provide a channel through which these agencies shall report to the annual conference.

(13) To develop and implement Church financial support of conference mission projects and programs, and health and welfare ministries, with particular emphasis on benevolent care and Golden Cross, education and social service ministries, and World Communion Scholarships.

(14) To enable, encourage, and support the development of congregations, cooperative parishes, community centers, education and human services, and health and welfare ministries so that they may be units of mission in

and health and welfare ministries.

(6) To cooperate with the General Board of Global Ministries in its program outside the United States.

(7) To identify with all who are alienated and dispossessed and to assist them in achieving their full human development-body, mind, and spirit-including encouraging and implementing affirmative action programs.

(8) To engage in direct ministries to human need, both emergency and continuing institutional and noninstitutional, however caused.

(9) To cooperate with the conference organization of United Methodist Women in helping to equip all women for full participation in the mission of the Church.

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(13) To develop and implement Church financial support of conference mission projects and programs, and health and welfare ministries, with particular emphasis on benevolent care and Golden Cross, education and social service ministries, and World Communion Scholarships.

(14) To enable, encourage, and support the development of congregations, cooperative parishes, community centers, education and human services, and health and welfare ministries so that they may be units of mission in

urban and rural areas and partners with others in the worldwide mission of the Christian church.

(15) To encourage and support specialized urban and town and country ministries enabling comprehensive mission related to broad metropolitan and rural issues, services ministering to the needs of persons, and supportive programs strengthening the local church.

(16) To assist districts and local churches in exploring and developing new methods and direct service ministries as changing conditions and societal forms demand.

(17) To cooperate with Church and secular leaders at all levels in strategic planning, developing programs, and advocating legislation that impacts community and national issues.

(18) To envision and engage in imaginative new forms of mission appropriate to changing needs and to share the results of experimentation.

(19) To develop strategies in response to critical community issues, with special attention to the needs of ethnic and language groups, people with disabilities, people in transitional relationships, the working poor, and those living under repressive systems

(20) To support United Methodist Committee on Relief's refugee ministry by promoting an annual conference refugee committee that relates to the annual conference board of global ministries and encourages, advises, and assists churches with their refugee programs.

(21) To support the United Methodist Committee on Relief's World Hunger/Poverty Ministry by encouraging annual conferences to appoint an annual conference hunger coordinator and form an annual conference hunger committee that relates to the annual conference board of global ministries.

(22) To appoint annual conference disaster response coordinators to assist the United Methodist Committee on Relief by encouraging the formation of an annual conference disaster response committee that relates to

urban and rural areas and partners with others in the worldwide mission of the Christian church.

(15) To encourage and support specialized urban and town and country ministries enabling comprehensive mission related to broad metropolitan and rural issues, services ministering to the needs of persons, and supportive programs strengthening the local church.

(16) To assist districts and local churches in exploring and developing new methods and direct service ministries as changing conditions and societal forms demand.

(17) To cooperate with Church and secular leaders at all levels in strategic planning, developing programs, and advocating legislation that impacts community and national issues.

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(20) To support United Methodist Committee on Relief's refugee ministry by promoting an annual conference refugee committee that relates to the annual conference board of global ministries and encourages, advises, and assists churches with their refugee programs.

(21) To support the United Methodist Committee on Relief's World Hunger/Poverty Ministry by encouraging annual conferences to appoint an annual conference hunger coordinator and form an annual conference hunger committee that relates to the annual conference board of global ministries.

(22) To appoint annual conference disaster response coordinators to assist the United Methodist Committee on Relief by encouraging the formation of an annual conference disaster response committee that relates to

the annual conference board of global ministries and includes, when possible, members of the General Board of Global Ministries from the annual conference. The membership of the Disaster Response Committee may include district disaster response coordinators and the conference director of communications or member of the commission on communications. Annual conference and district disaster response coordinators shall receive training at least once a quadrennium.

(23) To assist the program of Church and Community Ministry in setting goals, developing programs, providing funding, and evaluating the ministries.

(24) To cooperate with the General Board of Global Ministries in the recruitment and support of missionaries and to cooperate with the appropriate conference units such as a Conference Committee on Mission Personnel or an equivalent body in the promotion and recruitment of persons for health and welfare service careers and other Church-related occupations.

(25) To review and certify applications to the General Board of Global Ministries for loans, donations, and grants; to administer such funds for their designated purposes in accordance with the established guidelines; and to participate with the General Board of Global Ministries in planning and evaluation processes related to these funds.

(26) To cultivate gifts for those special Sunday offerings that are administered through the General Board of Global Ministries.

(27) To strive to ensure mutual representation between the annual conference unit responsible for health and welfare ministries and each health and welfare institution related to the annual conference where such representation is called for by mutual agreement of the institution and the annual conference.

(28) To encourage the health and welfare institutions and programs within the annual conference related

the annual conference board of global ministries and includes, when possible, members of the General Board of Global Ministries from the annual conference. The membership of the Disaster Response Committee may include district disaster response coordinators and the conference director of communications or member of the commission on communications. Annual conference and district disaster response coordinators shall receive training at least once a quadrennium.

(23) To assist the program of Church and Community Ministry in setting goals, developing programs, providing funding, and evaluating the ministries.

(24) To cooperate with the General Board of Global Ministries in the recruitment and support of missionaries and to cooperate with the appropriate conference units such as a Conference Committee on Mission Personnel or an equivalent body in the promotion and recruitment of persons for health and welfare service careers and other Church-related occupations.

(25) To review and certify applications to the General Board of Global Ministries for loans, donations, and grants; to administer such funds for their designated purposes in accordance with the established guidelines; and to participate with the General Board of Global Ministries in planning and evaluation processes related to these funds.

(26) To cultivate gifts for those special Sunday offerings that are administered through the General Board of Global Ministries.

(27) To strive to ensure mutual representation between the annual conference unit responsible for health and welfare ministries and each health and welfare institution related to the annual conference where such representation is called for by mutual agreement of the institution and the annual conference.

(28) To encourage the health and welfare institutions and programs within the annual conference related

to a connectional unit of The United Methodist Church to utilize the programmatic standards, self-study, and peer review appropriate to Church-related institutions and programs and available to them through organizations that will promote excellence in Christian ministry and mission and enhance the quality of services offered.

(29) To assist the annual conference in assessing needs in health and welfare ministries. To assist the annual conference in development of health and welfare services in local communities and within the annual conference.

(30) To work with the General Board of Global Ministries in leadership development programs and the promotion of health and welfare ministries, and to work with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries in leadership development programs and the promotion of health and welfare ministries.

(31) To promote Christian, financial, and professional standards in health and welfare ministries within the annual conference.

(32) To aid in planning and developing a religious ministry in annual conference-related institutions and programs and, wherever practical, in state and other institutions and programs not related to the conference where there is a need.

(33) To serve in an advisory capacity to the conference nominating processes where the annual conference participates in the selection of trustees for health and welfare institutions and programs related to the annual conference.

(34) To provide a channel through which health and welfare programs and institutions report to the annual conference.

(35) To promote an annual Golden Cross offering or other means of giving to be received in every local church on a day or days designated by the annual conference in support of the health and welfare ministries within the annual conference. This offering shall provide financial support to

to a connectional unit of The United Methodist Church to utilize the programmatic standards, self-study, and peer review appropriate to Church-related institutions and programs and available to them through organizations that will promote excellence in Christian ministry and mission and enhance the quality of services offered.

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(30) To work with the General Board of Global Ministries in leadership development programs and the promotion of health and welfare ministries, and to work with the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries in leadership development programs and the promotion of health and welfare ministries.

(31) To promote Christian, financial, and professional standards in health and welfare ministries within the annual conference.

(32) To aid in planning and developing a religious ministry in annual conference-related institutions and programs and, wherever practical, in state and other institutions and programs not related to the conference where there is a need.

(33) To serve in an advisory capacity to the conference nominating processes where the annual conference participates in the selection of trustees for health and welfare institutions and programs related to the annual conference.

(34) To provide a channel through which health and welfare programs and institutions report to the annual conference.

(35) To promote an annual Golden Cross offering or other means of giving to be received in every local church on a day or days designated by the annual conference in support of the health and welfare ministries within the annual conference. This offering shall provide financial support to

care for sick persons, older persons, children and youth, and people with disabilities. Special emphasis shall be given to aiding those ministries that provide direct financial assistance to persons in need. Promotion also should include all units of the General Board of Global Ministries related to health and welfare ministries.

(36) To make available program and other resources to local churches to help ensure physical accessibility of church buildings.

5. The annual conference shall establish a committee on parish and community development or assign this responsibility to an existing agency in the annual conference that will fulfill the responsibilities related to the objectives and scope of the General Board of Global Ministries (BOD¶1314). The committee shall initiate and develop programs with institutional and voluntary ministries related to the work of the board. The committee may form subcommittees for these areas. The committee shall be accountable to the conference board of global ministries, or to such other agency as the conference may determine. The chairperson of the committee and the chairpersons of the subcommittees shall be members of the conference board of global ministries or such body to which the committee shall be amenable.

a) The committee shall include persons involved in significant types of parish and community ministries, lay and clergy representatives of rural, town, and urban small-membership churches, the area or conference superintendent or director of parish development, representatives of related church agencies and groups, and at-large community representatives.

b) The general responsibilities of the committee shall include research, evaluation, planning and strategy development, policy formulation, program implementation, local and national liaison (denominational and ecumenical) related to parish and community development, and such other functions as the conference or agency to which the committee

care for sick persons, older persons, children and youth, and people with disabilities. Special emphasis shall be given to aiding those ministries that provide direct financial assistance to persons in need. Promotion also should include all units of the General Board of Global Ministries related to health and welfare ministries.

(36) To make available program and other resources to local churches to help ensure physical accessibility of church buildings.

5. The annual conference shall establish a committee on parish and community development or assign this responsibility to an existing agency in the annual conference that will fulfill the responsibilities related to the objectives and scope of the General Board of Global Ministries (BOD¶1314). The committee shall initiate and develop programs with institutional and voluntary ministries related to the work of the board. The committee may form subcommittees for these areas. The committee shall be accountable to the conference board of global ministries, or to such other agency as the conference may determine. The chairperson of the committee and the chairpersons of the subcommittees shall be members of the conference board of global ministries or such body to which the committee shall be amenable.

a) The committee shall include persons involved in significant types of parish and community ministries, lay and clergy representatives of rural, town, and urban small-membership churches, the area or conference superintendent or director of parish development, representatives of related church agencies and groups, and at-large community representatives.

b) The general responsibilities of the committee shall include research, evaluation, planning and strategy development, policy formulation, program implementation, local and national liaison (denominational and ecumenical) related to parish and community development, and such other functions as the conference or agency to which the committee

is accountable may determine.

c) Responsibilities of the subcommittee on institutional and voluntary ministries related to the General Board of Global Ministries may include developing a relationship to all such institutional and voluntary ministries within the annual conference; consulting with them in cooperative planning and strategy for the implementation of national mission concerns relative to needs in the area of social welfare as implemented through the ministries of community centers, residences, health-care agencies, schools, and other educational agencies; and working with funding sources to provide the support needed for effective service in such agencies.

d) In annual conferences where church and community workers are assigned through the General Board of Global Ministries, responsibilities of the subcommittee on church and community ministry shall include reviewing and evaluating projects; serving as liaison between projects and the General Board of Global Ministries; and securing consultative and financial support for workers.

e) Responsibilities of the subcommittee on congregational development shall include encouraging and supporting the development of new and established congregations; conducting research studies and community surveys that plan for and assist with developing innovative strategies for mission; and reviewing, evaluating, and making recommendations for loans, donations, and grants from the General Board of Global Ministries. The subcommittee also shall encourage greater use of such pastoral ministry models as tentmaking/bi-vocational ministries, part-time local pastors, and cooperative ministries by advocating for the removal of impediments to their use and emphasizing the pastors' proven ability to produce effective nurture, outreach, and witness ministries as the primary criterion for appointment.

f) Responsibilities of the subcommittee on town and country ministries shall include mission development and ministry in town and country areas with a population of less

is accountable may determine.

c) Responsibilities of the subcommittee on institutional and voluntary ministries related to the General Board of Global Ministries may include developing a relationship to all such institutional and voluntary ministries within the annual conference; consulting with them in cooperative planning and strategy for the implementation of national mission concerns relative to needs in the area of social welfare as implemented through the ministries of community centers, residences, health-care agencies, schools, and other educational agencies; and working with funding sources to provide the support needed for effective service in such agencies.

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f) Responsibilities of the subcommittee on town and country ministries shall include mission development and ministry in town and country areas with a population of less

than 50,000. These shall include incorporated areas of 10,000 to 50,000; towns, villages, and incorporated areas with 10,000 or fewer; and rural areas with population density of 200 or fewer persons per square mile, fulfilling the functions outlined in ¶ 536.008.5h.

g) Responsibilities of the subcommittee on urban ministries shall include long-range mission strategy development and ministry for metropolitan communities with a population of more than 50,000, fulfilling the functions outlined in ¶ 536.008.5h.

h) Responsibilities of the subcommittees on town and country ministries and urban ministries shall include the following:

(1) consulting with the bishop, cabinet, area or conference superintendent/director of parish development, district representatives of town and country ministries and urban ministries, and the conference agencies in the development of policies for cooperative parish ministries, securing of funding for staff, and in initiating and strengthening these ministries;

(2) developing a comprehensive related missional strategy for the mission of the annual conference, the districts, and the local churches and reporting this plan to the annual conference for consideration, with the understanding that the plan may relate to a regional mission organization for purposes of larger geographical coordination; and

(3) initiating and/or assisting with programs to deal with needs such as:

(a) local church and community outreach organization and development;

(b) ministries with specialized constituencies and sectors of community life, agricultural and industrial production, and other issue-oriented ministries;

(c) the development and strengthening of regional and/or national networks and/or associations;

(d) ethnic and language groups;

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(2) developing a comprehensive related missional strategy for the mission of the annual conference, the districts, and the local churches and reporting this plan to the annual conference for consideration, with the understanding that the plan may relate to a regional mission organization for purposes of larger geographical coordination; and

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(b) ministries with specialized constituencies and sectors of community life, agricultural and industrial production, and other issue-oriented ministries;

(c) the development and strengthening of regional and/or national networks and/or associations;

(d) ethnic and language groups;

(e) churches in transitional communities;
(f) small membership churches;
(g) the impact of oppressive systems on town and country and urban people and their communities; and
(h) to fulfill other functions as related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Global Ministries as set forth in BOD¶1314.

i) Responsibilities of the subcommittee on the small membership church shall include the following: (1) being informed about needs and opportunities of the small membership church in rural, town, and urban settings in the total life of the conference; (2) calling for representation by small membership churches in the decision-making structures of the annual conference; (3) informing and sensitizing leadership at all levels of the conference on issues that affect small membership churches; (4) enlisting the support of the bishop, cabinet, council on ministries, and conference staff on policies, plans, and practices that affect small membership churches; (5) working with the subcommittees on town and country ministries and urban ministries within the parish and with the community development committee to develop and implement strategies for the nurturing, outreach, and witness ministries of small membership churches.

j) In metropolitan areas with a population of more than 50,000, consideration shall be given to the establishment of a metropolitan commission whose purpose shall be to promote long-range planning and to provide a coordinating framework for United Methodism's mission strategy for that metropolitan area. The membership may include the bishop or bishop's representative, the district superintendents involved, a selected group of clergy and laypersons representing the annual conference board of global ministries and the annual conference committee on urban ministry, the conference commission on religion and race, the annual conference United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men, representatives from community-based ministries, representatives from

(e) churches in transitional communities;
(f) small membership churches;
(g) the impact of oppressive systems on town and country and urban people and their communities; and
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<p>district council(s) on ministries, representatives from other boards and agencies deemed appropriate, and groups and individuals who have skills and experience enabling them to fulfill creative planning and strategy functions for United Methodism in the metropolitan area.</p> <p>When the metropolitan area includes more than one annual conference, representatives shall be elected from each conference's constituent boards and agencies to the metropolitan commission.</p> <p>6. There may be a volunteer-in-mission coordinator who will coordinate the volunteer-in-mission ministries of the annual conference in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries' mission volunteers office and the jurisdictional volunteer-in-mission office.</p> <p>a) The coordinator shall be elected annually and shall be a member of the annual conference board of global ministries.</p> <p>b) The coordinator will be responsible to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) match volunteers with mission opportunities; (2) be responsive to volunteers' desire to serve; (3) train and mobilize volunteers for mission volunteer service; (4) disseminate information on what is happening in the area of short-term volunteer-in-mission programs. <p>GBOD ¶536.008 = 633</p>	<p>district council(s) on ministries, representatives from other boards and agencies deemed appropriate, and groups and individuals who have skills and experience enabling them to fulfill creative planning and strategy functions for United Methodism in the metropolitan area.</p> <p>When the metropolitan area includes more than one annual conference, representatives shall be elected from each conference's constituent boards and agencies to the metropolitan commission.</p> <p>6. There may be a volunteer-in-mission coordinator who will coordinate the volunteer-in-mission ministries of the annual conference in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries' mission volunteers office and the jurisdictional volunteer-in-mission office.</p> <p>a) The coordinator shall be elected annually and shall be a member of the annual conference board of global ministries.</p> <p>b) The coordinator will be responsible to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) match volunteers with mission opportunities; (2) be responsive to volunteers' desire to serve; (3) train and mobilize volunteers for mission volunteer service; (4) disseminate information on what is happening in the area of short-term volunteer-in-mission programs. 	
<p>¶536.009. <i>Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry-1.</i> There shall be in each annual conference a board of higher education and campus ministry or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships. The number of members shall be determined by the annual conference, including representation from appropriate constituencies.²⁵</p> <p>2. The annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure shall provide for the connectional relationship between the Division of Higher</p>	<p>634] ¶536.009. <i>Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry-1.</i> There shall be in each annual conference a board of higher education and campus ministry or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships. The number of members shall be determined by the annual conference, including representation from appropriate constituencies.²⁵</p> <p>2. The annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure shall provide for the connectional relationship between the Division of Higher</p>	

Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the conference, district, and local church and shall provide for a ministry in higher education related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Division of Higher Education. A person serving as a member of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry from that annual conference shall, by virtue of his or her office, be a member of the conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure (see ¶¶ 536.001.5 and BOD 710.6).

3. The annual conference chairperson of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure shall be a member of the annual conference council on ministries.

4. The responsibilities of an annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure include:

a) *General Responsibilities*-(1) To interpret and promote the United Methodist ministries in higher education that are supported by the general Church and those specifically related to the annual conference.

(2) To recommend the policies guiding the annual conference in its program of ministry in higher education.

(3) To train and provide resources for district committees and local church ministry areas of higher education and campus ministry.

(4) To apprise United Methodists of their historic commitment to and present mission in higher education.

(5) To work with the annual conference council on ministries and with districts and local churches to interpret and promote higher education ministries supported by special Sundays and funds: Africa University Fund, Black College Fund; Hispanic, Asian, and Native Americans (HANA) Educational Ministries; Ministerial Education Fund, Native American Ministries Sunday, United Methodist Student Day; World Communion Sunday; and other funds and special days related to higher education ordered by the General Conference

Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the conference, district, and local church and shall provide for a ministry in higher education related to the objectives and scope of work of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Division of Higher Education. A person serving as a member of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry from that annual conference shall, by virtue of his or her office, be a member of the conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure (see ¶¶ ~~536.001.5~~ ~~610.6~~ and BOD 710.6).

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or annual conference.

(6) To promote use of the United Methodist Loan Fund and to designate appropriate persons to represent the United Methodist Loan Fund on campuses, such persons normally being Wesley Foundation directors or ecumenical campus ministers supported by the annual conference; to provide the Office of Loans and Scholarships with the names and addresses of those persons; and to apprise students of alternative ways to apply for loans in the event there is no campus minister.

(7) To evaluate schools, colleges, universities, and campus ministries related to the annual conference, with concern for the quality of their performance, the integrity of their mission, and their response to the missional goals of the general Church and the annual conference.

(8) To promote the education award programs provided by The United Methodist Church, including the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation's award programs.

(9) To confer at once with representatives of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to determine what resources and aid the board may be able to provide and to enable the Division of Higher Education to carry out its responsibilities in the event that any educational institution, Wesley Foundation, or other campus ministry moves to sever or modify its connection with the Church or violates the rules adopted by the division in accordance with BOD¶ 1413.3.

(10) To provide that two or more annual conferences may, on recommendation of their boards of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structures, join in constituting an area or regional committee or commission on higher education and campus ministry, the membership, scope, and functions of which shall be determined by the cooperating conferences in consultation with their bishop or bishops. The area committee or commission shall include a majority of its members from the participating annual conference boards of

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higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure with appropriate representation of college presidents, campus ministers, students, and ethnic persons.

b) Fiscal Responsibilities-In addition to its general responsibilities, the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry shall carry out the following fiscal duties:

(1) To present to the council on ministries and then to the council on finance and administration of the annual conference the financial needs for adequate support of the schools, colleges, universities, theological schools, campus Christian movements, Wesley Foundations²⁶ and other campus ministries related to the annual conference for apportionment to the churches within the conference.

(2) To determine the distribution of the funds received from undesignated gifts, returns from special days, annual conference and district Advance Specials for higher education and scholarships of the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation.

(3) To establish, where appropriate, foundations or other means to ensure the ongoing support of the annual conference program of ministry in higher education.

(4) To counsel United Methodist schools, colleges, universities, and campus ministries related to the annual conference with regard to their charters and constitutions, reversionary clauses, and liability.

(5) To counsel United Methodist institutions about property and endowments entrusted to the institutions and to maintain and enforce trust and reversionary clauses in accordance with the provisions of the Division of Higher Education under BOD¶ 1413.3c.

(6) To monitor fiduciary and legal relationships with United Methodist schools, colleges, universities, and campus ministries and to assist annual conferences in their responsibilities in these matters.

(7) To administer the scholarship funds rebated to

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(5) To counsel United Methodist institutions about property and endowments entrusted to the institutions and to maintain and enforce trust and reversionary clauses in accordance with the provisions of the Division of Higher Education under BOD¶ 1413.3c.

(6) To monitor fiduciary and legal relationships with United Methodist schools, colleges, universities, and campus ministries and to assist annual conferences in their responsibilities in these matters.

(7) To administer the scholarship funds rebated to

the annual conference by the Office of Loans and Scholarships in accordance with the guidelines of that office.

(8) To encourage the establishment of loan and scholarship funds in the annual conference and local churches and to administer the loan and scholarship funds of the annual conference.

c) Responsibilities with Schools, Colleges, and Universities-In addition to its general responsibilities, the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure shall carry out the following duties with regard to United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities:

(1) To make known to the districts, subdistricts, and all local churches the names and location of all United Methodist educational institutions and, wherever possible, provide resources interpreting their work and special missions.

(2) To assist institutions related specifically to the annual conference in their efforts to raise funds, scholarships, recruit students, and extend services to the annual conference.

(3) To assume responsibility, after consultation with the annual conference committee on nominations and the nominating committee of the institution's board of trustees, for the nomination of those trustees who are to be nominated and elected by the annual conference to the boards of trustees of United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities. In the event that the annual conference confirms or elects trustees nominated by trustee-nominating committees, to consult with those committees, having special concern for the selection of persons who will appropriately address the financial, missional, and educational progress of the institution.

(4) To provide for interpretation of the programs of United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities throughout the educational program of the annual conference, especially in cooperation with those committees and persons responsible for youth and young adult ministries.

(5) To interpret systematically to the districts, sub-

the annual conference by the Office of Loans and Scholarships in accordance with the guidelines of that office.

(8) To encourage the establishment of loan and scholarship funds in the annual conference and local churches and to administer the loan and scholarship funds of the annual conference.

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(1) To make known to the districts, subdistricts, and all local churches the names and location of all United Methodist educational institutions and, wherever possible, provide resources interpreting their work and special missions.

(2) To assist institutions related specifically to the annual conference in their efforts to raise funds, scholarships, recruit students, and extend services to the annual conference.

(3) To assume responsibility, after consultation with the annual conference committee on nominations and the nominating committee of the institution's board of trustees, for the nomination of those trustees who are to be nominated and elected by the annual conference to the boards of trustees of United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities. In the event that the annual conference confirms or elects trustees nominated by trustee-nominating committees, to consult with those committees, having special concern for the selection of persons who will appropriately address the financial, missional, and educational progress of the institution.

(4) To provide for interpretation of the programs of United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities throughout the educational program of the annual conference, especially in cooperation with those committees and persons responsible for youth and young adult ministries.

(5) To interpret systematically to the districts, sub-

districts, and local churches the conference program with United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities, encouraging their support and participation.

(6) To represent the annual conference in its relation-ship to United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities, especially those related to the annual conference.

d) Responsibilities with Campus Ministries-In addition to the general responsibilities listed above, the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure shall have the following responsibilities with regard to campus ministry:

(1) To have available the names and addresses of all campus ministries supported by The United Methodist Church and to supply the names and addresses of campus ministries supported by the annual conference to all districts and local churches.

(2) To ensure that each Wesley Foundation or campus ministry shall have a board of directors or a local church committee which provides for planning and implementing a program of mission and ministry to the campus. It will also be the responsibility of the board of directors or local church committee:

(a) to establish a budget to present to the board of higher education and campus ministry, and to be responsible for the fund raising needs of the Wesley Foundation or campus ministry;

(b) to have a personnel committee to confer with and counsel the campus minister and staff, to evaluate for effective ministry, to develop and approve written job descriptions for all staff, to interview campus minister candidates and to recommend candidates for appointment or hiring to the board of higher education and campus ministry, the district superintendent and the bishop, to establish all personnel policies, to examine and recommend candidates for ordained or licensed ministry to the district committee on ordained ministry, faithfully adhering to the provisions of ¶

districts, and local churches the conference program with United Methodist schools, colleges, and universities, encouraging their support and participation.

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(2) To ensure that each Wesley Foundation or campus ministry shall have a board of directors or a local church committee which provides for planning and implementing a program of mission and ministry to the campus. It will also be the responsibility of the board of directors or local church committee:

(a) to establish a budget to present to the board of higher education and campus ministry, and to be responsible for the fund raising needs of the Wesley Foundation or campus ministry;

(b) to have a personnel committee to confer with and counsel the campus minister and staff, to evaluate for effective ministry, to develop and approve written job descriptions for all staff, to interview campus minister candidates and to recommend candidates for appointment or hiring to the board of higher education and campus ministry, the district superintendent and the bishop, to establish all personnel policies, to examine and recommend candidates for ordained or licensed ministry to the district committee on ordained ministry, faithfully adhering to the provisions of ¶

309.3);

(c) when determined that a Wesley Foundation board may hold property, to review the adequacy of the property, liability, and crime insurance coverage, to establish policies on the use of property by outside organizations, to receive and administer all bequests made to the Wesley Foundation or campus ministry according to standards established by the board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure and the annual conference, and the relevant civil governmental authorities and to provide for the upkeep of all properties;

(d) to be encouraged to establish a Wesley Foundation, or campus ministry, permanent endowment fund in accord with the policies established by the board of higher education and campus ministry and the annual conference;

(e) to have fiscal oversight of all income and expenditures of the campus ministry, to develop sound accounting practices, and to ensure proper record keeping and reporting according to the policies set by the board of higher education and campus ministry;

(f) to review and recommend covenants and agreements with ecumenical campus ministries and university organizational policies.

(3) To ensure representation of the annual conference board or equivalent structure on the boards of all campus ministries supported by the annual conference.

(4) To interpret systematically to the districts, sub-districts, and local churches the conference program of campus ministry as a ministry to the whole campus (students, faculty, staff, and administration), encouraging their support and urging United Methodist students of all ages to participate.

(5) To support the development of the United Methodist Student Movement (UMSM) within the annual conference, including the organization of a UMSM student council and the appointment of a UMSM adviser, and to encourage student participation in the UMSM and other related

309.3 310.2.b);

(c) when determined that a Wesley Foundation board may hold property, to review the adequacy of the property, liability, and crime insurance coverage, to establish policies on the use of property by outside organizations, to receive and administer all bequests made to the Wesley Foundation or campus ministry according to standards established by the board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure and the annual conference, and the relevant civil governmental authorities and to provide for the upkeep of all properties;

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(e) to have fiscal oversight of all income and expenditures of the campus ministry, to develop sound accounting practices, and to ensure proper record keeping and reporting according to the policies set by the board of higher education and campus ministry;

(f) to review and recommend covenants and agreements with ecumenical campus ministries and university organizational policies.

(3) To ensure representation of the annual conference board or equivalent structure on the boards of all campus ministries supported by the annual conference.

(4) To interpret systematically to the districts, sub-districts, and local churches the conference program of campus ministry as a ministry to the whole campus (students, faculty, staff, and administration), encouraging their support and urging United Methodist students of all ages to participate.

(5) To support the development of the United Methodist Student Movement (UMSM) within the annual conference, including the organization of a UMSM student council and the appointment of a UMSM adviser, and to encourage student participation in the UMSM and other related

student Christian organizations, both nationally and globally.

(6) To hold the Wesley Foundation board of directors responsible for the direction and administration of the foundation in accordance with the policies and objectives of the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure and the standards of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

(7) To ensure that the Wesley Foundation board of directors is related functionally and cooperatively to the United Methodist local church or churches in the immediate vicinity of the college or university and to the council on ministries or other organization of the district in which it is located.

(8) To determine whether or not Wesley Foundation boards of directors, when incorporated, may hold property and to ensure such property is held and administered according to the *Discipline* and the laws of the state in which the foundation is located.

(9) To determine the policies for nomination and election by the annual conference of Wesley Foundation boards of directors.

(10) To determine, in consultation with local boards, the personnel needs of Wesley Foundations; to institute standards for professional staff in accordance with the policies, standards and goals of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

(11) To encourage the development of a permanent endowment fund for Wesley Foundations and campus ministries; and to set polices and investment standards, in consultation with the conference foundation, for permanent endowment funds for Wesley Foundations and campus ministries.

(12) To establish procedures for selection and termination of professional staff in Wesley Foundations; to determine a procedure for a national search; and to consult with the bishop and cabinet when securing the appointment of

student Christian organizations, both nationally and globally.

(6) To hold the Wesley Foundation board of directors responsible for the direction and administration of the foundation in accordance with the policies and objectives of the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure and the standards of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

(7) To ensure that the Wesley Foundation board of directors is related functionally and cooperatively to the United Methodist local church or churches in the immediate vicinity of the college or university and to the council on ministries or other organization of the district in which it is located.

(8) To determine whether or not Wesley Foundation boards of directors, when incorporated, may hold property and to ensure such property is held and administered according to ~~the *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*~~ and the laws of the state in which the foundation is located.

(9) To determine the policies for nomination and election by the annual conference of Wesley Foundation boards of directors.

(10) To determine, in consultation with local boards, the personnel needs of Wesley Foundations; to institute standards for professional staff in accordance with the policies, standards and goals of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

(11) To encourage the development of a permanent endowment fund for Wesley Foundations and campus ministries; and to set polices and investment standards, in consultation with the conference foundation, for permanent endowment funds for Wesley Foundations and campus ministries.

(12) To establish procedures for selection and termination of professional staff in Wesley Foundations; to determine a procedure for a national search; and to consult with

ministerial staff members.

(13) To cooperate with the district superintendents in the gathering of names and addresses of college students from charge conferences in the districts to send to Wesley Foundations, United Methodist-related campus ministries, and United Methodist chaplaincies at the schools where the students are attending.

(14) To develop policies and procedures for the planning, financing and construction of any Wesley Foundation or campus ministry building, in consultation with the appropriate boards and agencies of the annual conference and in accordance with the policies, and standards of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

(15) To oversee the management and financial support of the annual conference program of campus ministry in Wesley Foundations, local churches, and ecumenical campus ministries, in accordance with the policies, standards and goals of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

(16) To determine where new campus ministries are needed after the completion of extensive study by an appointed task force to assess the potential of campus ministry on a university or college campus in accordance with the policies, standards and goals of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Such study shall include but not be limited to: the unique missional opportunities and needs of the campus, student demographics of the university or college, number and size of other denominational campus ministries, student life plan of the university or college, long-range development plan of the campus, fiscal and facilities needs, support and cooperation of nearby United Methodist churches and district, and other items that may impact the campus ministry's ability to fulfill the mission of the church on campus.

(17) Prior to the discontinuation of a Wesley

the bishop and cabinet when securing the appointment of ministerial staff members.

(13) To cooperate with the district superintendents in the gathering of names and addresses of college students from charge conferences in the districts to send to Wesley Foundations, United Methodist-related campus ministries, and United Methodist chaplaincies at the schools where the students are attending.

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Foundation or campus ministry the board of higher education and campus ministry shall conduct an assessment of its potential as outlined in ¶ 536.009.4d) and BOD ¶ 1413.3c). A recommendation to the annual conference for discontinuation shall include proposals for the future use of any property of the Wesley Foundation or campus ministry and for the disposition of any real, personal, tangible and intangible property. Any proceeds from the sale of Wesley Foundation or campus ministry property shall be reserved for other campus ministry needs in the annual conference.

(18) To establish and review covenants and agreements for ecumenical campus ministry and to ensure that they are in harmony with the policies, standards, and goals of the Division of Higher Education and the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure.

(19) To oversee the management of the annual conference program of campus ministry in Wesley Foundations, local churches, and ecumenical campus ministries; to determine where new campus ministries are needed, and to plan for their establishment and financial support.

(20) To provide resources for local churches and districts with programs of ministry with students or to campuses and, where those programs receive financial support from or are designated as ministries on behalf of the annual conference, to ensure that the policies, standards, and goals of the conference board of higher education and campus ministry or equivalent structure are observed.

(21) To establish the procedures for the nomination and election of United Methodist college students as lay members to annual conference, and to encourage the election of United Methodist college students to general conference.

(22) To work closely in cooperation with local church and annual conference young adult councils and programs to offer a cohesive approach to ministry with young

(17) Prior to the discontinuation of a Wesley Foundation or campus ministry the board of higher education and campus ministry shall conduct an assessment of its potential as outlined in ¶ ~~536.009.4d~~ ~~634.4d~~ and BOD ¶ 1413.3c). A recommendation to the annual conference for discontinuation shall include proposals for the future use of any property of the Wesley Foundation or campus ministry and for the disposition of any real, personal, tangible and intangible property. Any proceeds from the sale of Wesley Foundation or campus ministry property shall be reserved for other campus ministry needs in the annual conference.

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(22) To work closely in cooperation with local church and annual conference young adult councils and

<p>adults.</p> <p><i>e) Public Policy</i>-In addition to its general responsibilities, the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry shall have the following duties with regard to public policy and relationships to the state:</p> <p>(1) To provide counsel, guidance, and assistance to United Methodist schools, colleges, universities, and campus ministries within the annual conference regarding their relation-ships to the state.</p> <p>(2) To interact with public higher education as it reflects on the wholeness of persons and the meaning of life.</p> <p>(3) To identify and work with the annual conference, church-related colleges, and campus ministries on issues of public policy that bear on higher education, such as issues bearing on access, equity, academic freedom, peace, and justice.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.009 = 634</p> <p>²⁵ Judicial Council Decision 1171</p> <p>²⁶ Judicial Council Decision 191</p>	<p>programs to offer a cohesive approach to ministry with young adults.</p> <p><i>e) Public Policy</i>-In addition to its general responsibilities, the annual conference board of higher education and campus ministry shall have the following duties with regard to public policy and relationships to the state:</p> <p>(1) To provide counsel, guidance, and assistance to United Methodist schools, colleges, universities, and campus ministries within the annual conference regarding their relation-ships to the state.</p> <p>(2) To interact with public higher education as it reflects on the wholeness of persons and the meaning of life.</p> <p>(3) To identify and work with the annual conference, church-related colleges, and campus ministries on issues of public policy that bear on higher education, such as issues bearing on access, equity, academic freedom, peace, and justice.</p> <p>²⁵ Judicial Council Decision 1171</p> <p>²⁶ Judicial Council Decision 191</p>	
<p>¶536.010. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a Conference <i>Committee on Episcopacy</i>-1. There shall be a conference committee on episcopacy elected quadrennially by the annual conference at the session following the General Conference. The committee’s membership shall number at least seven, but no more than seventeen. One-fifth of the committee’s membership shall be appointed by the bishop. In addition to the lay and clergy members of the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy, who shall be ex officio members with vote, it is recommended that the committee consist of the following: one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergypersons, provided that one layperson shall be the conference lay leader. All lay members shall be professing members of local</p>	<p>[637] ¶536.010. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a Conference Committee on Episcopacy</u>-1. There shall be a conference committee on episcopacy elected quadrennially by the annual conference at the session following the General Conference. The committee’s membership shall number at least seven, but no more than seventeen. One-fifth of the committee’s membership shall be appointed by the bishop. In addition to the lay and clergy members of the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy, who shall be ex officio members with vote, it is recommended that the committee consist of the following: one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergypersons, provided that one layperson shall be the conference lay leader. All lay members shall be professing</p>	

churches. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§233.004), young adults, older adults, and people with disabilities. No member of the staff of the annual conference or any of its agencies, nor an immediate family member of such staff, shall serve as a member of the committee, except that a member of the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy or the conference lay leader shall not be disqualified from membership as a result of this provision.²⁷

Two or more conferences under the presidency of a single bishop may decide to have one committee on episcopacy, in which case each annual conference shall be represented as stated in the preceding paragraph and shall each elect its own representatives.

2. The committee shall meet at least annually. It shall be convened by the bishop and shall elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a secretary. The bishop and/or chairperson are authorized to call additional meetings when desired.

3. The functions of the conference committee on episcopacy shall be:

a) To support the bishop of the area in the oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church, with special reference to the area where the bishop has presidential responsibility.

b) To be available to the bishop for counsel.

c) To assist in the determination of the episcopal needs of the area and to make recommendations to appropriate bodies.

d) To keep the bishop advised concerning conditions within the area as they affect relationships between the bishop and the people of the conference agencies.

e) To interpret to the people of the area and to conference agencies the nature and function of the episcopal office.

f) To engage in annual consultation and appraisal of the balance of the bishop's relationship and responsibilities to the

members of local churches. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§~~256.3~~233.004), young adults, older adults, and people with disabilities. No member of the staff of the annual conference or any of its agencies, nor an immediate family member of such staff, shall serve as a member of the committee, except that a member of the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy or the conference lay leader shall not be disqualified from membership as a result of this provision.²⁷

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e) To interpret to the people of the area and to conference agencies the nature and function of the episcopal office.

f) To engage in annual consultation and appraisal of the balance of the bishop's relationship and responsibilities to the

<p>area and annual conferences, the jurisdiction, general Church boards and agencies, and other areas of specialized ministry, including, at all levels, concern for the inclusiveness of the Church and its ministry with respect to sex, race, and national origin, and understanding and implementation of the consultation process in appointment-making.</p> <p>g) To report needs for episcopal leadership to the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy through the duly elected conference members of that committee.</p> <p>4. The conference council on finance and administration shall make provision in its budget for the expenses of this committee.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.010 = 637</p> <p>²⁷ Judicial Council Decision 711, 778</p>	<p>area and annual conferences, the jurisdiction, general Church boards and agencies, and other areas of specialized ministry, including, at all levels, concern for the inclusiveness of the Church and its ministry with respect to sex, race, and national origin, and understanding and implementation of the consultation process in appointment-making.</p> <p>g) To report needs for episcopal leadership to the jurisdictional committee on episcopacy through the duly elected conference members of that committee.</p> <p>4. The conference council on finance and administration shall make provision in its budget for the expenses of this committee.</p> <p>²⁷ Judicial Council Decision 711, 778</p>	
<p>¶536.011. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for an <i>Episcopal Residence Committee-1</i>. The provision of housing for effective bishops in the jurisdictional conferences shall be the responsibility of the annual conference or conferences comprising the episcopal area to which the bishop is assigned.</p> <p>2. In each episcopal area in the jurisdictional conferences there shall be an episcopal residence committee or other structure to provide for this function and maintain the connectional relationship. The committee shall be composed of the following persons:</p> <p>a) The chairperson or designate of the conference committee on episcopacy from each conference.</p> <p>b) The president or designate of the conference council on finance and administration from each annual conference.</p> <p>c) The president or designate of the conference board of trustees from each annual conference.</p> <p>d) Consultants without vote, with specific expertise related to the tasks of the committee, may be utilized.</p>	<p>[638] ¶536.011. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Episcopal Residence Committee-1</i>.</u> The provision of housing for effective bishops in the jurisdictional conferences shall be the responsibility of the annual conference or conferences comprising the episcopal area to which the bishop is assigned.</p> <p>2. In each episcopal area in the jurisdictional conferences there shall be an episcopal residence committee or other structure to provide for this function and maintain the connectional relationship. The committee shall be composed of the following persons:</p> <p>a) The chairperson or designate of the conference committee on episcopacy from each conference.</p> <p>b) The president or designate of the conference council on finance and administration from each annual conference.</p> <p>c) The president or designate of the conference board of trustees from each annual conference.</p> <p>d) Consultants without vote, with specific expertise related to the tasks of the committee, may be utilized.</p>	

<p>3. The chairperson of the episcopal residence committee shall be the representative of the committee on episcopacy of the annual conference in which the episcopal residence is currently located.</p> <p>4. It shall be the responsibility of the episcopal residence committee:</p> <p>a) To make recommendations to the annual conference(s) regarding the purchase or sale of an episcopal residence.</p> <p>b) To prepare an annual budget covering the cost of providing the episcopal residence, which may also include utilities, insurance, and normal costs of upkeep in maintaining the residence.</p> <p>c) To forward the proposed budget to each conference council on finance and administration, including a recommendation for the proportionate share of the proposed budget to be borne by that annual conference, such proportionate share to be approved by each annual conference as it acts on budget recommendations (§ 538.003).</p> <p>d) To supervise the expenditure of funds allocated from all sources for expenses related to the provision of the episcopal residence and to account for such expenditures annually to each annual conference in the episcopal area.</p> <p>e) To give oversight in all matters related to upkeep, maintenance, improvements, and appropriate insurance coverages for the episcopal residence.</p> <p>5. Titles to properties held as episcopal residences shall be held in accordance with § 2513.003.</p> <p>GBOD §536.011 = 638</p>	<p>3. The chairperson of the episcopal residence committee shall be the representative of the committee on episcopacy of the annual conference in which the episcopal residence is currently located.</p> <p>4. It shall be the responsibility of the episcopal residence committee:</p> <p>a) To make recommendations to the annual conference(s) regarding the purchase or sale of an episcopal residence.</p> <p>b) To prepare an annual budget covering the cost of providing the episcopal residence, which may also include utilities, insurance, and normal costs of upkeep in maintaining the residence.</p> <p>c) To forward the proposed budget to each conference council on finance and administration, including a recommendation for the proportionate share of the proposed budget to be borne by that annual conference, such proportionate share to be approved by each annual conference as it acts on budget recommendations (§538.003 614).</p> <p>d) To supervise the expenditure of funds allocated from all sources for expenses related to the provision of the episcopal residence and to account for such expenditures annually to each annual conference in the episcopal area.</p> <p>e) To give oversight in all matters related to upkeep, maintenance, improvements, and appropriate insurance coverages for the episcopal residence.</p> <p>5. Titles to properties held as episcopal residences shall be held in accordance with § <u>2513.003</u> 2514.</p>	
<p>§536.012. In regards to §§ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Pensions-1. Authorization</i>-There shall be organized in each annual conference a conference board, auxiliary to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, to be known as the conference board of pensions, hereinafter called the board, that</p>	<p>[639] §536.012. <u>In regards to §§ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Board of Pensions-1. Authorization</i></u>-There shall be organized in each annual conference a conference board, auxiliary to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, to be known as the conference board of pensions, hereinafter called the board, that</p>	

shall have charge of the interests and work of providing for and contributing to the support, relief, assistance, and pensioning of clergy and their families, other church workers, and lay employees of the institutions, organizations, and agencies within that annual conference of The United Methodist Church, except as otherwise provided for by the general board.

2. *Membership-a)* It is recommended that the board be composed of not less than twelve members not indebted to pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs; one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy; and in accordance with ¶ 534.004 elected for a term of eight years and arranged in classes as determined by the annual conference; and in addition thereto, any clergy member of the conference or lay member of a church within the conference who is a member of the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Active and retired participants in pension and benefit funds, plans and programs, whether or not currently receiving benefits, and not indebted as provided above, are eligible to serve on the board. All lay members shall be professing members of local churches. A vacancy in the membership of the board may be filled by the board for the remainder of the conference year in which the vacancy occurs, subject to the same qualifications before provided; and at its next session the conference shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

b) The members shall assume their duties at the adjournment of the conference session at which they were elected.

3. *Organization*-The board shall organize by electing a chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, and treasurer, who shall serve during the ensuing quadrennium or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. These officers shall constitute an executive committee; *provided*, however, that three members may be added thereto by the board. The duty of the executive committee shall be to administer the work of the board during the conference year in the interim between

shall have charge of the interests and work of providing for and contributing to the support, relief, assistance, and pensioning of clergy and their families, other church workers, and lay employees of the institutions, organizations, and agencies within that annual conference of The United Methodist Church, except as otherwise provided for by the general board.

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regular or special meetings of the board. The office of secretary may be combined with that of treasurer. The treasurer may be a person who is not a member of the board, in which case the person shall be an ex officio member of the executive committee, without vote. Calls for special meetings of the board shall be issued by the secretary on request of the chairperson, or the vice chairperson when the chairperson is unable to act.

4. *Proportional Payment*-The board shall compare the records of the amounts paid by each pastoral charge for the support of pastors and for pension and benefit programs, computing the proportional distribution thereof and keeping a permanent record of defaults of the churches of the conference that have failed to observe the following provisions pertaining to proportional payment, and shall render annually to each church that is in default a statement of the amounts in default for that and preceding years.²⁸

a) When the apportionment to the pastoral charges for the pension and benefit program of the annual conference has been determined, payments made thereon by each pastoral charge shall be exactly proportionate to payments made on the salary or salaries of the ordained minister or clergy serving it.

b) The treasurer of the pastoral charge shall be primarily responsible for the application of proportional payment; but in the event of the treasurer's failure to apply it, the pastor shall adjust cash salary and payment according to the proper ratio, as provided above, before the pastor enters the respective amounts in the statistical report to the annual conference.

c) The conference statistical tables shall provide separate columns for reporting the amount apportioned to each pastoral charge for pension and benefit purposes and the amount paid thereon.

d) It shall not be permissible for a pastor to receive a bonus or other supplementary compensation tending to defeat proportional payment.

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b) The treasurer of the pastoral charge shall be primarily responsible for the application of proportional payment; but in the event of the treasurer's failure to apply it, the pastor shall adjust cash salary and payment according to the proper ratio, as provided above, before the pastor enters the respective amounts in the statistical report to the annual conference.

c) The conference statistical tables shall provide separate columns for reporting the amount apportioned to each pastoral charge for pension and benefit purposes and the amount paid thereon.

d) It shall not be permissible for a pastor to receive a bonus or other supplementary compensation tending to defeat proportional payment.

5. *Reports to and Responsibilities Regarding the General Board*-The board shall have the powers and responsibilities with respect to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits described in BOD¶ 1506 and shall report to the general board immediately following the session of the conference, in such form as required by the general board, the names and years of service approved for pre-1982 pension credit for each eligible person and the names and addresses of clergy who are members of funds, plans, or programs administered by the general board.

Moreover, annually, the board or other authorized agency shall submit, annually, its group health care plan data, to the extent the board maintains a group health care plan, de-identified as necessary, including, but not limited to, financial soundness, claims experience and other cost drivers, plan designs and coverage, and eligibility criteria to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

6. *Annual Conference Retiree Health Care Access*-The board or other agency authorized by the annual conference shall respect the health and wholeness of the annual conference's clergypersons, who have retired in accordance with ¶¶349 other than as applied to ¶ 349.3 of the *Discipline* and lay employees of the annual conference who have retired in accordance with the annual conference's retirement policy, and are eligible for Medicare, and their spouses. The board or agency shall provide access to Medicare supplement plans and prescription drug coverage plans. Access for retirees and their spouses may include, but shall not be limited to (i) sponsoring an employer retiree health care plan that supplements Medicare; (ii) participating in a multiple employer retiree health care plan that supplements Medicare; (iii) securing individuals' eligibility under group contracts with Medicare supplement plan providers or exchanges; (iv) subsidizing the costs of coverage for retired clergypersons and retired lay employees and their spouses enrolled in Medicare Part D plans or Medicare Advantage plans; (v) providing subsidies toward

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or group relationships with providers of individual Medicare supplement and other retiree coverage policies; and (vi) providing fixed dollar retiree health benefits through health reimbursement arrangements, stipends, or otherwise. Providing access does not compel an annual conference to fund such coverage (i.e., coverage can be retiree-pay-all); however, an annual conference may fund or subsidize the cost of coverage (e.g., through premium payment, premium reimbursement, contributions to a health reimbursement arrangement, stipend, or grant) for its retired clergy and lay employees in its discretion. Additional eligibility may be determined by the annual conference; for example, for early retirees and surviving dependents.

7. Annual Conference Group Health Care Plans-The board or other agency authorized by the annual conference shall sponsor or participate in a group health care plan, which local churches may adopt for their full-time appointed clergy, or which the annual conference may require its local churches to adopt, that covers the annual conference's own full-time clergy employees and its full-time lay employees in the United States. Clergy appointed to an appointment extending the ministry of the local United Methodist church under ¶ 331.002.3, except those serving in positions for which the annual conference is responsible under ¶ 331.002.3a(1), and lay employees who are not employees of the annual conference, such as lay employees of local churches and lay employees of district and jurisdictional offices, need not be covered under the preceding sentence, but may be covered by the local church or other common-law employer adopting the plan, at the discretion of the annual conference. For the purpose of this paragraph, group health care plan shall mean a health insurance plan, group health care plan, or multiple-employer health care plan that covers benefits for major medical and hospitalization expenses. The board or authorized agency may recommend additional eligibility for its group health care plan in its discretion.

Alternatively, in the event that federal law or state law

or Medicare Advantage plans; (v) providing subsidies toward or group relationships with providers of individual Medicare supplement and other retiree coverage policies; and (vi) providing fixed dollar retiree health benefits through health reimbursement arrangements, stipends, or otherwise. Providing access does not compel an annual conference to fund such coverage (i.e., coverage can be retiree-pay-all); however, an annual conference may fund or subsidize the cost of coverage (e.g., through premium payment, premium reimbursement, contributions to a health reimbursement arrangement, stipend, or grant) for its retired clergy and lay employees in its discretion. Additional eligibility may be determined by the annual conference; for example, for early retirees and surviving dependents.

7. Annual Conference Group Health Care Plans-The board or other agency authorized by the annual conference shall sponsor or participate in a group health care plan, which local churches may adopt for their full-time appointed clergy, or which the annual conference may require its local churches to adopt, that covers the annual conference's own full-time clergy employees and its full-time lay employees in the United States. Clergy appointed to an appointment extending the ministry of the local United Methodist church under ¶ 331.002.3 ~~344.1~~, except those serving in positions for which the annual conference is responsible under ¶ 331.002.3a ~~344.1a~~(1), and lay employees who are not employees of the annual conference, such as lay employees of local churches and lay employees of district and jurisdictional offices, need not be covered under the preceding sentence, but may be covered by the local church or other common-law employer adopting the plan, at the discretion of the annual conference. For the purpose of this paragraph, group health care plan shall mean a health insurance plan, group health care plan, or multiple-employer health care plan that covers benefits for major medical and hospitalization expenses. The board or authorized agency may recommend additional eligibility for its group health care plan

<p>governing health care plans and health insurance establishes coverage options for those persons without employer-provided coverage that ensure access, regardless of health status or condition, to affordable coverage through health insurance exchanges, connectors, single-payer systems, or other mechanisms, the board may cease maintaining its group health care plan to the extent such coverage is available to its clergy and lay employees. In such event, the board nevertheless shall provide continued administrative support (e.g., through cafeteria plans, employer-adopted exchange plans, or health reimbursement arrangements) for participation in the exchanges or alternative systems, and recommend an appropriate and adequate level of Church financial support (e.g., in the form of local church, employer or annual conference contributions toward premiums, additional compensation, or apportionments) of full-time clergy and full-time lay employees of the conference toward the purchase of such coverage through these alternative mechanisms to the extent individuals' coverage may not be subsidized by government agencies, particularly considering (a) the tax advantages of employer-provided financial support toward health care coverage, and (b) the reduced availability of government subsidies for clergy whose compensation is near or above denominational average compensation.</p> <p>In addition, the board or authorized agency shall provide and maintain health and wellness programs for the annual conference's full-time clergy and full-time lay employees.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.012 = 639</p> <p>²⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 50, 250, 390, 401, 471.</p>	<p>in its discretion.</p> <p>Alternatively, in the event that federal law or state law governing health care plans and health insurance establishes coverage options for those persons without employer-provided coverage that ensure access, regardless of health status or condition, to affordable coverage through health insurance exchanges, connectors, single-payer systems, or other mechanisms, the board may cease maintaining its group health care plan to the extent such coverage is available to its clergy and lay employees. In such event, the board nevertheless shall provide continued administrative support (e.g., through cafeteria plans, employer-adopted exchange plans, or health reimbursement arrangements) for participation in the exchanges or alternative systems, and recommend an appropriate and adequate level of Church financial support (e.g., in the form of local church, employer or annual conference contributions toward premiums, additional compensation, or apportionments) of full-time clergy and full-time lay employees of the conference toward the purchase of such coverage through these alternative mechanisms to the extent individuals' coverage may not be subsidized by government agencies, particularly considering (a) the tax advantages of employer-provided financial support toward health care coverage, and (b) the reduced availability of government subsidies for clergy whose compensation is near or above denominational average compensation.</p> <p>In addition, the board or authorized agency shall provide and maintain health and wellness programs for the annual conference's full-time clergy and full-time lay employees.</p> <p>²⁸ Judicial Council Decisions 50, 250, 390, 401, 471.</p>	
<p>¶536.013. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Commission on Archives and History</i>: 1. In each annual</p>	<p>[641] ¶536.013. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Conference Commission on Archives and History</i>: 1. In each annual</p>	

conference there shall be a conference commission on archives and history. The number of members of the commission and their terms of office shall be as the conference may determine and may include an ex officio representative of each United Methodist heritage landmark in its bounds. It shall be the duty of the commission to collect, preserve, and make accessible the historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents; to encourage and assist the local churches in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage; to provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents (see ¶ 2513.038.3); to maintain a fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that obviously will have value for future history are properly preserved therein; to provide for the ownership of real property and to receive gifts and bequests; to nominate to the General Commission on Archives and History buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic sites or heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions; to establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records under standards or guidelines developed by the General Commission on Archives and History; to cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional commissions on archives and history; and to engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

2. The commission may organize a conference historical society and encourage membership therein for the purpose of promoting interest in the study and preservation of the history

conference there shall be a conference commission on archives and history. The number of members of the commission and their terms of office shall be as the conference may determine and may include an ex officio representative of each United Methodist heritage landmark in its bounds. It shall be the duty of the commission to collect, preserve, and make accessible the historically significant records of the annual conference and its agencies, including data relating to the origin and history of the conference and its antecedents; to encourage and assist the local churches in preserving their records, compiling their histories, and celebrating their heritage; to provide for the permanent safekeeping of the historical records of all abandoned or discontinued churches in the bounds of the annual conference and its antecedents (see ¶ 2513.038.3 ~~2549.3~~); to maintain a fire-safe historical and archival depository and to see that all items that obviously will have value for future history are properly preserved therein; to provide for the ownership of real property and to receive gifts and bequests; to nominate to the General Commission on Archives and History buildings, locations, or structures within the annual conference for designation as historic sites or heritage landmarks; to maintain contact with officially designated historic sites and heritage landmarks in their bounds; to assist the bishop or the appropriate conference committee in planning for the historical hour and other appropriate historical observances at annual conference sessions; to establish retention and disposition schedules for annual conference and local church records under standards or guidelines developed by the General Commission on Archives and History; to cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional commissions on archives and history; and to engage with other Wesleyan, Methodist, or Evangelical United Brethren-related denominations in lifting up our joint heritage.

2. The commission may organize a conference historical society and encourage membership therein for the purpose of

<p>of the conference and its antecedents. The officers of the conference commission on archives and history may be the officers of the conference historical society. Membership in the historical society shall be established as the society may determine. Membership may include the payment of dues as the society may direct, and in return, members shall receive official publications and publicity materials issued by the commission and the society and other such benefits as may be deemed suitable.</p> <p>3. Each annual conference may have a historian to undertake specific duties as may be designated by the commission. The annual conference historian may be a member of the annual conference commission on archives and history.</p> <p>4. The annual conference commission on archives and history shall work with the ethnic congregations of the conference to develop and preserve the historical records of those congregations and antecedent conferences.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.013 = 641</p>	<p>promoting interest in the study and preservation of the history of the conference and its antecedents. The officers of the conference commission on archives and history may be the officers of the conference historical society. Membership in the historical society shall be established as the society may determine. Membership may include the payment of dues as the society may direct, and in return, members shall receive official publications and publicity materials issued by the commission and the society and other such benefits as may be deemed suitable.</p> <p>3. Each annual conference may have a historian to undertake specific duties as may be designated by the commission. The annual conference historian may be a member of the annual conference commission on archives and history.</p> <p>4. The annual conference commission on archives and history shall work with the ethnic congregations of the conference to develop and preserve the historical records of those congregations and antecedent conferences.</p>	
<p>¶536.014. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships</i>: 1. Each annual conference shall create appropriate structures related to Christian unity and interreligious relationships to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships with the Council of Bishops. The annual conference structure will report each year to the conference in such manner as the conference may direct. The responsibilities of this annual conference structure for Christian unity and interreligious relationships may be assigned to an existing or newly created multifunctional agency.</p> <p>2. It is recommended that this annual conference structure be composed of two United Methodists from each district</p>	<p>[642] ¶536.014. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships</i>:</u> 1. Each annual conference shall create appropriate structures related to Christian unity and interreligious relationships to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships with the Council of Bishops. The annual conference structure will report each year to the conference in such manner as the conference may direct. The responsibilities of this annual conference structure for Christian unity and interreligious relationships may be assigned to an existing or newly created multifunctional agency.</p> <p>2. It is recommended that this annual conference structure be composed of two United Methodists from each district</p>	

(complying with ¶ 536.001.4), one of whom shall be district coordinator for Christian unity and interreligious relationships and shall serve as liaison with local church ministry areas on Christian unity and interreligious relationships. Additional members may include persons from The United Methodist Church or other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ as directed by the conference to ensure ecumenical expertise and interchange with other agencies. Laypersons from The United Methodist Church shall be professing members of local churches. Ex officio members of the annual conference structure for Christian unity and interreligious relationships shall include the conference ecumenical officer(s), if elected, and any United Methodists residing within the conference bounds who are members of the following: Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships of the Council of Bishops, the governing board of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., the World Methodist Council, the United Methodist delegation to the most recent World Council of Churches Assembly, and the United Methodist delegation to the most recent plenary meeting of Churches Uniting in Christ.

3. There shall be a representative of this structure who serves as one of the conference representatives to state councils or conferences of churches.

4. The duties of the annual conference structure shall be to act in cooperation with the annual conference council on ministries, and, as it may recommend, and to take initiative in ecumenical and interreligious relationships as follows:

a) To interpret, advocate, and work for the unity of the Christian church in every aspect of the life of the conference and its churches and to encourage dialogue and cooperation with persons of other living faiths.

b) To recommend to the conference the goals, objectives, and strategies and to assist the conference, in cooperation with the bishop and the cabinet, in the development of ecumenical relationships and planning for

(complying with ¶ ~~536.001.4~~ ~~610.5~~), one of whom shall be district coordinator for Christian unity and interreligious relationships and shall serve as liaison with local church ministry areas on Christian unity and interreligious relationships. Additional members may include persons from The United Methodist Church or other member churches of Churches Uniting in Christ as directed by the conference to ensure ecumenical expertise and interchange with other agencies. Laypersons from The United Methodist Church shall be professing members of local churches. Ex officio members of the annual conference structure for Christian unity and interreligious relationships shall include the conference ecumenical officer(s), if elected, and any United Methodists residing within the conference bounds who are members of the following: Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships of the Council of Bishops, the governing board of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., the World Methodist Council, the United Methodist delegation to the most recent World Council of Churches Assembly, and the United Methodist delegation to the most recent plenary meeting of Churches Uniting in Christ.

3. There shall be a representative of this structure who serves as one of the conference representatives to state councils or conferences of churches.

4. The duties of the annual conference structure shall be to act in cooperation with the annual conference council on ministries, and, as it may recommend, and to take initiative in ecumenical and interreligious relationships as follows:

a) To interpret, advocate, and work for the unity of the Christian church in every aspect of the life of the conference and its churches and to encourage dialogue and cooperation with persons of other living faiths.

b) To recommend to the conference the goals, objectives, and strategies and to assist the conference, in cooperation with the bishop and the cabinet, in the development of ecumenical relationships and planning for

mission with other judicatories, particularly in the establishment of new churches, yoked congregations, and in the process of local church union efforts.

c) To stimulate participation in and evaluation of mission programs ecumenically planned and implemented, such as experimental parishes, ecumenical parish clusters, ecumenical task forces, and united ministries in higher education, and in other issue-oriented tasks.

d) To stimulate conference, district, and congregational participation in councils, conferences, or associations of churches, in coalition task forces, and in interreligious groups through ecumenical educational or shared-time programs, jointly approved curriculum resources, interreligious study programs, or ecumenical community action projects such as institutional ministries and media communications, and various other modes of interchurch cooperation.

e) To participate in the selection of conference delegates to state councils or conferences of churches, which participation may include nomination, in cooperation with the conference nominating committee, for conference election of the delegates to these bodies; to select representatives to district, area, and regional ecumenical and interreligious task groups and workshops; and to act as the body to which such delegates are accountable by receiving and acting on their reports and recommendations.

f) To promote and interpret the work of national and world ecumenical bodies such as the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., the World Council of Churches, Churches Uniting in Christ, and the World Methodist Council; and to cooperate in and provide leadership for specific ecumenical experiences of worship and celebration such as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Pentecost Sunday, World Communion Sunday, Reformation Sunday, and other appropriate occasions.

g) To stimulate understanding and conversations with all Christian bodies, to encourage continuing dialogue with

mission with other judicatories, particularly in the establishment of new churches, yoked congregations, and in the process of local church union efforts.

c) To stimulate participation in and evaluation of mission programs ecumenically planned and implemented, such as experimental parishes, ecumenical parish clusters, ecumenical task forces, and united ministries in higher education, and in other issue-oriented tasks.

d) To stimulate conference, district, and congregational participation in councils, conferences, or associations of churches, in coalition task forces, and in interreligious groups through ecumenical educational or shared-time programs, jointly approved curriculum resources, interreligious study programs, or ecumenical community action projects such as institutional ministries and media communications, and various other modes of interchurch cooperation.

e) To participate in the selection of conference delegates to state councils or conferences of churches, which participation may include nomination, in cooperation with the conference nominating committee, for conference election of the delegates to these bodies; to select representatives to district, area, and regional ecumenical and interreligious task groups and workshops; and to act as the body to which such delegates are accountable by receiving and acting on their reports and recommendations.

f) To promote and interpret the work of national and world ecumenical bodies such as the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., the World Council of Churches, Churches Uniting in Christ, and the World Methodist Council; and to cooperate in and provide leadership for specific ecumenical experiences of worship and celebration such as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Pentecost Sunday, World Communion Sunday, Reformation Sunday, and other appropriate occasions.

g) To stimulate understanding and conversations with all Christian bodies, to encourage continuing dialogue with

<p>Jewish and other living-faith communities, and to encourage an openness of mind toward an understanding of other major world religions.</p> <p>h) To fulfill other functions assigned by the annual conference and to respond to such requests as may be made by its leadership.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.014 = 642</p>	<p>Jewish and other living-faith communities, and to encourage an openness of mind toward an understanding of other major world religions.</p> <p>h) To fulfill other functions assigned by the annual conference and to respond to such requests as may be made by its leadership.</p>	
<p>¶536.015. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Commission on Religion and Race</i>: 1. There shall be in each annual conference a conference commission on religion and race or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships. It shall follow the general guidelines and structure of the General Commission on Religion and Race as outlined in BOD ¶¶ 2002 and 2008, where applicable.</p> <p>2. The basic membership of the annual conference commission shall be nominated and elected by established procedure of the respective annual conferences. Each annual and central conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. Care shall be taken to ensure that membership is selected based primarily on the passion and expertise possessed in the areas of training, resource development, evaluation, consultation, and strategic planning in the areas of diversity, intercultural competency, racial and ethnic justice, reconciliation and equity, and communicating/advocacy for change. The total membership shall have an equitable balance in the number of laymen, laywomen, and clergypersons. It is strongly urged that the conference commissions be constituted to reflect the widest sense of racial, ethnic, tribal, and cultural diversity relevant to that area. Selection of commission members shall ensure adequate representation of women, youth, young adults, older adults, and persons with disabilities. Members of the General</p>	<p>[643] ¶536.015. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Commission on Religion and Race</i>:</u> 1. There shall be in each annual conference a conference commission on religion and race or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships. It shall follow the general guidelines and structure of the General Commission on Religion and Race as outlined in BOD ¶¶ 2002 and 2008, where applicable.</p> <p>2. The basic membership of the annual conference commission shall be nominated and elected by established procedure of the respective annual conferences. Each annual and central conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. Care shall be taken to ensure that membership is selected based primarily on the passion and expertise possessed in the areas of training, resource development, evaluation, consultation, and strategic planning in the areas of diversity, intercultural competency, racial and ethnic justice, reconciliation and equity, and communicating/advocacy for change. The total membership shall have an equitable balance in the number of laymen, laywomen, and clergypersons. It is strongly urged that the conference commissions be constituted to reflect the widest sense of racial, ethnic, tribal, and cultural diversity relevant to that area. Selection of commission members shall ensure adequate representation of women, youth, young adults, older</p>	

Commission on Religion and Race residing in the annual conference shall be ex officio members of the annual conference commission on religion and race with vote.

3. The annual conference commissions including those in central conferences shall assume responsibility for such matters as:

a) Interpreting the intent of all responsibilities given to annual conference and central conference commission on religion and race so that the responsibilities reflect the context for ministry and realities of the areas in which they serve.

b) Supporting and providing programs of education in areas of intercultural competency, institutional equity and vital conversations at every level of the conference. *c)* Partnering with annual and central conference boards and agencies as they seek to develop vital conversations, programs and policies of racial/institutional equity and intercultural competency.

d) Reviewing and making appropriate recommendations for total inclusiveness and equity within the conference staff and on all of the conference boards, agencies, commissions, and committees. Reports will be made yearly to the annual conference.

e) Providing resources and training to enable the work of the local church ministry area of religion and race as specified in ¶ 234.2b, with particular emphasis placed on pastors and congregations involved in cross-racial/cross-cultural ministry. In the case of annual conferences within central conferences, cross-racial/cross-cultural ministry may include tribes, ethnic communities and cultural/language groups.

f) Consulting with the Board of Ordained Ministry and the cabinet to ensure racial/ethnic inclusion and equity in the recruitment, credentialing, and itineracy processes of the conference. The executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry and cabinet shall meet at least once per year in joint sessions with the Conference Commission on Religion and Race to create and assess long-term plans for identifying and

adults, and persons with disabilities. Members of the General Commission on Religion and Race residing in the annual conference shall be ex officio members of the annual conference commission on religion and race with vote.

3. The annual conference commissions including those in central conferences shall assume responsibility for such matters as:

a) Interpreting the intent of all responsibilities given to annual conference and central conference commission on religion and race so that the responsibilities reflect the context for ministry and realities of the areas in which they serve.

b) Supporting and providing programs of education in areas of intercultural competency, institutional equity and vital conversations at every level of the conference. *c)* Partnering with annual and central conference boards and agencies as they seek to develop vital conversations, programs and policies of racial/institutional equity and intercultural competency.

d) Reviewing and making appropriate recommendations for total inclusiveness and equity within the conference staff and on all of the conference boards, agencies, commissions, and committees. Reports will be made yearly to the annual conference.

e) Providing resources and training to enable the work of the local church ministry area of religion and race as specified in ¶ ~~234.2b-252.2b~~, with particular emphasis placed on pastors and congregations involved in cross-racial/cross-cultural ministry. In the case of annual conferences within central conferences, cross-racial/cross-cultural ministry may include tribes, ethnic communities and cultural/language groups.

f) Consulting with the Board of Ordained Ministry and the cabinet to ensure racial/ethnic inclusion and equity in the recruitment, credentialing, and itineracy processes of the conference. The executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry and cabinet shall meet at least once per year in joint sessions with the Conference Commission on Religion and

<p>developing clergy leadership who will serve the growing racial and ethnic populations in the Church.</p> <p>g) Consulting with local churches that are experiencing changing demographics in the neighborhoods where they are located, which demographics may be different from the church's racial/ethnic constituency, and that have a desire to be in ministry with their community.</p> <p>h) Coordinating conference leadership in and in support of racial and social justice movements impacting local communities in consultation and partnership with other entities within and outside the conference boundaries.</p> <p>i) Partnering with the appropriate denominational bodies to assist in resolution of complaints of racial/ethnic discrimination made by clergy or laity.</p> <p>4. The annual conference commission on religion and race shall develop an adequate budget for its operation as a commission, which shall be included within the annual conference budget.</p> <p>5. The annual conference commission on religion and race, or other structure to provide for its function and connectional relationship, shall have vote and voice in the decision-making unit of the conference such as the conference connectional ministries or equivalent structure.</p> <p>GBOD¶536.015 = 643</p>	<p>Race to create and assess long-term plans for identifying and developing clergy leadership who will serve the growing racial and ethnic populations in the Church.</p> <p>g) Consulting with local churches that are experiencing changing demographics in the neighborhoods where they are located, which demographics may be different from the church's racial/ethnic constituency, and that have a desire to be in ministry with their community.</p> <p>h) Coordinating conference leadership in and in support of racial and social justice movements impacting local communities in consultation and partnership with other entities within and outside the conference boundaries.</p> <p>i) Partnering with the appropriate denominational bodies to assist in resolution of complaints of racial/ethnic discrimination made by clergy or laity.</p> <p>4. The annual conference commission on religion and race shall develop an adequate budget for its operation as a commission, which shall be included within the annual conference budget.</p> <p>5. The annual conference commission on religion and race, or other structure to provide for its function and connectional relationship, shall have vote and voice in the decision-making unit of the conference such as the conference connectional ministries or equivalent structure.</p>	
<p>¶536.016. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Commission on the Status and Role of Women</i> or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships.²⁹</p> <p>1. The responsibility of this commission shall be in harmony with the responsibility of the general commission (see BOD¶ 2103), with the following objectives established as guidelines for adaptation to the needs of the respective annual conferences:</p> <p>a) To be informed about the status and role of all</p>	<p>[644] ¶536.016. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Commission on the Status and Role of Women</i></u>There shall be in each annual conference a conference commission on the status and role of women or other structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships.²⁹</p> <p>1. The responsibility of this commission shall be in harmony with the responsibility of the general commission (see BOD¶ 2103), with the following objectives established as guidelines for adaptation to the needs of the respective annual</p>	

women in the total life of the conference. Data shall be gathered that relate to all structural levels of the conference, including the local church. Such information will be regularly updated and disseminated.

b) To initiate cooperation with United Methodist Women at the annual conference level and other levels as appropriate in order to achieve full participation of women in the decision-making structures.

c) To develop ways to inform and sensitize the leadership within the conference at all levels on issues that affect women, which shall be projected into and through all districts within the conference by the commission.

d) To focus on major priorities of issues related to women, which may include sexual harassment policies and procedures, and to enlist the support of the bishop, cabinet, and conference staff in policies, plans, and practices related to those priorities.

e) To advise the general commission about the progress and effectiveness of efforts to achieve full participation of women in the life of the Church.

f) To participate in connectional programs and plans initiated or recommended by the general commission, and to utilize the resources available from the general commission as needed.

2. The basic membership of the conference commission shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the respective annual conferences. Each annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. All must be members of The United Methodist Church. Special consultants without vote may be used as resource persons. It is recommended that the addition of the at-large membership ensure that the total membership maintain a balance of one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy. The majority of the commission shall be women, including both clergy and lay. In an annual conference where there is not a sufficient number of clergywomen to meet the

conferences:

a) To be informed about the status and role of all women in the total life of the conference. Data shall be gathered that relate to all structural levels of the conference, including the local church. Such information will be regularly updated and disseminated.

b) To initiate cooperation with United Methodist Women at the annual conference level and other levels as appropriate in order to achieve full participation of women in the decision-making structures.

c) To develop ways to inform and sensitize the leadership within the conference at all levels on issues that affect women, which shall be projected into and through all districts within the conference by the commission.

d) To focus on major priorities of issues related to women, which may include sexual harassment policies and procedures, and to enlist the support of the bishop, cabinet, and conference staff in policies, plans, and practices related to those priorities.

e) To advise the general commission about the progress and effectiveness of efforts to achieve full participation of women in the life of the Church.

f) To participate in connectional programs and plans initiated or recommended by the general commission, and to utilize the resources available from the general commission as needed.

2. The basic membership of the conference commission shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the respective annual conferences. Each annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. All must be members of The United Methodist Church. Special consultants without vote may be used as resource persons. It is recommended that the addition of the at-large membership ensure that the total membership maintain a balance of one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy. The majority of the commission shall be women,

<p>recommended balance, additional laywomen shall be elected beyond the one-third proportion to bring the total membership to a majority of women. A person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women from that annual conference shall, by virtue of their office, be member(s) of the conference commission on the status and role of women (see ¶¶ 536.001.5 and BOD 710.6). Selection of commission members shall ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic groups, youth, young adults, older adults, and persons of varying lifestyles.</p> <p>At least one member shall be named by the conference United Methodist Women.</p> <p>3. The chairperson of the commission shall be a woman.</p> <p>4. The commission shall propose a budget and submit it for inclusion in the budget of the annual conference according to procedures for funding of all boards, commissions, and agencies of the annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD¶536.016 = 644</p> <p>²⁹ Judicial Council Decision 712</p>	<p>including both clergy and lay. In an annual conference where there is not a sufficient number of clergywomen to meet the recommended balance, additional laywomen shall be elected beyond the one-third proportion to bring the total membership to a majority of women. A person or persons serving as member(s) of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women from that annual conference shall, by virtue of their office, be member(s) of the conference commission on the status and role of women (see ¶¶ <u>536.001.5</u> 610.6 and <u>BOD</u> 710.6). Selection of commission members shall ensure adequate representation of racial and ethnic groups, youth, young adults, older adults, and persons of varying lifestyles.</p> <p>At least one member shall be named by the conference United Methodist Women.</p> <p>3. The chairperson of the commission shall be a woman.</p> <p>4. The commission shall propose a budget and submit it for inclusion in the budget of the annual conference according to procedures for funding of all boards, commissions, and agencies of the annual conference.</p> <p>²⁹ Judicial Council Decision 712</p>	
<p>¶536.017. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Commission on the Small Membership Church</i>:</p> <p>1. There shall be in each annual conference a conference commission on the small membership church, or the responsibilities of the small membership church commission may be assigned to an existing or newly created multifunctional agency of the council or other structure that cares for the functions of support, nurture, and growth of small membership churches and their relationships to the conference, districts, and other local churches. Where these responsibilities are assigned to new or existing agencies within the conference, the individual(s) responsible for the functioning of the commission shall be designated by the annual conference and</p>	<p>645] ¶536.017. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Commission on the Small Membership Church</i>:</u></p> <p><u>1.</u> There shall be in each annual conference a conference commission on the small membership church, or the responsibilities of the small membership church commission may be assigned to an existing or newly created multifunctional agency of the council or other structure that cares for the functions of support, nurture, and growth of small membership churches and their relationships to the conference, districts, and other local churches. Where these responsibilities are assigned to new or existing agencies within the conference, the individual(s) responsible for the functioning of the commission shall be designated by the annual conference and</p>	

included in the listing of conference officers.

2. The responsibility of this commission shall be in harmony with the responsibility of the general commission, with the following objectives established as guidelines for adaptation to the needs of the respective annual conference:

a) To be informed about the needs and opportunities of the small membership church in rural, suburban, and urban settings in the total life of the conference. Specific data shall be gathered that relate to all structural levels of the conference, including the local church. This data shall include, but not be limited to, demographics, membership, information on the formation and effectiveness of cooperative ministries, information about pastoral tenure, compensation, and other factors that affect the vitality of the small membership churches. Such information will be regularly updated and disseminated to bishops, district superintendents, and to relating conference boards and agencies, the General Board of Global Ministries, and the General Board of Discipleship.

b) To ensure representation from small membership churches in the decision-making structures of the annual conference.

c) To develop ways to inform and sensitize the leadership within the annual conference at all levels on issues that affect small membership churches, which shall be projected into and through all districts within the annual conference by the commission.

d) To focus on major issues related to small membership churches and to enlist the support of the bishop, cabinet, and conference staff in policies, plans, and practices impacting those issues.

e) To advise the general commission on the progress and effectiveness of efforts to achieve full participation of laity and clergy from small membership churches in the life of the Church.

f) To participate in connectional programs and plans initiated or recommended by the general commission as

included in the listing of conference officers.

~~2.4.~~ The responsibility of this commission shall be in harmony with the responsibility of the general commission, with the following objectives established as guidelines for adaptation to the needs of the respective annual conference:

a) To be informed about the needs and opportunities of the small membership church in rural, suburban, and urban settings in the total life of the conference. Specific data shall be gathered that relate to all structural levels of the conference, including the local church. This data shall include, but not be limited to, demographics, membership, information on the formation and effectiveness of cooperative ministries, information about pastoral tenure, compensation, and other factors that affect the vitality of the small membership churches. Such information will be regularly updated and disseminated to bishops, district superintendents, and to relating conference boards and agencies, the General Board of Global Ministries, and the General Board of Discipleship.

b) To ensure representation from small membership churches in the decision-making structures of the annual conference.

c) To develop ways to inform and sensitize the leadership within the annual conference at all levels on issues that affect small membership churches, which shall be projected into and through all districts within the annual conference by the commission.

d) To focus on major issues related to small membership churches and to enlist the support of the bishop, cabinet, and conference staff in policies, plans, and practices impacting those issues.

e) To advise the general commission on the progress and effectiveness of efforts to achieve full participation of laity and clergy from small membership churches in the life of the Church.

f) To participate in connectional programs and plans initiated or recommended by the general commission as

<p>needed.</p> <p>3. The basic membership of the conference commission shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the annual conferences. All must be members of The United Methodist Church. Special consultants without vote may be used as resource persons.</p> <p>4. The commission shall propose a budget and submit it for inclusion in the budget of the annual conference according to procedures for funding of all boards, commissions, and agencies of the annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.017 = 645</p>	<p>needed.</p> <p>3.2. The basic membership of the conference commission shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the annual conferences. All must be members of The United Methodist Church. Special consultants without vote may be used as resource persons.</p> <p>4. 3. The commission shall propose a budget and submit it for inclusion in the budget of the annual conference according to procedures for funding of all boards, commissions, and agencies of the annual conference.</p>	
<p>¶536.018. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>United Methodist Women-Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Conference-</i></p> <p><i>Article 1. Name-</i>In each annual conference there shall be a conference organization named United Methodist Women, directly related to the jurisdictional and national organizations of United Methodist Women.</p> <p><i>Article 2. Function-</i>The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with the district and local organizations of United Methodist Women to develop programs to meet the needs and interests of women and the concerns and responsibilities of the global Church; to encourage and support spiritual growth, missionary outreach, and Christian social action; and to promote the plans and responsibilities of the United Methodist Women’s national organization.</p> <p><i>Article 3. Authority-</i>Each conference organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the United Methodist Women’s national organization.</p> <p><i>Article 4. Membership-</i>The conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of members of</p>	<p>[647] ¶536.018. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>United Methodist Women-Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Conference-</i></u></p> <p><i>Article 1. Name-</i>In each annual conference there shall be a conference organization named United Methodist Women, directly related to the jurisdictional and national organizations of United Methodist Women.</p> <p><i>Article 2. Function-</i>The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with the district and local organizations of United Methodist Women to develop programs to meet the needs and interests of women and the concerns and responsibilities of the global Church; to encourage and support spiritual growth, missionary outreach, and Christian social action; and to promote the plans and responsibilities of the United Methodist Women’s national organization.</p> <p><i>Article 3. Authority-</i>Each conference organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the United Methodist Women’s national organization.</p> <p><i>Article 4. Membership-</i>The conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of members of</p>	

United Methodist Women existing within the conference. The resident bishop shall be an ex officio member of the conference organization of United Methodist Women and of the Leadership Team or equivalent structure.

Article 5. Leadership Team-The conference organization shall elect such leaders as may be needed to fulfill the Purpose, including at least a president, a treasurer, a secretary, and a Committee on Nominations. Additional committees and teams may be formed to fulfill the Purpose in accordance with this constitution and guidance from the United Methodist Women's national organization as set forth in the bylaws of the conference organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 6. Meetings and Elections-a) There shall be an annual meeting of the conference organization of United Methodist Women. At the annual meeting, the Leadership Team shall review the conference events and priorities of the prior year, propose a plan of activities and priorities for the following year, including a supporting budget, elect members of the Leadership Team as needed to implement the plan, and set the pledge amount for the following year.

b) The voting body of the annual meeting of the conference organization shall be composed of members of United Methodist Women organizations existing within the bounds of the conference as determined by the conference organization; members of the conference and district leadership teams; and members of the board of directors of United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group and the jurisdictional leadership team residing within the bounds of the conference.

c) At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdictional organization, three members of the Leadership Team or their designees shall be elected according to provisions in ¶ 508.006.11 for membership in the jurisdiction organization.

d) At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdictional

United Methodist Women existing within the conference. The resident bishop shall be an ex officio member of the conference organization of United Methodist Women and of the Leadership Team or equivalent structure.

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b) The voting body of the annual meeting of the conference organization shall be composed of members of United Methodist Women organizations existing within the bounds of the conference as determined by the conference organization; members of the conference and district leadership teams; and members of the board of directors of United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group and the jurisdictional leadership team residing within the bounds of the conference.

c) At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdictional organization, three members of the Leadership Team or their designees shall be elected according to provisions in ¶ 508.006.11 ~~536.3~~ for membership in the jurisdiction organization.

d) At the annual meeting of the conference organization

<p>organization, the conference organization shall nominate two women for membership on the board of directors of the United Methodist Women's national organization, the names to be sent to the jurisdiction organization according to ¶ 508.006.11.</p> <p><i>Article 7. Relationships-a)</i> The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Women is a member of the annual conference, as set forth in ¶ 32.</p> <p>b) The conference organization shall name representatives from among its membership to serve on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the annual conference as the constitutions and bylaws of such agencies provide.</p> <p>c) The conference organization shall encourage women to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.</p> <p><i>Article 8. Amendments-</i>Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the United Methodist Women's national organization for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.018 = 647</p>	<p>prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdictional organization, the conference organization shall nominate two women for membership on the board of directors of the United Methodist Women's national organization, the names to be sent to the jurisdiction organization according to ¶ <u>508.006.11</u> 536.4.</p> <p><i>Article 7. Relationships-a)</i> The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Women is a member of the annual conference, as set forth in ¶ 32.</p> <p>b) The conference organization shall name representatives from among its membership to serve on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the annual conference as the constitutions and bylaws of such agencies provide.</p> <p>c) The conference organization shall encourage women to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.</p> <p><i>Article 8. Amendments-</i>Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the United Methodist Women's national organization for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.</p>	
<p>¶536.019. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>United Methodist Men-Constitution of United Methodist Men in the Conference-Article 1. Name-</i>In each annual conference there shall be a conference organization named United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men and to the General Commission on United Methodist Men (¶ 2301).</p>	<p>[648] ¶536.019. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>United Methodist Men-Constitution of United Methodist Men in the Conference-Article 1. Name-</i></u>In each annual conference there shall be a conference organization named United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men and to the General Commission on United Methodist Men (¶ 2301).</p>	

Article 2. Function-The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Men shall be to build and support the district organizations of United Methodist Men in developing resources to meet the needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal witness and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to encourage and support spiritual growth and faith development; and to promote the objectives and responsibilities of the General Commission on United Methodist Men. In the absence of a district organization, the conference organization, in consultation with the district superintendent, shall fulfill the district responsibilities (§ 551.006.10).

Article 3. Authority-Each conference organization of United Methodist Men shall have the authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

Article 4. Membership-The conference organization of United Methodist Men shall be composed of all men of local churches or charges (chartered or unchartered) within the bounds of the conference and all clergy.

Article 5. Officers and Committees-a) The conference organization shall elect a president, at least one vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

b) The resident bishop shall serve as the honorary president and be a member of the conference organization and its executive committee.

c) The conference lay leader (or designated representative) shall be a member of the conference organization and its executive committee.

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

Article 6. Meetings and Elections-a) There shall be an

Article 2. Function-The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Men shall be to build and support the district organizations of United Methodist Men in developing resources to meet the needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal witness and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to encourage and support spiritual growth and faith development; and to promote the objectives and responsibilities of the General Commission on United Methodist Men. In the absence of a district organization, the conference organization, in consultation with the district superintendent, shall fulfill the district responsibilities (§ ~~551.006.10~~ 671).

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annual meeting of the conference organization of United Methodist Men, at which time there shall be presented an annual report and a program plan designed to meet the needs of the men of the conference. Officers and committees shall be elected in accordance with the requirements of the organization's bylaws.

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

Article 7. Relationships-a) The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Men is a member of the annual conference, as set forth in ¶ 32.

b) The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Men shall represent the conference organization on the jurisdictional committee on United Methodist Men. In the absence of the president a designated vice president may represent the conference organization.

c) Designated officers or members shall represent the conference organization on the various agencies, councils, commissions, and committees of the annual conference as the constitutions, bylaws, and rules of such agencies provide.

d) The conference organization shall encourage men to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall encourage them to assume positions of responsibility and leadership as part of their discipleship.

*Article 8. Finances-*The Conference United Methodist Men shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. All funds from whatever source secured by the Conference United Methodist Men belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and/or by-laws and by its order.

a) Conference United Methodist Men may have their

annual meeting of the conference organization of United Methodist Men, at which time there shall be presented an annual report and a program plan designed to meet the needs of the men of the conference. Officers and committees shall be elected in accordance with the requirements of the organization's bylaws.

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

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a) Conference United Methodist Men may have their

own bank accounts.

b) It is recommended that there be an annual financial audit.

Article 9. Amendments-Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the General Commission on United Methodist Men prior to the last annual meeting of the commission in the third year of the quadrennium.

Article 10. Connectional Reporting and Accountability-a) Each annual conference United Methodist Men shall have on file a current copy of their constitution and bylaws with the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<p>GBOD ¶536.019 = 648</p>		
<p>¶536.020. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Council on Youth Ministry</i>:</p> <p>1. In each annual conference there shall be a conference council on youth ministry or other equivalent structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships, or the responsibilities outlined below may be assigned to such organization that follows the same membership requirements as the annual conference provides pursuant to ¶ 536. Its purpose shall be to strengthen the youth ministry in the local churches and districts of the annual conference. For administrative purposes, the council shall be related to the annual conference council on ministries or equivalent structure. (See BOD ¶¶ 1201-1212 for the Division on Ministries With Young People.)</p> <p>2. <i>Membership</i>-No more than one-third of the membership of the council shall be adults, one of whom may be the conference lay leader or his or her representative. It is strongly recommended that the membership of the council include an equal number of persons with respect to race, ethnicity, gender and social status as defined by the annual conference or episcopal area. Where ethnic or language conferences overlap nonethnic conferences, provision shall be made for the inclusion of members of the ethnic or language conferences and vice-versa. Those serving on the conference council on youth ministry or equivalent structure shall be baptized or professing members of The United Methodist Church.</p> <p>3. <i>Responsibilities</i>-a) To initiate and support plans, activities, and projects that are of particular interest to youth. b) To be an advocate for the free expression of the convictions of youth on issues vital to them. c) To support and facilitate, where deemed needed, the formation of youth caucuses.</p>	<p>[649] ¶536.020. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Council on Youth Ministry</i>:</u></p> <p>1. In each annual conference there shall be a conference council on youth ministry or other equivalent structure to provide for these functions and maintain the connectional relationships, or the responsibilities outlined below may be assigned to such organization that follows the same membership requirements as the annual conference provides pursuant to <u>¶536.640.1</u>. Its purpose shall be to strengthen the youth ministry in the local churches and districts of the annual conference. For administrative purposes, the council shall be related to the annual conference council on ministries or equivalent structure. (See BOD ¶¶ 1201-1212 for the Division on Ministries With Young People.)</p> <p>2. <i>Membership</i>-No more than one-third of the membership of the council shall be adults, one of whom may be the conference lay leader or his or her representative. It is strongly recommended that the membership of the council include an equal number of persons with respect to race, ethnicity, gender and social status as defined by the annual conference or episcopal area. Where ethnic or language conferences overlap nonethnic conferences, provision shall be made for the inclusion of members of the ethnic or language conferences and vice-versa. Those serving on the conference council on youth ministry or equivalent structure shall be baptized or professing members of The United Methodist Church.</p> <p>3. <i>Responsibilities</i>-a) To initiate and support plans, activities, and projects that are of particular interest to youth. b) To be an advocate for the free expression of the convictions of youth on issues vital to them. c) To support and facilitate, where deemed needed, the formation of youth caucuses.</p>	

d) To cooperate with the boards and agencies of the annual conference, receiving recommendations from and making recommendations to the same.

e) To recommend to the annual conference committee on nominations qualified youth for membership on boards and agencies.

f) To elect and certify annual conference representatives to the jurisdictional youth ministry organization convocation.

g) To promote, introduce and encourage youth in the annual conference to become active in Wesley Foundations or United Methodist campus ministries when they attend a college or university and to become aware of opportunities to attend United Methodist related colleges and universities.

h) To cooperate with Wesley Foundations, United Methodist campus ministries and United Methodist related colleges and universities to assist annual conference youth in the transition to college life.

i) To receive and set the policy and criteria for its portion of the Youth Service Fund (BOD¶1212). No more than one-third shall be used for administrative purposes; at least one-third shall be used for projects within the geographic bounds of the annual conference; and at least one-third shall be used for projects outside the geographic bounds of the annual conference.

j) To establish the policy for Youth Service Fund education and be responsible for its promotion throughout the annual conference, in cooperation with the Division on Ministries With Young People of the General Board of Discipleship.

k) To establish a project review committee as an advisory committee with regard to the use of the Youth Service Fund receipts for projects. It is recommended that the committee be composed of at least 50 percent racial and ethnic group persons.

l) To participate with the appropriate conference

d) To cooperate with the boards and agencies of the annual conference, receiving recommendations from and making recommendations to the same.

e) To recommend to the annual conference committee on nominations qualified youth for membership on boards and agencies.

f) To elect and certify annual conference representatives to the jurisdictional youth ministry organization convocation.

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l) To participate with the appropriate conference

<p>agencies in the nomination of the conference coordinator of youth ministry, who shall serve as its advisor.</p> <p><i>m)</i> To promote an evangelistic outreach with youth and through youth by providing educational opportunities and resources that increase their awareness, exposure, and engagement in the areas of mission, social justice, discipleship, leadership development and spiritual formation as they relate back to their local church.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.020 = 649</p>	<p>agencies in the nomination of the conference coordinator of youth ministry, who shall serve as its advisor.</p> <p><i>m)</i> To promote an evangelistic outreach with youth and through youth by providing educational opportunities and resources that increase their awareness, exposure, and engagement in the areas of mission, social justice, discipleship, leadership development and spiritual formation as they relate back to their local church.</p>	
<p>¶536.021. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Council on Young Adult Ministry</i>: 1. In each annual conference there shall be a conference council on young adult ministry or equivalent structure. Its purpose shall be to strengthen the young adult ministry in the local churches and districts of the annual conference. For administrative purposes, the council shall be related to the annual conference council on ministries or alternative structure.</p> <p>2. <i>Membership</i>-The membership of the council shall be young adults (as defined by annual conference or episcopal area). It is recommended there be one young adult elected by each district of the conference. There may also be members at large nominated by the conference nominating committee. It is strongly recommended that the membership of the council include an equal number of persons with respect to race, ethnicity, gender, and social status as defined by annual conference or episcopal area, as well as persons of both genders to ensure inclusiveness. Those serving on the conference council on young adult ministry shall be members of The United Methodist Church. At least one-half of the members shall be laypersons who are professing members of The United Methodist Church. Members should represent the diversity of young adults in the general population, including college students, working persons, single, and married.</p>	<p>[650] ¶536.021. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Council on Young Adult Ministry</i>:</u> 1. In each annual conference there shall be a conference council on young adult ministry or equivalent structure. Its purpose shall be to strengthen the young adult ministry in the local churches and districts of the annual conference. For administrative purposes, the council shall be related to the annual conference council on ministries or alternative structure.</p> <p>2. <i>Membership</i>-The membership of the council shall be young adults (as defined by annual conference or episcopal area). It is recommended there be one young adult elected by each district of the conference. There may also be members at large nominated by the conference nominating committee. It is strongly recommended that the membership of the council include an equal number of persons with respect to race, ethnicity, gender, and social status as defined by annual conference or episcopal area, as well as persons of both genders to ensure inclusiveness. Those serving on the conference council on young adult ministry shall be members of The United Methodist Church. At least one-half of the members shall be laypersons who are professing members of The United Methodist Church. Members should represent the diversity of young adults in the general population, including college students, working persons, single, and married.</p>	

<p>3. <i>Responsibilities</i>-a) To initiate and support plans and activities and projects that are of particular interest to young adults who are college students, working persons, single, and married.</p> <p>b) To be an advocate for the free expression of the convictions of young adults on issues vital to them.</p> <p>c) To support and facilitate, where deemed needed, the formation of young adult caucuses.</p> <p>d) To cooperate with the boards and agencies of the annual conference, including Wesley Foundations, United Methodist-related campus ministries and chaplaincies, in assisting graduating college students in the transition to congregational life, and receiving recommendations from and making recommendations to the same to provide for the needs of young adults in The United Methodist Church.</p> <p>e) To recommend to the annual conference committee on nominations qualified young adults for membership on boards and agencies.</p> <p>f) To participate with the conference council on ministries in the nomination of the conference coordinator of young adult ministry, who shall serve as its advisor.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.021 = 650</p>	<p>3. <i>Responsibilities</i>-a) To initiate and support plans and activities and projects that are of particular interest to young adults who are college students, working persons, single, and married.</p> <p>b) To be an advocate for the free expression of the convictions of young adults on issues vital to them.</p> <p>c) To support and facilitate, where deemed needed, the formation of young adult caucuses.</p> <p>d) To cooperate with the boards and agencies of the annual conference, including Wesley Foundations, United Methodist-related campus ministries and chaplaincies, in assisting graduating college students in the transition to congregational life, and receiving recommendations from and making recommendations to the same to provide for the needs of young adults in The United Methodist Church.</p> <p>e) To recommend to the annual conference committee on nominations qualified young adults for membership on boards and agencies.</p> <p>f) To participate with the conference council on ministries in the nomination of the conference coordinator of young adult ministry, who shall serve as its advisor.</p>	
<p>¶536.022. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Council on older adult ministries</i>:</p> <p>1. In each annual conference there may be a conference council on older adult ministries. Its purpose shall be to strengthen the older-adult ministries in the local churches and districts of the annual conference. For administrative purposes, the council shall be related to the annual conference board of discipleship, or the annual conference board of laity, or equivalent structure.</p> <p>2. <i>Membership</i>-The majority of the membership of the council should be older adults. It may also include persons (regardless of age) who, because of their specialized interests,</p>	<p>[651] ¶536.022. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Council on older adult ministries</i>:</u></p> <p>1. In each annual conference there may be a conference council on older adult ministries. Its purpose shall be to strengthen the older-adult ministries in the local churches and districts of the annual conference. For administrative purposes, the council shall be related to the annual conference board of discipleship, or the annual conference board of laity, or equivalent structure.</p> <p>2. <i>Membership</i>-The majority of the membership of the council should be older adults. It may also include persons (regardless of age) who, because of their specialized interests,</p>	

education, training, and experience, have developed a passion for ministry with older adults. Those serving on the conference council on older-adult ministries shall be professing members of The United Methodist Church and shall include both laypersons and clergy. There may also be members-at-large, nominated by the conference nominating committee and elected by the annual conference, to achieve racial, ethnic, gender, and geographic inclusiveness and to assure participation by people with specialized interests, education, training, and experiences. The conference lay leader (or designee), the conference coordinator of older-adult ministries (if any), and a cabinet representative shall serve ex officio with vote. Members should represent the diversity of older adults in the general population, including retired persons, working persons, persons with disabilities, persons with chronic illnesses, single persons, widowed persons, married persons, persons living in a variety of residential settings, and persons with a wide variety of family situations.

3. *Responsibilities-a)* To initiate and support ministries, plans, activities, and projects that are of particular interest to older adults, including retired persons, working persons, persons with disabling conditions, persons with chronic illnesses, single persons, widowed persons, married persons, persons living in a variety of residential settings, and persons with a wide variety of family situations.

b) To advocate on behalf of older adults.

c) To support and facilitate, where appropriate, the formation of older-adult caucuses.

d) To identify the needs, concerns, and potential contributions of older adults in the annual conference and its districts.

e) To cooperate with the boards and agencies of the annual conference in receiving and making recommendations to provide for the needs of older adults in The United Methodist Church.

f) To recommend to the annual conference committee

education, training, and experience, have developed a passion for ministry with older adults. Those serving on the conference council on older-adult ministries shall be professing members of The United Methodist Church and shall include both laypersons and clergy. There may also be members-at-large, nominated by the conference nominating committee and elected by the annual conference, to achieve racial, ethnic, gender, and geographic inclusiveness and to assure participation by people with specialized interests, education, training, and experiences. The conference lay leader (or designee), the conference coordinator of older-adult ministries (if any), and a cabinet representative shall serve ex officio with vote. Members should represent the diversity of older adults in the general population, including retired persons, working persons, persons with disabilities, persons with chronic illnesses, single persons, widowed persons, married persons, persons living in a variety of residential settings, and persons with a wide variety of family situations.

3. *Responsibilities-a)* To initiate and support ministries, plans, activities, and projects that are of particular interest to older adults, including retired persons, working persons, persons with disabling conditions, persons with chronic illnesses, single persons, widowed persons, married persons, persons living in a variety of residential settings, and persons with a wide variety of family situations.

b) To advocate on behalf of older adults.

c) To support and facilitate, where appropriate, the formation of older-adult caucuses.

d) To identify the needs, concerns, and potential contributions of older adults in the annual conference and its districts.

e) To cooperate with the boards and agencies of the annual conference in receiving and making recommendations to provide for the needs of older adults in The United Methodist Church.

f) To recommend to the annual conference committee

<p>on nominations qualified and motivated older adults for membership on boards and agencies.</p> <p>g) To participate with the annual conference board of discipleship, or the annual conference board of laity, or equivalent structure in the nomination of the coordinator of older-adult ministries for election by the annual conference.</p> <p>h) To educate and keep before the annual conference and its districts the lifelong process of aging with emphases on the quality of life, intergenerational understandings, and faith development.</p> <p>i) To serve as a focal point for supplying information and guidance on older-adult ministries within the annual conference and its districts.</p> <p>j) To support the development of resources that will undergird older-adult ministries within the annual conference and its districts.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.022 = 651</p>	<p>on nominations qualified and motivated older adults for membership on boards and agencies.</p> <p>g) To participate with the annual conference board of discipleship, or the annual conference board of laity, or equivalent structure in the nomination of the coordinator of older-adult ministries for election by the annual conference.</p> <p>h) To educate and keep before the annual conference and its districts the lifelong process of aging with emphases on the quality of life, intergenerational understandings, and faith development.</p> <p>i) To serve as a focal point for supplying information and guidance on older-adult ministries within the annual conference and its districts.</p> <p>j) To support the development of resources that will undergird older-adult ministries within the annual conference and its districts.</p>	
<p>¶536.023. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Disability Concerns</i> or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry and maintain the connectional relationships.</p> <p>1. The basic membership of the committee shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the respective annual conference. Each annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. Membership shall include persons with physical disabilities and persons with mental disabilities.</p> <p>2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee:</p> <p>a) To be aware of, and advocate for, the role of persons with disabilities in ministry, including ordained and diaconal ministries and local church and annual conference leadership positions.</p> <p>b) To advocate for and help develop programs within the annual conference that meet the needs of persons with</p>	<p>[653] ¶536.023. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Disability Concerns</i></u> There shall be in each annual conference a committee on disability concerns or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry and maintain the connectional relationships.</p> <p>1. The basic membership of the committee shall be nominated and elected by established procedures of the respective annual conference. Each annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. Membership shall include persons with physical disabilities and persons with mental disabilities.</p> <p>2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee:</p> <p>a) To be aware of, and advocate for, the role of persons with disabilities in ministry, including ordained and diaconal ministries and local church and annual conference leadership positions.</p>	

<p>disabilities.</p> <p>c) To be informed about current ministries within the annual conference that are related to persons with disabilities.</p> <p>d) To develop ways to sensitize persons in leadership positions on issues that affect persons with disabilities and therefore the entire Church.</p> <p>e) To foster cooperation among ministries within the annual conference that focus on specific disabilities (deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, development disabilities, mental retardation, mental illness, visual impairment, physical disabilities, etc.).</p> <p>f) To be a resource for local churches who are attempting to develop ministries that are attitudinally and architecturally accessible.</p> <p>g) To promote the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the life of the local church and the annual conference.</p> <p>h) To participate in jurisdictional accessibility associations in the sharing of knowledge and resources.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.023 = 653</p>	<p>b) To advocate for and help develop programs within the annual conference that meet the needs of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>c) To be informed about current ministries within the annual conference that are related to persons with disabilities.</p> <p>d) To develop ways to sensitize persons in leadership positions on issues that affect persons with disabilities and therefore the entire Church.</p> <p>e) To foster cooperation among ministries within the annual conference that focus on specific disabilities (deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, development disabilities, mental retardation, mental illness, visual impairment, physical disabilities, etc.).</p> <p>f) To be a resource for local churches who are attempting to develop ministries that are attitudinally and architecturally accessible.</p> <p>g) To promote the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the life of the local church and the annual conference.</p> <p>h) To participate in jurisdictional accessibility associations in the sharing of knowledge and resources.</p>	
<p>¶536.024. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Native American ministry</i> or other structure to provide for these ministries and maintain the connectional relationships.</p> <p>1. The basic membership of the committee shall be nominated and elected by established procedure of the respective annual conferences. Each annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. Where possible, the membership shall consist of a majority of Native Americans.</p> <p>2. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to determine the distribution of the Native American Ministries Sunday offering, coordinate the promotion of Native American Ministries Sunday, and monitor Native American ministries</p>	<p>[654] ¶536.024. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Native American ministry</i></u> There shall be an annual conference committee on Native American ministry or other structure to provide for these ministries and maintain the connectional relationships.</p> <p><u>1.</u> The basic membership of the committee shall be nominated and elected by established procedure of the respective annual conferences. Each annual conference shall determine the number and composition of the total membership. Where possible, the membership shall consist of a majority of Native Americans.</p> <p><u>2.</u> It shall be the responsibility of this committee to determine the distribution of the Native American Ministries Sunday</p>	

<p>within the annual conference. Each committee shall report on how the offering funds have benefited Native Americans in their annual conference. Annual reports, including the amount of the total receipts from the Native American Ministries Sunday offerings, should be forwarded to the conference council on ministries and to the Connectional Table.</p> <p>3. Every local church at charge conference shall designate by nomination and election a minimum of one person per charge (without regard to race or ethnic origin) or a designated member of an established church committee to represent the need for better awareness of Native American contributions in the local church. These names are to be submitted to the district superintendent at charge conference to be given to the annual conference committee on Native American ministry.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.024 = 654</p>	<p>offering, coordinate the promotion of Native American Ministries Sunday, and monitor Native American ministries within the annual conference. Each committee shall report on how the offering funds have benefited Native Americans in their annual conference. Annual reports, including the amount of the total receipts from the Native American Ministries Sunday offerings, should be forwarded to the conference council on ministries and to the Connectional Table.</p> <p><u>3.</u> Every local church at charge conference shall designate by nomination and election a minimum of one person per charge (without regard to race or ethnic origin) or a designated member of an established church committee to represent the need for better awareness of Native American contributions in the local church. These names are to be submitted to the district superintendent at charge conference to be given to the annual conference committee on Native American ministry.</p>	
<p>¶536.025. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries</i>:</p> <p>1. The annual conference is encouraged to establish a committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries or other structure to support the development, implementation, and evaluation of a Hispanic/Latino Ministries comprehensive plan of action and the strategies for working with the Hispanic/Latino persons of all generations in the community.</p> <p>2. The membership of the committee shall be nominated and elected by the established procedures of the respective annual conference. The committee shall include at least one third Hispanic/Latino persons.</p> <p>3. In those conferences where a committee on Hispanic/Latino ministries or other structures is adopted, there shall be strategies to: (1) strengthen existing ministries and congregations, (2) start new congregations and ministries, including intentional ministries with children and youth, (3) identify, equip, and deploy elders, local pastors, lay</p>	<p>[655] ¶536.025. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries</i>:</u></p> <p><u>1.</u> The annual conference is encouraged to establish a committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries or other structure to support the development, implementation, and evaluation of a Hispanic/Latino Ministries comprehensive plan of action and the strategies for working with the Hispanic/Latino persons of all generations in the community.</p> <p><u>2.</u> The membership of the committee shall be nominated and elected by the established procedures of the respective annual conference. The committee shall include at least one third Hispanic/Latino persons.</p> <p><u>3.</u> In those conferences where a committee on Hispanic/Latino ministries or other structures is adopted, there shall be strategies to: (1) strengthen existing ministries and congregations, (2) start new congregations and ministries, including intentional ministries with children and youth, (3) identify, equip, and deploy elders, local pastors, lay</p>	

<p>missioners, lay certified ministers, and other lay leaders who can serve in this mission and ministry, (4) identify financial and material resources to support and maintain its implementation. The plan shall be based on a clear analysis of the socioeconomic, cultural, and religious realities of the community where the conference is located. The Conference Comprehensive Plans for Hispanic/Latino Ministries in the Jurisdictional Annual Conferences are encouraged to be ready by the 2016 General Conference.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.025 = 655</p>	<p>missioners, lay certified ministers, and other lay leaders who can serve in this mission and ministry, (4) identify financial and material resources to support and maintain its implementation. The plan shall be based on a clear analysis of the socioeconomic, cultural, and religious realities of the community where the conference is located. The Conference Comprehensive Plans for Hispanic/Latino Ministries in the Jurisdictional Annual Conferences are encouraged to be ready by the 2016 General Conference.</p>	
<p>¶536.026. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for the <i>Advance Program</i>:</p> <p>1. There may be a conference Advance program, established and carried out in the same spirit of partnership as the general Advance program.</p> <p>2. A conference Advance Special Gift is one made to a conference Advance Special project within bounds of the annual conference or episcopal area authorized by an annual conference upon recommendation by the conference board of global ministries or its equivalent structure and consistent with the goals of the Advance. The funds as received shall be administered by the conference board of global ministries or such structure as designated by the conference.</p> <p>3. An annual conference may undertake a conference-wide campaign for a lump sum to be applied to its missionary and church extension. The funds so received shall be designated as conference Advance Specials and shall be administered by the conference board of global ministries or equivalent structure. Local churches shall report their contributions as conference Advance Specials.</p> <p>4. With the approval of the annual conference, a district within the conference may authorize and promote Advance Specials for church extension and missionary needs within the district, such funds to be administered by a district committee on mission organized for that purpose or by a similar body set</p>	<p>[656] ¶536.026. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for the <i>Advance Program</i>:</u></p> <p>1. There may be a conference Advance program, established and carried out in the same spirit of partnership as the general Advance program.</p> <p>2. A conference Advance Special Gift is one made to a conference Advance Special project within bounds of the annual conference or episcopal area authorized by an annual conference upon recommendation by the conference board of global ministries or its equivalent structure and consistent with the goals of the Advance. The funds as received shall be administered by the conference board of global ministries or such structure as designated by the conference.</p> <p>3. An annual conference may undertake a conference-wide campaign for a lump sum to be applied to its missionary and church extension. The funds so received shall be designated as conference Advance Specials and shall be administered by the conference board of global ministries or equivalent structure. Local churches shall report their contributions as conference Advance Specials.</p> <p>4. With the approval of the annual conference, a district within the conference may authorize and promote Advance Specials for church extension and missionary needs within the district, such funds to be administered by a district committee on mission organized for that purpose or by a similar body set</p>	

<p>up by the district. Such special funds secured and administered on a district level shall be reported by each local church to the annual conference as conference Advance Specials.</p> <p>5. Local churches shall report their contributions to general Advance Specials and conference Advance Specials to the charge conference and in the manner indicated on the annual conference report form.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.026. = 656</p>	<p>up by the district. Such special funds secured and administered on a district level shall be reported by each local church to the annual conference as conference Advance Specials.</p> <p>5. Local churches shall report their contributions to general Advance Specials and conference Advance Specials to the charge conference and in the manner indicated on the annual conference report form.</p>	
<p>¶536.027. In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries</i>:</p> <p>1. The annual conference is encouraged to establish a committee on criminal justice and mercy ministries (CJAMM) to accomplish the following: (1) raise awareness and generate local church involvement; (2) identify existing programs; (3) promote criminal justice ministries; and (4) serve as a resource and connectional link with local churches, general program agencies, and ecumenical groups, and use prison ministry and prison reform resources made available through the general agencies.</p> <p>2. The purpose is to promote a ministry to persons of all genders and ages who are in prison, to the families of those in prison, and to the victims of crime and their families and to be an advocate for prison concerns. The CJAMM committee may relate to the board of global ministries and/or the board of church and society, which shares social justice concerns. The results of the work in this area will be reported to the annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD ¶536.027 = 657</p>	<p>[657] ¶536.027. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 536.2, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries</i>:</u></p> <p><u>1.</u> The annual conference is encouraged to establish a committee on criminal justice and mercy ministries (CJAMM) to accomplish the following: (1) raise awareness and generate local church involvement; (2) identify existing programs; (3) promote criminal justice ministries; and (4) serve as a resource and connectional link with local churches, general program agencies, and ecumenical groups, and use prison ministry and prison reform resources made available through the general agencies.</p> <p><u>2.</u> The purpose is to promote a ministry to persons of all genders and ages who are in prison, to the families of those in prison, and to the victims of crime and their families and to be an advocate for prison concerns. The CJAMM committee may relate to the board of global ministries and/or the board of church and society, which shares social justice concerns. The results of the work in this area will be reported to the annual conference.</p>	
<p>¶538.001. In regards to ¶¶ 538.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for 1. <i>Membership-a</i>) Each annual conference shall elect, at its session next succeeding the General Conference or jurisdictional conference, a conference</p>	<p>[612 remaining parts] ¶538.001. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 538.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for 1. <i>Membership-a</i>) Each annual conference shall elect, at its session next succeeding the General Conference or</u></p>	

council on finance and administration, or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry. It is recommended that it be composed of not less than five nor more than twenty-one members; it is recommended that there be at least one layperson more than clergy included on the voting membership of the council.³⁰ Persons shall be nominated for membership in a manner determined by the conference in accordance with ¶ 536.001.4. It is recommended that churches of less than two hundred members be represented on the conference council on finance and administration. The term of office shall begin with the adjournment of the annual conference session at which they are elected and shall be for a period of four years and until their successors are elected.

b) No member or employee of any conference agency and no employee, trustee, or director of any agency or institution participating in the funds of any conference budget shall be eligible for voting membership on the council.³¹ Any vacancy shall be filled by action of the council until the next conference session, at which time the annual conference shall fill the vacancy.

c) The following shall be ex officio members of the council in addition to the number set by the annual conference under ¶ 538.001.a: (1) the conference treasurer/director of administrative services, without vote; (2) any members of the General Council on Finance and Administration who reside within the bounds of the conference, with vote unless voting membership is in conflict with another provision of the *Discipline*, in which case their membership shall be without vote; in either case, they shall not be eligible to serve on an agency receiving funding; (3) the presiding bishop, without vote; (4) a district superintendent chosen by the cabinet, without vote; and (5) the director of connectional ministries or equivalent, or another representative of the conference council on ministries, without vote.

d) The executive director of the conference or area United Methodist foundation may be included in the

jurisdictional conference, a conference council on finance and administration, or other structure to provide for the functions of this ministry. It is recommended that it be composed of not less than five nor more than twenty-one members; it is recommended that there be at least one layperson more than clergy included on the voting membership of the council.³⁰ Persons shall be nominated for membership in a manner determined by the conference in accordance with ¶ ~~536.001.4~~ 536.001.4 ~~610.5~~. It is recommended that churches of less than two hundred members be represented on the conference council on finance and administration. The term of office shall begin with the adjournment of the annual conference session at which they are elected and shall be for a period of four years and until their successors are elected.

b) No member or employee of any conference agency and no employee, trustee, or director of any agency or institution participating in the funds of any conference budget shall be eligible for voting membership on the council.³¹ Any vacancy shall be filled by action of the council until the next conference session, at which time the annual conference shall fill the vacancy.

c) The following shall be ex officio members of the council in addition to the number set by the annual conference under ¶ ~~538.001.a~~ 538.001.a ~~612.2a~~: (1) the conference treasurer/director of administrative services, without vote; (2) any members of the General Council on Finance and Administration who reside within the bounds of the conference, with vote unless voting membership is in conflict with another provision of the *Discipline*, in which case their membership shall be without vote; in either case, they shall not be eligible to serve on an agency receiving funding; (3) the presiding bishop, without vote; (4) a district superintendent chosen by the cabinet, without vote; and (5) the director of connectional ministries or equivalent, or another representative of the conference council on ministries, without vote.

d) The executive director of the conference or area

membership, without vote.

2. *Officers*-The council shall elect from its voting membership a president, a vice president, a secretary, and such other officers as it may deem necessary. Consideration shall be given to inclusiveness (§§ 124, 140). The conference treasurer/director of administrative services (§ 534.006) shall be the treasurer of the council. The treasurer/director of administrative services shall not be eligible for voting membership on the council and shall not be eligible for election to any of those offices that are to be filled by voting members of the council.

3. No member of the council shall vote on or take part in deliberations on significant matters directly or indirectly affecting her or his business, income, or employment, or the business, income, or employment of his or her immediate family.

4. *Organization-a)* Whether the conference chooses to organize the council as provided in § 538.001 ~~612~~ or to assign its functions to another structure as authorized in § 538, the restrictions set forth in § 538.001.b, .4 shall apply to the members of any conference structure that has responsibility for the following functions:

(1) Preparing annual conference budgets or other funding recommendations.

(2) Nominating the annual conference treasurer/director of administrative services or other officer having the functions described in § 534.006.

(3) Having authority and supervision over the work of the conference treasurer/director of administrative services.

(4) Having fiscal oversight responsibilities, such as are described in §§ 538 and 538.002, and 538.004 - 538.006, for annual conference funds.

b) The council may establish committees and task forces and define their duties and authority as it deems necessary for fulfilling its purpose and responsibilities.

c) The annual conference may enact bylaws governing

United Methodist foundation may be included in the membership, without vote.

2. *Officers*-The council shall elect from its voting membership a president, a vice president, a secretary, and such other officers as it may deem necessary. Consideration shall be given to inclusiveness (§§ 124, 140). The conference treasurer/director of administrative services (§534.006 ~~619~~) shall be the treasurer of the council. The treasurer/director of administrative services shall not be eligible for voting membership on the council and shall not be eligible for election to any of those offices that are to be filled by voting members of the council.

3. No member of the council shall vote on or take part in deliberations on significant matters directly or indirectly affecting her or his business, income, or employment, or the business, income, or employment of his or her immediate family.

4. *Organization-a)* Whether the conference chooses to organize the council as provided in § 538.001 ~~612~~ or to assign its functions to another structure as authorized in § 538 ~~611~~, the restrictions set forth in § ~~612-2~~ 538.001.b, .4 shall apply to the members of any conference structure that has responsibility for the following functions:

(1) Preparing annual conference budgets or other funding recommendations.

(2) Nominating the annual conference treasurer/director of administrative services or other officer having the functions described in § 534.006 ~~619~~.

(3) Having authority and supervision over the work of the conference treasurer/director of administrative services.

(4) Having fiscal oversight responsibilities, such as are described in §§ 538 ~~613-5~~ through 538.002 ~~613-11~~, and 538.004 ~~616-618~~ 538.006, for annual conference funds.

b) The council may establish committees and task forces and define their duties and authority as it deems necessary for fulfilling its purpose and responsibilities.

<p>meetings, quorum, and other matters of procedure for the council, or it may authorize the council to enact such bylaws; in any event, such bylaws shall not be in conflict with the <i>Discipline</i>.</p> <p>d) If deemed necessary for the fulfillment of its functions and if so authorized by the annual conference, the council may be incorporated.</p> <p>5. <i>Relationships-a)</i> The council and the annual conference council on ministries shall cooperate in the development of the conference benevolences budget (§ 538.003.4).</p> <p>b) In the interest of developing and implementing coordinated annual conference policies in the areas of fiscal management and administrative services, the council shall serve in a liaison role among conference agencies with responsibilities in these areas. It shall be authorized to convene representatives of annual conference administrative and clergy support agencies for the purpose of consulting on matters of mutual concern, such as the coordination of fiscal management, fundraising activities, and administrative services in the annual conference.</p> <p>GBOD §538.001 = 612 remaining parts</p> <p>³⁰ Judicial Council Decision 441</p> <p>³¹ Judicial Council Decisions 10, 493</p>	<p>c) The annual conference may enact bylaws governing meetings, quorum, and other matters of procedure for the council, or it may authorize the council to enact such bylaws; in any event, such bylaws shall not be in conflict with the <i>Discipline</i>.</p> <p>d) If deemed necessary for the fulfillment of its functions and if so authorized by the annual conference, the council may be incorporated.</p> <p><u>5. Relationships-a)</u> The council and the annual conference council on ministries shall cooperate in the development of the conference benevolences budget (§<u>538.003.4</u> 614.3).</p> <p>b) In the interest of developing and implementing coordinated annual conference policies in the areas of fiscal management and administrative services, the council shall serve in a liaison role among conference agencies with responsibilities in these areas. It shall be authorized to convene representatives of annual conference administrative and clergy support agencies for the purpose of consulting on matters of mutual concern, such as the coordination of fiscal management, fundraising activities, and administrative services in the annual conference.</p>	
<p>§538.002 In regards to §§ 538.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for - 1. To consult and cooperate with the commission on communication in providing district superintendents, pastors, and appropriate officers of the local churches and charge conferences with interpretive aids or other materials to assist in gaining understanding and support of the conference budget and other approved conference causes. This shall include the <u>theology</u> and discipline of financial giving.</p> <p>2. To recommend to the annual conference procedures for funding local churches, including the theology of financial</p>	<p>[§538.002, remaining parts of BOD613] §538.002 <u>In regards to §§ 538.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for</u> <i>Responsibilities</i> The council shall... 1. To recommend... 2. To receive, consider, report, and make recommendations to the annual conference regarding the following prior to final decision by the annual conference: (a) any proposal to raise capital funds for any purpose; (b) funding considerations related to any proposal that may come before the conference; (c) any requests to conduct a special conference-wide financial</p>	

giving.

3. To recommend to the annual conference for its action procedures for dealing responsibly with situations in which budgeted funds, as approved by the annual conference, are inadequate to meet emerging missional needs or unforeseen circumstances.

4. To review at least quarterly and to account to the annual conference for the disbursement of funds in accordance with budgets approved by the conference.

5. To recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination the conditions under which it may borrow funds for current expense purposes and the maximum amount of such borrowing.

6. To have authority and supervision over the conference treasurer/director of administrative services subject to ¶ 534.006; to establish policies governing the treasurer/director's work.

7. To work in cooperation with other annual conference agencies for the design and implementation of a plan by which the annual conference may designate the conference treasury as a central treasury for funds designated for any or all conference agencies participating in conference funds.

8. To develop employment and compensation policies in consultation and cooperation with other conference agencies that employ staff, unless the annual conference has designated another agency to carry this responsibility. In addition, the council shall recommend that the annual conference provide, effective on and after January 1, 2006, 100 percent vested pension benefits of at least three percent of compensation for lay personnel of the annual conference who work at least 1,040 hours per year, are at least 21 years of age, and have at least one year of permanent service. The annual conference shall have authority to provide such pension benefits through either a denominational pension program administered by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits or another pension program administered by another pension provider.

~~appeal, ...whether by special collections, campaigns, or otherwise in the local churches of the conference.~~

~~3. To recommend to the annual conference for its action and decision the methods or formulas by which apportionments to churches, charges, or districts for duly authorized General, jurisdictional, conference, and district funds shall be determined (¶ 615.4).~~

41. To consult and cooperate with the commission on communication in providing district superintendents, pastors, and appropriate officers of the local churches and charge conferences with interpretive aids or other materials to assist in gaining understanding and support of the conference budget and other approved conference causes. This shall include the theology and discipline of financial giving.

~~5. To develop policies governing the investment of conference funds (except for pension funds as provided in ¶ 1508), whether in debt or equity, short term or long term instruments, with the aim of maximizing funds available for mission in a manner consistent with the preservation of capital, the Policies Relative to Socially Responsible Investments (¶ 717), and the Social Principles of the Church. A statement of such policies shall be printed in the conference journal at least once in each quadrennium.~~

62. To recommend to the annual conference procedures for funding local churches, including the theology of financial giving.

7. ~~[in ¶538.3e: To develop policies governing the construction, renovation and managing of church property, in consultation with boards of trustees where they exist.] To advise local churches about making their church buildings, facilities, and programs accessible.~~

83. To recommend to the annual conference for its action procedures for dealing responsibly with situations in which budgeted funds, as approved by the annual conference, are inadequate to meet emerging missional needs or unforeseen circumstances.

9. To cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration and with the General Board of Discipleship in promoting and standardizing the financial recording and reporting system in the local churches of the conference.

10. To cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration in order to provide leadership, training, and encouragement in the areas of church business administration for individuals and organizations of The United Methodist Church by: (1) distributing information regarding certification as a church business administrator; and (2) listing in the council's report to the annual conference the names of persons certified as church business administrators by the General Council on Finance and Administration who are employed within the bounds of the annual conference.

11. To make recommendations to the annual conference for its action and determination regarding plans to initiate or cause to be organized a foundation or similar organization for the purpose of securing, conserving, or expending funds for the direct or indirect benefit or support of the annual conference, or of any conference agency, or any of its programs or work. The council shall have opportunity to make its recommendations regarding such plans if the foundation or similar organization is: (1) proposed to be organized by the annual conference itself, whether acting alone or in concert with other annual conferences; (2) proposed to be organized by any conference council, board, commission, committee, or other agency; (3) to make use of the name *United Methodist* in its title or solicitation; or (4) proposed for the purpose of soliciting gifts primarily from the United Methodist constituency.

12. To perform such other administrative and fiscal functions and services as the annual conference may assign.

13. To ensure that no apportioned conference funds are expended for the use of alcoholic beverages.

14. To ensure that no annual conference board, agency, committee, commission, or council shall give United

~~94.~~ To review at least quarterly and to account to the annual conference for the disbursement of funds in accordance with budgets approved by the conference.

~~105.~~ To recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination the conditions under which it may borrow funds for current expense purposes and the maximum amount of such borrowing.

~~116.~~ To have authority and supervision over the conference treasurer/director of administrative services subject to ¶ 534.006 ~~619~~; to establish policies governing the treasurer/director's work.

~~127.~~ To work in cooperation with other annual conference agencies for the design and implementation of a plan by which the annual conference may designate the conference treasury as a central treasury for funds designated for any or all conference agencies participating in conference funds.

~~13.~~ ~~To develop establish uniform and equitable policies and practices in the employment and compensation of personnel, 8.~~ To develop employment and compensation policies in consultation and cooperation with other conference agencies that employ staff, unless the annual conference has designated another agency to carry this responsibility. ~~These policies and practices shall be in accordance with the Social Principles (¶ 162 A, E, F, and I).~~ In addition, the council shall recommend that the annual conference provide, effective on and after January 1, 2006, 100 percent vested pension benefits of at least three percent of compensation for lay personnel of the annual conference who work at least 1,040 hours per year, are at least 21 years of age, and have at least one year of permanent service. The annual conference shall have authority to provide such pension benefits through either a denominational pension program administered by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits or another pension program administered by another pension provider.

~~149.~~ To cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration and with the General Board of Discipleship in

Methodist funds to any gay caucus or group, or otherwise use such funds to promote the acceptance of homosexuality or violate the expressed commitment of The UMC “not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends” (§ 161G). The council shall have the right to stop such expenditures. This restriction shall not limit the Church’s ministry in response to the HIV epidemic, nor shall it preclude funding for dialogs or educational events where the Church’s official position is fairly and equally represented.³²

GBOD ¶538.002 = 613 remaining parts

³² Judicial Council Decision 1054

promoting and standardizing the financial recording and reporting system in the local churches of the conference.

~~45~~10. To cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration in order to provide leadership, training, and encouragement in the areas of church business administration for individuals and organizations of The United Methodist Church by: (1) distributing information regarding certification as a church business administrator; and (2) listing in the council’s report to the annual conference the names of persons certified as church business administrators by the General Council on Finance and Administration who are employed within the bounds of the annual conference.

~~46~~11. To make recommendations to the annual conference for its action and determination regarding plans to initiate or cause to be organized a foundation or similar organization for the purpose of securing, conserving, or expending funds for the direct or indirect benefit or support of the annual conference, or of any conference agency, or any of its programs or work. The council shall have opportunity to make its recommendations regarding such plans if the foundation or similar organization is: (1) proposed to be organized by the annual conference itself, whether acting alone or in concert with other annual conferences; (2) proposed to be organized by any conference council, board, commission, committee, or other agency; (3) to make use of the name *United Methodist* in its title or solicitation; or (4) proposed for the purpose of soliciting gifts primarily from the United Methodist constituency.

~~47~~12. To perform such other administrative and fiscal functions and services as the annual conference may assign.

~~48~~13. To ensure that no apportioned conference funds are expended for the use of alcoholic beverages.

~~49~~14. To ensure that no annual conference board, agency, committee, commission, or council shall give United Methodist funds to any gay caucus or group, or otherwise use such funds to promote the acceptance of homosexuality or

	<p>violate the expressed commitment of The UMC “not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends” (§ 161G). The council shall have the right to stop such expenditures. This restriction shall not limit the Church’s ministry in response to the HIV epidemic, nor shall it preclude funding for dialogs or educational events where the Church’s official position is fairly and equally represented.³²</p> <p>³² Judicial Council Decision 1054</p>	
<p>¶538.003 In regards to ¶¶ 538.3.a), the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>Budgets-1</i>. The council shall recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination budgets of anticipated income and proposed expenditures for all funds to be apportioned to the churches, charges, or districts.³³</p> <p>Prior to each regular session of the annual conference, the council shall make a diligent and detailed study of the needs of all the conference agencies and causes asking to be included in the budget of any conference fund. The chairperson of each conference agency, or other duly authorized representative, shall have opportunity to represent the claims of that agency before the council.</p> <p>2. <i>Clergy Support Budgets-a)</i> It shall be the duty of the council, unless otherwise provided, to estimate the total amount necessary to furnish a sufficient and equitable support for the district superintendents of the conference, including base compensation, travel, staff, office, and housing. The council shall report specific recommendations to the annual conference for conference action (§ 551.006.2.d.4).³⁴</p> <p>b) The council shall report to the annual conference at each session the Episcopal Fund apportionment to the annual conference under the methodology approved by the General Conference and shall include in its recommended clergy</p>	<p>[614] ¶538.003 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 538.3.a), the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>Budgets-1</i>.</u> The council shall recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination budgets of anticipated income and proposed expenditures for all funds to be apportioned to the churches, charges, or districts.³³</p> <p>Prior to each regular session of the annual conference, the council shall make a diligent and detailed study of the needs of all the conference agencies and causes asking to be included in the budget of any conference fund. The chairperson of each conference agency, or other duly authorized representative, shall have opportunity to represent the claims of that agency before the council.</p> <p>2. <i>Clergy Support Budgets-a)</i> It shall be the duty of the council, unless otherwise provided, to estimate the total amount necessary to furnish a sufficient and equitable support for the district superintendents of the conference, including base compensation, travel, staff, office, and housing. The council shall report specific recommendations to the annual conference for conference action (§551.006.2.d.4).³⁴</p> <p>b) The council shall report to the annual conference at each session the Episcopal Fund apportionment to the annual conference under the methodology approved by the General Conference and shall include in its recommended clergy</p>	

support budget the amount determined by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration as necessary to meet this apportionment.

c) Based on recommendations from the episcopal residence committee (§ 536.011.4), the council shall recommend the amount to be raised as the annual conference share of the cost of the bishop's housing.

d) After consultation with the conference board of pensions, the council shall report to the annual conference the amounts computed by that agency as necessary to meet the needs for pensions and benefit programs of the conference. Such amounts need not be derived solely from apportionments.³⁵

e) It shall recommend to the annual conference an amount determined in consultation with the commission on equitable compensation to be used for compliance with the approved schedule of equitable base compensation for pastors (§ 532.004.3).

f) It shall recommend to the annual conference estimates of the amounts needed for any other programs of clergy support the conference may adopt, such as a Sustentation Fund (§ 532.004) or provision for the moving expenses of pastors.

3. *Administration Budget-a)* The council shall recommend to the annual conference estimates of the amounts needed for administrative expenses of the conference, including its own expenses and those of the conference treasurer's office. It shall consult with the conference agencies and officers to be included in the administrative budget regarding the estimated budgets of their expenses and base its conference administration budget recommendations on information thus received.

b) It shall include in its estimates recommendations regarding the conference's share of an area expense fund, if any, and apportionments for administration properly made by the jurisdictional conference and the General Conference

support budget the amount determined by the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration as necessary to meet this apportionment.

c) Based on recommendations from the episcopal residence committee (§~~536.011.4~~ ~~638.4~~), the council shall recommend the amount to be raised as the annual conference share of the cost of the bishop's housing.

d) After consultation with the conference board of pensions, the council shall report to the annual conference the amounts computed by that agency as necessary to meet the needs for pensions and benefit programs of the conference. Such amounts need not be derived solely from apportionments.³⁵

e) It shall recommend to the annual conference an amount determined in consultation with the commission on equitable compensation to be used for compliance with the approved schedule of equitable base compensation for pastors (~~§532.004.3~~ ~~625.3~~).

f) It shall recommend to the annual conference estimates of the amounts needed for any other programs of clergy support the conference may adopt, such as a Sustentation Fund (~~§532.004~~ ~~626~~) or provision for the moving expenses of pastors.

~~3.2.~~ *Administration Budget-a)* The council shall recommend to the annual conference estimates of the amounts needed for administrative expenses of the conference, including its own expenses and those of the conference treasurer's office. It shall consult with the conference agencies and officers to be included in the administrative budget regarding the estimated budgets of their expenses and base its conference administration budget recommendations on information thus received.

b) It shall include in its estimates recommendations regarding the conference's share of an area expense fund, if any, and apportionments for administration properly made by the jurisdictional conference and the General Conference

(BOD¶ 811.4).

4. *Conference Benevolences Budget-a)* In preparing the conference benevolences budget, the council, working together with the conference council on ministries or alternative structure as provided in ¶ 538.003.4b, shall make diligent effort to secure full information regarding all conference benevolence and service causes that none may be neglected, jeopardized, or excluded. Basing its judgment of needs upon the information secured, the council shall recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination the total amount to be apportioned for the conference benevolences budget. After receiving the recommendations of the conference council on ministries or alternative structure, the council shall also recommend the amount or the percentage of the total of the conference benevolences budget that shall be allocated to each cause included in the said budget. Such recommendations should reflect agreement with the conference council on ministries or alternative structure on program agency allocations as specified below.³⁶

b) The council on finance and administration and the annual conference council on ministries shall work together to establish and follow a procedure that shall preserve the following principles:

(1) It is the responsibility of the conference council on finance and administration to establish the total amount to be recommended to the annual conference as the conference benevolences budget and, within that amount, the total sum to be recommended for distribution among the conference program agencies. It is likewise the responsibility of the council to study the budget requests for any agencies or causes to be included in the conference benevolences budget other than the conference program agencies, including the requests of the conference council on ministries, and to give the chairpersons or other authorized representatives of such agencies and causes opportunity to represent their claims before the council.³⁷

(BOD¶ 811.4).

~~4.3.~~ *Conference Benevolences Budget-a)* In preparing the conference benevolences budget, the council, working together with the conference council on ministries or alternative structure as provided in ¶ ~~538.003.4b~~ ~~614.3b~~, shall make diligent effort to secure full information regarding all conference benevolence and service causes that none may be neglected, jeopardized, or excluded. Basing its judgment of needs upon the information secured, the council shall recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination the total amount to be apportioned for the conference benevolences budget. After receiving the recommendations of the conference council on ministries or alternative structure, the council shall also recommend the amount or the percentage of the total of the conference benevolences budget that shall be allocated to each cause included in the said budget. Such recommendations should reflect agreement with the conference council on ministries or alternative structure on program agency allocations as specified below.³⁶

b) The council on finance and administration and the annual conference council on ministries shall work together to establish and follow a procedure that shall preserve the following principles:

(1) It is the responsibility of the conference council on finance and administration to establish the total amount to be recommended to the annual conference as the conference benevolences budget and, within that amount, the total sum to be recommended for distribution among the conference program agencies. It is likewise the responsibility of the council to study the budget requests for any agencies or causes to be included in the conference benevolences budget other than the conference program agencies, including the requests of the conference council on ministries, and to give the chairpersons or other authorized representatives of such agencies and causes opportunity to represent their claims

(2) It is the responsibility of the conference council on ministries to study the budget requests of the conference program agencies and to recommend to the conference council on finance and administration amounts to be allocated from the conference benevolences budget to each such agency, within the total established by the conference council on finance and administration.³⁸

(3) It is the responsibility of the conference council on finance and administration to present the conference benevolences budget recommendations to the annual conference. The recommended allocations to conference program agencies should reflect agreement between the council and the conference council on ministries or alternative structure.³⁹

c) The term *conference benevolences* shall include those conference allocations and expenditures directly associated with the program, mission, and benevolent causes of annual conference program agencies and institutions. Annual conference program agencies and institutions shall be defined as those agencies with responsibilities parallel to those of the program-related general agencies (BOD¶ 703) and institutions whose work is within the field of responsibility of one or more of those agencies. Administrative expenses that are directly related to the program, mission, and benevolent causes of conference program agencies, including the expenses of the conference council on ministries or alternative structure, may also be included in the conference benevolences budget. The term *conference benevolences* shall not include allocations and expenditures for other conference agencies and officers whose work is primarily administrative. It shall likewise not include annual conference clergy support funds as set forth in ¶¶ 532.004, allocations and expenditures of conference agencies responsible for administering clergy support funds, or apportionments made to the annual conference by the General or jurisdictional conferences.

d) The council, on receiving from the treasurer of the

before the council.³⁷

(2) It is the responsibility of the conference council on ministries to study the budget requests of the conference program agencies and to recommend to the conference council on finance and administration amounts to be allocated from the conference benevolences budget to each such agency, within the total established by the conference council on finance and administration.³⁸

(3) It is the responsibility of the conference council on finance and administration to present the conference benevolences budget recommendations to the annual conference. The recommended allocations to conference program agencies should reflect agreement between the council and the conference council on ministries or alternative structure.³⁹

c) The term *conference benevolences* shall include those conference allocations and expenditures directly associated with the program, mission, and benevolent causes of annual conference program agencies and institutions. Annual conference program agencies and institutions shall be defined as those agencies with responsibilities parallel to those of the program-related general agencies (BOD¶ 703) and institutions whose work is within the field of responsibility of one or more of those agencies. Administrative expenses that are directly related to the program, mission, and benevolent causes of conference program agencies, including the expenses of the conference council on ministries or alternative structure, may also be included in the conference benevolences budget. The term *conference benevolences* shall not include allocations and expenditures for other conference agencies and officers whose work is primarily administrative. It shall likewise not include annual conference clergy support funds as set forth in ¶¶ ~~532.004~~ ~~620-628~~, allocations and expenditures of conference agencies responsible for administering clergy support funds, or apportionments made to the annual conference by the General or jurisdictional conferences.

General Council on Finance and Administration a statement of the amount apportioned that annual conference for World Service, may recommend that the conference combine the total World Service apportionment, without reduction for the quadrennium, and the approved conference benevolences budget (§ 538.003.4). If combined the sum of these two amounts shall be known as World Service and Conference Benevolences, and the combined budget thus established shall include a statement of the percentage for World Service and the percentage for conference benevolences.⁴⁰ (See also § 534.006.1a(2).)

5. *Other Apportioned Causes*-The council shall include in its budget recommendations specific amounts recommended for all other funds properly apportioned to the annual conference for the support of duly authorized general or other connectional funds. The budget recommendations shall likewise include any other amounts to be apportioned to the districts, charges, or churches by the annual conference for conference or district causes of any kind.

6. *Special Appeals-a)* No annual conference agency or interest, including any related agency or institution such as a school, college, university, hospital, home, housing project, or other service institution, shall make a special conference-wide appeal to the local churches for funds without the approval of the annual conference upon recommendation of the council, except in case of an extreme emergency, when such approval may be given by a two-thirds vote of the district superintendents and of the council, acting jointly. Neither shall special conference-wide appeals to local churches for funds be made by such boards, interests, agencies, or institutions that are not related to the annual conference in which the appeal is to be made, unless approval for such an appeal is granted by the annual conference upon recommendation of the council. The annual conference approvals specified in this paragraph shall not be required for special church-wide financial appeals that have been approved under the provisions of BOD § 819, for

d) The council, on receiving from the treasurer of the General Council on Finance and Administration a statement of the amount apportioned that annual conference for World Service, may recommend that the conference combine the total World Service apportionment, without reduction for the quadrennium, and the approved conference benevolences budget (§ ~~538.003.4~~ ~~614.3a~~). If combined the sum of these two amounts shall be known as World Service and Conference Benevolences, and the combined budget thus established shall include a statement of the percentage for World Service and the percentage for conference benevolences.⁴⁰ (See also § ~~534.006~~ ~~619.1a(2)~~.)

~~5.4.~~ *Other Apportioned Causes*-The council shall include in its budget recommendations specific amounts recommended for all other funds properly apportioned to the annual conference for the support of duly authorized general or other connectional funds. The budget recommendations shall likewise include any other amounts to be apportioned to the districts, charges, or churches by the annual conference for conference or district causes of any kind.

~~6.5.~~ *Special Appeals-a)* No annual conference agency or interest, including any related agency or institution such as a school, college, university, hospital, home, housing project, or other service institution, shall make a special conference-wide appeal to the local churches for funds without the approval of the annual conference upon recommendation of the council, except in case of an extreme emergency, when such approval may be given by a two-thirds vote of the district superintendents and of the council, acting jointly. Neither shall special conference-wide appeals to local churches for funds be made by such boards, interests, agencies, or institutions that are not related to the annual conference in which the appeal is to be made, unless approval for such an appeal is granted by the annual conference upon recommendation of the council. The annual conference approvals specified in this paragraph shall not be required for special church-wide financial appeals that

solicitations that have been approved under the provisions of BOD¶ 812.3, or for any other general fund promotion or appeal authorized by the General Conference or approved and conducted under other provisions of the *Discipline*.

b) When application is made to the council for the privilege of a special conference-wide financial appeal, whether by special collections, campaigns, or otherwise, the council shall investigate the application and its possible relation to other obligations of the conference and in the light of the facts make recommendations to the conference for its action and determination. If application for privilege of a special appeal is made directly to the conference, the application shall be referred to the council before final action is taken.

c) The council may include in its budget recommendations to the annual conference amounts to be considered as goals for special appeals or other nonapportioned causes.

7. The council shall make its budget recommendations to the annual conference in a format based on guidelines suggested by the General Council on Finance and Administration.

GBOD¶538.003 = 614

³³ Judicial Council Decisions 551, 560, 744, 1054, 1172

³⁴ Judicial Council Decision 590, 591, 1013

³⁵ Judicial Council Decisions 1132

³⁶ Judicial Council Decisions 521, 551, 582

³⁷ Judicial Council Decision 521, 551

³⁸ Judicial Council Decision 521, 551

³⁹ Judicial Council Decision 551

⁴⁰ Judicial Council Decisions 348, 1135, 1146, 1172

have been approved under the provisions of BOD¶ 819, for solicitations that have been approved under the provisions of BOD¶ 812.3, or for any other general fund promotion or appeal authorized by the General Conference or approved and conducted under other provisions of the *Discipline*.

b) When application is made to the council for the privilege of a special conference-wide financial appeal, whether by special collections, campaigns, or otherwise, the council shall investigate the application and its possible relation to other obligations of the conference and in the light of the facts make recommendations to the conference for its action and determination. If application for privilege of a special appeal is made directly to the conference, the application shall be referred to the council before final action is taken.

c) The council may include in its budget recommendations to the annual conference amounts to be considered as goals for special appeals or other nonapportioned causes.

~~7.6.~~ The council shall make its budget recommendations to the annual conference in a format based on guidelines suggested by the General Council on Finance and Administration.

³³ Judicial Council Decisions 551, 560, 744, 1054, 1172

³⁴ Judicial Council Decision 590, 591, 1013

³⁵ Judicial Council Decisions 1132

³⁶ Judicial Council Decisions 521, 551, 582

³⁷ Judicial Council Decision 521, 551

³⁸ Judicial Council Decision 521, 551

³⁹ Judicial Council Decision 551

⁴⁰ Judicial Council Decisions 348, 1135, 1146, 1172

¶538.004 In regards to ¶¶ 538.3.c), the following additional regulations shall be implemented for *Apportionments-1*. When a change to the apportionment formula or method is proposed, the council should provide for a study of the proposed change's effects. After its study, which may include resources supplied by the General Council on Finance and Administration, the council shall recommend such formula or method to the annual conference for its action and determination which shall include the approved budgeted amounts for clergy support, administration, World Service, Conference Benevolences, and other apportioned causes (¶ 538.003.1-5), the sum of which shall be apportioned to the districts, churches, or charges of the conference.⁴¹

2. The council, on receiving from the General Council on Finance and Administration a statement of the amount or methodology for apportioning to the annual conference for the several general funds as authorized by the General Conference, shall apportion the same to the several districts, charges, or churches by whatever method the conference may direct. The council shall make every effort for the full payment of these apportionments as a part of the Church's shared financial covenant.⁴²

3. The council shall recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination whether the apportionments referred to in this paragraph shall be made by the council to the districts only or to the churches or charges of the conference. If the apportionments are made to the districts only, then the distribution to the churches or charges of each district shall be made as provided in ¶ 538.003.4. The conference may order that the district superintendents make the entire distribution to all the churches or charges of the conference.

4. Should the annual conference make the apportionments to the districts only, the distribution to the churches or charges of each district shall be made by its district board of stewards, composed of the district superintendent as chairperson and the district stewards elected by the several charge conferences (¶

[615] **¶538.004** In regards to ¶¶ 538.3.c), the following additional regulations shall be implemented for *Apportionments-1*. When a change to the apportionment formula or method is proposed, the council should provide for a study of the proposed change's effects. After its study, which may include resources supplied by the General Council on Finance and Administration, the council shall recommend such formula or method to the annual conference for its action and determination which shall include the approved budgeted amounts for clergy support, administration, World Service, Conference Benevolences, and other apportioned causes (¶ 538.003.1-5 ~~¶14.1-4~~), the sum of which shall be apportioned to the districts, churches, or charges of the conference.⁴¹

2.1. The council, on receiving from the General Council on Finance and Administration a statement of the amount or methodology for apportioning to the annual conference for the several general funds as authorized by the General Conference, shall apportion the same to the several districts, charges, or churches by whatever method the conference may direct. The council shall make every effort for the full payment of these apportionments as a part of the Church's shared financial covenant.⁴²

3.2. The council shall recommend to the annual conference for its action and determination whether the apportionments referred to in this paragraph shall be made by the council to the districts only or to the churches or charges of the conference. If the apportionments are made to the districts only, then the distribution to the churches or charges of each district shall be made as provided in ¶ 538.003.4 ~~¶14.3~~. The conference may order that the district superintendents make the entire distribution to all the churches or charges of the conference.

4.3. Should the annual conference make the apportionments to the districts only, the distribution to the churches or charges of each district shall be made by its district board of stewards, composed of the district superintendent as chairperson and the district stewards elected by the several

<p>229.7). In that case, the board, meeting on call of the district superintendent as soon as practicable after the adjournment of the annual conference, shall make the distribution to the churches or charges of the district using such methods as it may determine, unless the annual conference shall have determined the method of distribution to the churches or charges.</p> <p>5. If the council recommends an apportioned fund that combines two or more general apportioned funds with one another, or that combines one or more general apportioned funds with funds other than a general apportioned fund, the recommendation and consequent annual conference actions shall include: (1) a statement of the amount of each general fund apportionment included in the combined fund, and (2) a statement of the percentage of the combined fund total that corresponds to each general fund apportionment.</p> <p>6. If an annual conference establishes an apportioned fund that combines funds subject to proportional payment under ¶ 532.004.3 with funds not subject to proportional payment, it shall establish procedures to ensure that the proportional payment provisions of ¶ 532.004.3 are observed.</p> <p>7. If an annual conference establishes an apportioned fund that combines support for several distinct causes, it shall make available to local churches information identifying the causes supported by the fund.</p> <p>8. <i>Depository</i>-The council shall be responsible for designating a depository or depositories for conference funds.</p> <p>GBOD¶538.004 = 615 and 616</p> <p>⁴¹ Judicial Council Decisions 983, 1172 ⁴² Judicial Council Decisions 1135, 1146, 1172</p>	<p>charge conferences (¶ 229.7-247.14). In that case, the board, meeting on call of the district superintendent as soon as practicable after the adjournment of the annual conference, shall make the distribution to the churches or charges of the district using such methods as it may determine, unless the annual conference shall have determined the method of distribution to the churches or charges.</p> <p>5.4. If the council recommends an apportioned fund that combines two or more general apportioned funds with one another, or that combines one or more general apportioned funds with funds other than a general apportioned fund, the recommendation and consequent annual conference actions shall include: (1) a statement of the amount of each general fund apportionment included in the combined fund, and (2) a statement of the percentage of the combined fund total that corresponds to each general fund apportionment.</p> <p>6.5. If an annual conference establishes an apportioned fund that combines funds subject to proportional payment under ¶ 622 <u>532.004.3</u> with funds not subject to proportional payment, it shall establish procedures to ensure that the proportional payment provisions of ¶ 622 <u>532.004.3</u> are observed.</p> <p>7.6. If an annual conference establishes an apportioned fund that combines support for several distinct causes, it shall make available to local churches information identifying the causes supported by the fund.</p> <p>[616] <u>8.</u> <i>Depository</i>-The council shall be responsible for designating a depository or depositories for conference funds.</p> <p>⁴¹ Judicial Council Decisions 983, 1172 ⁴² Judicial Council Decisions 1135, 1146, 1172</p>	
<p>¶538.005 In regards to ¶¶ 538.3.g), the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>Auditing-1</i>. The council shall have the following authority and responsibility with respect to the auditing of the financial records of the conference</p>	<p>[617] ¶538.005 <u>In regards to ¶¶ 538.3.g), the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>Auditing-1</i>.</u> The council shall have the following authority and responsibility with respect to the auditing of the financial</p>	

and its agencies:

2. To have the accounts of the conference treasurer for the preceding fiscal year audited by a certified public accountant within 150 days after the close of the conference fiscal year and to receive, review, and report such audit to the annual conference.⁴³

As a part of the audit, the accountant shall confer with the presiding bishop of the annual conference and the president of the council.

3. To require and review at least annually audited reports, in such detail as it may direct, from all conference agencies and from all agencies, institutions, and organizations receiving any financial support from conference funds or from any authorized conference-wide appeal.

4. To require and review at least annually, in such detail as it may direct, compiled or audited reports of all funds received or administered by districts or district agencies, including funds held or administered by treasurers or officers other than the conference treasurer. Based on its review of such audits, the council may make such recommendations to the annual conference as it deems appropriate.

5. The council may establish an audit review committee to review all of the reports and audits required by ¶ 538.005. If the council chooses to establish such a committee, at least half of its members should be persons who are not members of the council and who are chosen for their expertise in areas related to the work of the committee. Consideration shall be given to inclusiveness (¶¶ 124, 140) in the selection of persons to serve on the committee.

GBOD ¶538.005 = 617

⁴³ Judicial Council Decision 334

records of the conference and its agencies:

~~2.1.~~ To have the accounts of the conference treasurer for the preceding fiscal year audited by a certified public accountant within 150 days after the close of the conference fiscal year and to receive, review, and report such audit to the annual conference.⁴³

As a part of the audit, the accountant shall confer with the presiding bishop of the annual conference and the president of the council.

~~3.2.~~ To require and review at least annually audited reports, in such detail as it may direct, from all conference agencies and from all agencies, institutions, and organizations receiving any financial support from conference funds or from any authorized conference-wide appeal.

~~4.3.~~ To require and review at least annually, in such detail as it may direct, compiled or audited reports of all funds received or administered by districts or district agencies, including funds held or administered by treasurers or officers other than the conference treasurer. Based on its review of such audits, the council may make such recommendations to the annual conference as it deems appropriate.

~~5.4.~~ The council may establish an audit review committee to review all of the reports and audits required by ¶ ~~538.005~~. If the council chooses to establish such a committee, at least half of its members should be persons who are not members of the council and who are chosen for their expertise in areas related to the work of the committee. Consideration shall be given to inclusiveness (¶¶ 124, 140) in the selection of persons to serve on the committee.

⁴³ Judicial Council Decision 334

¶538.006 In regards to ¶¶ 538.3, the following additional

[618] **¶538.006** In regards to ¶¶ 538.3, the following additional

<p>regulations shall be implemented for <i>Bonding-1</i>. The council shall have the following authority and responsibility with respect to the bonding of conference and conference agency officers and staff whose responsibilities include the custody or handling of conference funds or other negotiable assets:</p> <p>2. The council shall provide for the fidelity bonding of the conference treasurer and other staff under its authority and supervision in amounts it judges to be adequate.</p> <p>3. In the case of those agencies, institutions, and organizations for which the conference treasurer does not serve as treasurer, the council shall have authority to require fidelity bonding of their treasurers in such amounts as it deems adequate and to withhold payment of the allocation of any such agency, institution, or organization until evidence of the required bonding has been submitted.</p> <p>4. The council may provide, or require any conference agency to provide, directors' and officers' liability insurance in amounts it judges to be adequate.</p> <p>5. The council shall require compliance with the policies established as provided by this paragraph and shall report annually to the annual conference on such compliance.</p> <p>GBOD¶538.006 = 618</p>	<p><u>regulations shall be implemented for <i>Bonding-1</i>. The council shall have the following authority and responsibility with respect to the bonding of conference and conference agency officers and staff whose responsibilities include the custody or handling of conference funds or other negotiable assets:</u></p> <p><u>2.4-</u> The council shall provide for the fidelity bonding of the conference treasurer and other staff under its authority and supervision in amounts it judges to be adequate.</p> <p><u>3.2-</u> In the case of those agencies, institutions, and organizations for which the conference treasurer does not serve as treasurer, the council shall have authority to require fidelity bonding of their treasurers in such amounts as it deems adequate and to withhold payment of the allocation of any such agency, institution, or organization until evidence of the required bonding has been submitted.</p> <p><u>4.3-</u> The council may provide, or require any conference agency to provide, directors' and officers' liability insurance in amounts it judges to be adequate.</p> <p><u>5.4-</u> The council shall require compliance with the policies established as provided by this paragraph and shall report annually to the annual conference on such compliance.</p>	
<p>¶539.001. In the Board of Ordained Ministry according to BOD¶ 539.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: 1. <i>Elections-</i> The board shall organize by electing from its membership a chairperson, registrars, and such other officers as it may deem necessary. A vocational discernment coordinator may be named to coordinate the candidacy mentoring process. The board shall designate its executive committee, which shall include elders, deacons, and laity. The board shall organize in such manner as to care for its responsibilities, including the needs of certified persons, diaconal ministers, local pastors, deacons, and elders. The organization of the board shall include a committee to fulfill the governance responsibilities for diaconal ministers (see the</p>	<p>[635.1c.+3+1d-h.+4] ¶539.001. <u>In the Board of Ordained Ministry according to BOD¶ 539.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: -1. <i>Elections-</i></u> The board shall organize by electing from its membership a chairperson, registrars, and such other officers as it may deem necessary. A vocational discernment coordinator may be named to coordinate the candidacy mentoring process. The board shall designate its executive committee, which shall include elders, deacons, and laity. The board shall organize in such manner as to care for its responsibilities, including the needs of certified persons, diaconal ministers, local pastors, deacons, and elders. The organization of the board shall include a committee to fulfill the governance responsibilities for diaconal ministers</p>	

Discipline, 1992, ¶¶ 301-317 and 734) and shall provide for certification in specialized ministry careers under the guidelines of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (see BOD¶ 1421). The board may include in its organization a division of deacons and a division of elders.

2. *Registrar* - The board shall elect a registrar and such associate registrars as it may determine; one such associate registrar to be given responsibility for candidacy, including giving leadership to the training and guidance of mentors in each district. A staff executive may be named by the board to fulfill the functions of registrar.

a) The registrar shall keep full personnel records for all candidates for ordained ministry under the care of the board, including essential biographical data, transcripts of academic credit, instruments of evaluation, and, where it applies, psychological and medical test records, sermons, theological statements, and other pertinent data.

b) Pertinent information and recommendations concerning each candidate shall be certified to the annual conference in duplicate; one copy of this record shall be kept by the registrar and one copy shall be mailed after each conference session to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The registrar shall forward an acknowledgment of transfer to the pastor of the local church where each newly elected provisional and associate member held membership.

c) The registrar shall keep a record of the standing of the students in the Course of Study and report to the conference when required. This record shall include the credits allowed students for work done in accredited schools of theology, in approved Course of Study schools, or Course of Study correspondence.

d) The registrar shall file in the bishop's office for permanent record a copy of circumstances involving the discontinuance of provisional membership or termination of the local pastor status.

e) The records and files of the Board of Ordained

(see ~~the~~ *The Book of Discipline*, 1992, ¶¶ 301-317 and 734) and shall provide for certification in specialized ministry careers under the guidelines of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (see BOD¶ 1421). The board may include in its organization a division of deacons and a division of elders.

32. *Registrar* - The board shall elect a registrar and such associate registrars as it may determine; one such associate registrar to be given responsibility for candidacy, including giving leadership to the training and guidance of mentors in each district. A staff executive may be named by the board to fulfill the functions of registrar.

a) The registrar shall keep full personnel records for all candidates for ordained ministry under the care of the board, including essential biographical data, transcripts of academic credit, instruments of evaluation, and, where it applies, psychological and medical test records, sermons, theological statements, and other pertinent data.

b) Pertinent information and recommendations concerning each candidate shall be certified to the annual conference in duplicate; one copy of this record shall be kept by the registrar and one copy shall be mailed after each conference session to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The registrar shall forward an acknowledgment of transfer to the pastor of the local church where each newly elected provisional and associate member held membership.

c) The registrar shall keep a record of the standing of the students in the Course of Study and report to the conference when required. This record shall include the credits allowed students for work done in accredited schools of theology, in approved Course of Study schools, or Course of Study correspondence.

d) The registrar shall file in the bishop's office for permanent record a copy of circumstances involving the discontinuance of provisional membership or termination of the local pastor status.

e) The records and files of the Board of Ordained

Ministry are kept on behalf of the annual conference and shall be maintained under guidelines provided by the General Council on Finance and Administration in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the General Board of Pensions.

3. *Organizing* – a) Each annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry shall establish a Conference Relations Committee of at least three persons to hear requests for discontinuance of provisional members, involuntary leave of absence, administrative location, involuntary retirement, or other such matters as may be referred to them by the board of ordained ministry. District superintendents shall not serve on the Conference Relations Committee.

b) The board shall select from its own membership an official representative to serve as a member of each district committee on ordained ministry, which shall function as subcommittees of the board.

c) To ensure maximum contact with and support of persons in appointments beyond the local church, the board shall maintain relationships with all general agencies that have responsibility for persons in such appointments.

d) The board shall meet at least once prior to its meeting at the time of the annual conference session and may set a deadline prior to annual conference for transacting its business.

e) The board shall provide orientation for new members, including distribution of any available written guidelines.

4. *Budget*- Administrative costs of the Board of Ordained Ministry shall be a claim on the conference operating budget. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall have direct access to the conference council on finance and administration in support of its program. The annual conference council on finance and administration shall recommend adequate administrative funds for the board and its staff in light of its workload.

Ministry are kept on behalf of the annual conference and shall be maintained under guidelines provided by the General Council on Finance and Administration in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the General Board of Pensions.

[635.1d/g/e/f/h] 3. *Organizing* – a)~~d~~) Each annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry shall establish a Conference Relations Committee of at least three persons to hear requests for discontinuance of provisional members, involuntary leave of absence, administrative location, involuntary retirement, or other such matters as may be referred to them by the board of ordained ministry. District superintendents shall not serve on the Conference Relations Committee.

b)~~g~~) The board shall select from its own membership an official representative to serve as a member of each district committee on ordained ministry, which shall function as subcommittees of the board.

c)~~e~~) To ensure maximum contact with and support of persons in appointments beyond the local church, the board shall maintain relationships with all general agencies that have responsibility for persons in such appointments.

d)~~f~~) The board shall meet at least once prior to its meeting at the time of the annual conference session and may set a deadline prior to annual conference for transacting its business.

e)~~h~~) The board shall provide orientation for new members, including distribution of any available written guidelines.

4. *Budget*- Administrative costs of the Board of Ordained Ministry shall be a claim on the conference operating budget. The Board of Ordained Ministry shall have direct access to the conference council on finance and administration in support of its program. [635.1b:]The annual conference council on finance and administration shall recommend adequate administrative funds for the board and its staff in light

<p>GBOD ¶539.001 = 635.1c.+3+1d-h.+4</p>	<p>of its workload.</p>	
<p>¶539.002. In the Board of Ordained Ministry according to ¶¶ 539.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented on organizing a <i>Conference Administrative Review Committee</i>—1. There will be an administrative review committee composed of three clergy in full connection and two alternates who are not members of the cabinet, the Board of Ordained Ministry or immediate family members of the above. The committee shall be nominated by the bishop and elected quadrennially by the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference.</p> <p>2. Its only purpose shall be to ensure that the disciplinary procedures for discontinuance of provisional membership (¶ 323.5), involuntary leave of absence (¶344), involuntary retirement (¶349.4), or administrative location (¶348) are properly followed. Additionally, if in the event of unresolved issues related to medical leave (¶346.3) a fair process hearing (¶ 352.2) occurs, the Administrative Review Committee shall ensure that fair process was followed.</p> <p>3. The entire administrative process leading to the action for change in conference relationship shall be reviewed by the administrative review committee, and it shall report its findings to the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference prior to any action of the annual conference. The administrative review committee shall notify the parties of the review of the process. The administrative fair process hearing procedures (¶352.2) should be followed by the administrative review committee. Prior to its report, if the committee determines that any error has occurred, it may recommend to the appropriate person or body that action be taken promptly to remedy the error, decide the error is harmless, or take other action.⁴⁴</p>	<p>[636] ¶539.002. <u>In the Board of Ordained Ministry according to ¶¶ 539.1, the following additional regulations shall be implemented on organizing a <i>Conference Administrative Review Committee</i>—1.</u> There will be an administrative review committee composed of three clergy in full connection and two alternates who are not members of the cabinet, the Board of Ordained Ministry or immediate family members of the above. The committee shall be nominated by the bishop and elected quadrennially by the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference.</p> <p><u>2.</u> Its only purpose shall be to ensure that the disciplinary procedures for discontinuance of provisional membership (¶ 323.5), involuntary leave of absence (¶344), involuntary retirement (¶349.4), or administrative location (¶348) are properly followed. Additionally, if in the event of unresolved issues related to medical leave (¶346.3) a fair process hearing (¶ 352.2) occurs, the Administrative Review Committee shall ensure that fair process was followed.</p> <p><u>3.</u> The entire administrative process leading to the action for change in conference relationship shall be reviewed by the administrative review committee, and it shall report its findings to the clergy session of members in full connection with the annual conference prior to any action of the annual conference. The administrative review committee shall notify the parties of the review of the process. The administrative fair process hearing procedures (¶352.2) should be followed by the administrative review committee. Prior to its report, if the committee determines that any error has occurred, it may recommend to the appropriate person or body that action be taken promptly to remedy the error, decide the error is harmless, or take other action.⁴⁴</p>	
<p>GBOD ¶539.002 = 636</p>	<p>⁴⁴ Judicial Council Decision 921</p>	

<p>44 Judicial Council Decision 921</p>		
<p>¶539.003. In responsibilities according to ¶¶ 539.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: 1. To enlist and recruit ministerial leadership for our churches and other ministry settings by working in consultation with the cabinet and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to study and interpret the ordained, licensed, certified, and assigned ministerial leadership needs and resources of the annual conference, with due regard to the inclusive nature of the Church. It shall assist candidates with discernment of the most appropriate path for their ministry, recommending colleges and schools of theology listed by the University Senate, licensing school, and other approved educational opportunities. Persons recruited should have an understanding of and appreciation for persons of different racial and ethnic heritages.</p> <p>2. To renew a culture of call in the church by giving strategic leadership to annual conferences, districts, congregations, campus ministries, camps, and other appropriate ministries, especially among youth and young adults</p> <p>3. To seek from a school of theology information about the personal and professional qualities of an applicant for provisional membership or of a provisional member; provided, however, that the applicant or member consent to the provision of such information.</p> <p>4. To receive annual reports on the progress made by each ministerial student enrolled in a theological school and to record credit for work satisfactorily completed.</p> <p>5. It shall require a transcript of credits from each applicant before recognizing any of the applicant’s educational claims. In case of doubt, the board may submit a transcript to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry for evaluation.</p>	<p>[635.2] ¶539.003. <u>In responsibilities according to ¶¶ 539.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented: 2- Responsibilities – 1,</u> a) To enlist and recruit ministerial leadership for our churches and other ministry settings by working in consultation with the cabinet and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry to study and interpret the ordained, licensed, certified, and assigned ministerial leadership needs and resources of the annual conference, with due regard to the inclusive nature of the Church. <u>It shall assist candidates with</u> discernment of the most appropriate path for their ministry, recommending colleges and schools of theology listed by the University Senate, licensing school, and other approved educational opportunities. Persons recruited should have an understanding of and appreciation for persons of different racial and ethnic heritages.</p> <p>2.<u>b)</u> To renew a culture of call in the church by giving strategic leadership to annual conferences, districts, congregations, campus ministries, camps, and other appropriate ministries, especially among youth and young adults</p> <p>3.<u>c)</u> To seek from a school of theology information about the personal and professional qualities of an applicant for provisional membership or of a provisional member; provided, however, that the applicant or member consent to the provision of such information.</p> <p>4.<u>d)</u> To receive annual reports on the progress made by each ministerial student enrolled in a theological school and to record credit for work satisfactorily completed.</p> <p>5.<u>e)</u> It shall require a transcript of credits from each applicant before recognizing any of the applicant’s educational claims. In case of doubt, the board may submit a transcript to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry for</p>	

6. The board shall annually appoint and train a sufficient number of mentors in each district in consultation with the district superintendent.

7. To guide the candidate for ordained ministry who is not enrolled in a theological school and who is pursuing the Course of Study as adopted by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

8. To provide all candidates for ordained ministry a written statement on the disciplinary and annual conference requirements for the local pastor, provisional, and full membership.

9. To assign a board member to serve as liaison to retired clergy in the conference.

10. To interview applicants and make recommendation concerning: *a*) changes from the effective relation to a leave of absence or retirement; *b*) return to the effective relation from other relations; *c*) honorable location; *d*) readmission of located persons and persons discontinued from provisional membership; *e*) sabbatical leave; *f*) medical leave; *g*) appointment as a student; *h*) termination; and *i*) changes to or from less than full-time ministry.

11. To work with Deacons, Elders, Local Pastors, and Associate Members, receiving reports, offering financial support, and coordinating these groups' activities with the continuing formation offerings of the board. The board may delegate continuing formation responsibility to the groups by mutual agreement, with final approval, evaluation, and budgeting remaining with the board.

12. To provide a means of evaluating the effectiveness of ministerial leaders in the annual conference (§§ 532.3, 353). Suggested guidelines will be provided by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry. In cooperation with the cabinet, the board shall develop standards of effectiveness for ministerial leaders, whether ordained, licensed, certified, or assigned, serving as pastors of congregations in that annual conference.

evaluation.

~~6.f~~) The board shall annually appoint and train a sufficient number of mentors in each district in consultation with the district superintendent.

~~7.g~~) To guide the candidate for ordained ministry who is not enrolled in a theological school and who is pursuing the Course of Study as adopted by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

~~8.i~~) To provide all candidates for ordained ministry a written statement on the disciplinary and annual conference requirements for the local pastor, provisional, and full membership.

~~9.k~~) To assign a board member to serve as liaison to retired clergy in the conference.

~~10.t~~) To interview applicants and make recommendation concerning: ~~(1)a~~) changes from the effective relation to a leave of absence or retirement; ~~(2)b~~) return to the effective relation from other relations; ~~(3)c~~) honorable location; ~~(4)d~~) readmission of located persons and persons discontinued from provisional membership; ~~(5)e~~) sabbatical leave; ~~(6)f~~) medical leave; ~~(7)g~~) appointment as a student; ~~(8)h~~) termination; and ~~(9)i~~) changes to or from less than full-time ministry.

~~11.p~~) To work with Deacons, Elders, Local Pastors, and Associate Members, receiving reports, offering financial support, and coordinating these groups' activities with the continuing formation offerings of the board. The board may delegate continuing formation responsibility to the groups by mutual agreement, with final approval, evaluation, and budgeting remaining with the board.

~~12.q~~) To provide a means of evaluating the effectiveness of ministerial leaders in the annual conference (§§ ~~604.4, 350-532.3, 353~~). Suggested guidelines will be provided by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry. In cooperation with the cabinet, the board shall develop standards of effectiveness

13. To interpret the high ethical standards of ordained ministry set forth in the *Discipline* and to study matters pertaining to character (¶ 532.3).

14. To recommend to the full members of the annual conference for validation special ministries for which members seek appointment. The appointment to such ministries is the prerogative of the bishop and the cabinet.

15. To provide continuing support and management of consecrated diaconal ministers using the policies described in ¶¶ 301-317 of the 1992 *Book of Discipline*.

16. To care for the administration of professional certification established by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry through (1) enlisting and recruiting clergy and laity to become certified in Christian education, music, youth, evangelism, and other areas established by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (2) determining whether applicants meet the standards established by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (3) to recommend to the annual conference board and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (4) to renew or discontinue professional certification biannually based on a review of their ministry; and (5) to report annually to the annual conference for publication in the conference journal a roster of all persons certified in professional careers for which they have received certification, including places of service address.

17. To report annually to the annual conference for publication in the conference journal a roster of all persons certified as Lay Ministers.

18. To administer the portion of the Ministerial Education Fund for use by the annual conference in its programs of enlistment, basic professional educational aid, continuing formation, ethnic ministry and language training, and professional growth of ordained ministers. Priority shall be given to scholarships for seminary students preparing for ordination.

19. To cooperate with the General Board of Higher

for ministerial leaders, whether ordained, licensed, certified, or assigned, serving as pastors of congregations in that annual conference.

~~13.¶~~ To interpret the high ethical standards of ordained ministry set forth in the *Discipline* and to study matters pertaining to character (¶ ~~605.7~~ 532.3).

~~14.¶~~ To recommend to the full members of the annual conference for validation special ministries for which members seek appointment. The appointment to such ministries is the prerogative of the bishop and the cabinet.

~~15.¶~~ To provide continuing support and management of consecrated diaconal ministers using the policies described in ¶¶ 301-317 of the 1992 *Book of Discipline*.

~~16.¶~~ To care for the administration of professional certification established by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry through (1) enlisting and recruiting clergy and laity to become certified in Christian education, music, youth, evangelism, and other areas established by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (2) determining whether applicants meet the standards established by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (3) to recommend to the annual conference board and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry; (4) to renew or discontinue professional certification biannually based on a review of their ministry; and (5) to report annually to the annual conference for publication in the conference journal a roster of all persons certified in professional careers for which they have received certification, including places of service address.

~~17.¶~~ To report annually to the annual conference for publication in the conference journal a roster of all persons certified as Lay Ministers.

~~18.¶~~ To administer the portion of the Ministerial Education Fund for use by the annual conference in its programs of enlistment, basic professional educational aid, continuing formation, ethnic ministry and language training, and professional growth of ordained ministers. Priority shall be

<p>Education and Ministry and assist in: (1) the interpretation of current legislation concerning ordained ministry; (2) the interpretation and promotion of the Ministerial Education Fund; (3) the promotion and observance of Ministry Sunday; and (4) the supplying of a record of all information, recommendations, and action on each candidate for ordained ministry after each session of the annual conference; (5) the promotion and addition of standards required for certification in specialized ministry careers.</p> <p>20. To promote in the annual conference and/or jurisdictional conference a system of financial aid to ministerial students. A conference transferring a person with less than three years of active service into another conference may require reimbursement either from the person or from the receiving conference for outstanding obligations for theological education financed through conference funds.</p> <p>21. To report in a timely manner any change in the conference relationship of a clergy member of the conference to the conference board of pensions.</p> <p>GBOD ¶539.003= 635.2</p>	<p>given to scholarships for seminary students preparing for ordination.</p> <p>19. To cooperate with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and assist in: (1) the interpretation of current legislation concerning ordained ministry; (2) the interpretation and promotion of the Ministerial Education Fund; (3) the promotion and observance of Ministry Sunday; and (4) the supplying of a record of all information, recommendations, and action on each candidate for ordained ministry after each session of the annual conference; (5) the promotion and addition of standards required for certification in specialized ministry careers.</p> <p>20. To promote in the annual conference and/or jurisdictional conference a system of financial aid to ministerial students. A conference transferring a person with less than three years of active service into another conference may require reimbursement either from the person or from the receiving conference for outstanding obligations for theological education financed through conference funds.</p> <p>21. To report in a timely manner any change in the conference relationship of a clergy member of the conference to the conference board of pensions.</p>	
<p>¶539.004. In regards to ¶ 539.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Clergy Medical Leave</i> – 1. Each annual conference shall establish a procedure by which it will manage clergy medical leave. The annual conference may establish a joint committee on clergy medical leave. If the annual conference establishes such a committee, it should be composed of at least two representatives each from the Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions, who may be elected by those boards at the beginning of each quadrennium and at other times when vacancies occur, and a district superintendent appointed from time to time by the bishop to represent the cabinet. The joint committee shall be encouraged to include in its</p>	<p>[652] ¶539.004. <u>In regards to ¶ 539.3, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for a <i>Committee on Clergy Medical Leave</i> – 1. Each annual conference shall establish a procedure by which it will manage clergy medical leave. The annual conference may establish a joint committee on clergy medical leave. If the annual conference establishes such a committee, it should be composed of at least two representatives each from the Board of Ordained Ministry and the conference board of pensions, who may be elected by those boards at the beginning of each quadrennium and at other times when vacancies occur, and a district superintendent appointed from time to time by the bishop to represent the cabinet. The joint committee shall be</u></p>	

composition a person with a disability, preferably someone under appointment. Unless and until other members are elected, the chairperson and registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the chairperson and secretary of the conference board of pensions, or others designated by them, shall be authorized to represent their respective boards.

2. The committee shall organize at the beginning of each quadrennium by the election of a chairperson and a secretary. If the annual conference does not establish a joint committee, the annual conference's established policy and process for managing clergy medical leave nonetheless should involve the Board of Ordained Ministry, the conference board of pensions and representation from the cabinet.

3. The duties of the annual conference, with respect to clergy medical leave, or the joint committee on clergy medical leave, or its equivalent, shall be:

a) To study issues related to clergy medical leave in the annual conference.

b) To provide for a continuing personal ministry to any clergy on medical leave of the conference and to aid them in maintaining fellowship with the members of the conference.

c) To provide advice and support to and, where appropriate advocacy for, clergy on medical leave in (1) applying for and securing disability benefits from the Comprehensive Protection Plan and government programs, (2) exploring possible sources of interim financial assistance before disability benefits can be obtained, (3) establishing rehabilitation and return-to-service programs, and (4) assessing the need for and providing reasonable accommodations.

d) To make recommendations to the Board of Ordained Ministry, the conference board of pensions, and the cabinet on matters related to clergy medical leave, including steps for the prevention of the need for medical leave, the process of granting medical leave, benefits, grants or other assistance, and programs of rehabilitation.

encouraged to include in its composition a person with a disability, preferably someone under appointment. Unless and until other members are elected, the chairperson and registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the chairperson and secretary of the conference board of pensions, or others designated by them, shall be authorized to represent their respective boards.

2. The committee shall organize at the beginning of each quadrennium by the election of a chairperson and a secretary. If the annual conference does not establish a joint committee, the annual conference's established policy and process for managing clergy medical leave nonetheless should involve the Board of Ordained Ministry, the conference board of pensions and representation from the cabinet.

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c) To provide advice and support to and, where appropriate advocacy for, clergy on medical leave in ~~(i)~~(1) applying for and securing disability benefits from the Comprehensive Protection Plan and government programs, ~~(ii)~~(2) exploring possible sources of interim financial assistance before disability benefits can be obtained, ~~(iii)~~(3) establishing rehabilitation and return-to-service programs, and ~~(iv)~~(4) assessing the need for and providing reasonable accommodations.

d) To make recommendations to the Board of Ordained Ministry, the conference board of pensions, and the cabinet on matters related to clergy medical leave, including steps for the prevention of the need for medical leave, the process of granting medical leave, benefits, grants or other assistance, and

<p>e) To cooperate with and give assistance to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits in its administration of the Clergy Retirement Security Program, the Comprehensive Protection Plan and other benefit plans for clergy on medical leave, and to the extent applicable assist with the disability benefits and other benefits provided under those plans.</p> <p>GBOD¶539.004 = 652</p>	<p>programs of rehabilitation.</p> <p>e) To cooperate with and give assistance to the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits in its administration of the Clergy Retirement Security Program, the Comprehensive Protection Plan and other benefit plans for clergy on medical leave, and to the extent applicable assist with the disability benefits and other benefits provided under those plans.</p>	
<p>¶539.005. In regards to ¶¶ 539.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>Membership</i>- 1. The board membership shall include women and ethnic persons, at least one ordained clergyperson in the retired relationship, at least one ordained clergyperson in extension ministry, and when possible at least one young adult clergyperson in full connection age 35 or younger, and a district superintendent named by the bishop to represent the cabinet.</p> <p>2. No district superintendent or extended cabinet member shall be the chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Two-thirds of the members who are elders shall be graduates of seminaries listed by the University Senate.</p> <p>3. <i>When</i> possible, at least two associate members or local pastors who have completed the Course of Study shall be included as members of the board with voice and vote. Lay members of the board may include diaconal ministers, and the board may at its discretion elect further lay members, up to one-third of the membership of the board.</p> <p>4. The executive committee or a committee elected by the board of the previous quadrennium, and the cabinet may be consulted by the bishop in board members' nomination. To ensure adequate board membership, consultation shall include an evaluation of the workload of the board in meeting disciplinary and annual conference responsibilities. Vacancies shall be filled by the bishop after consultation with the chairperson of the board. An elected board member may serve</p>	<p>¶539.005. <u>In regards to ¶¶ 539.4, the following additional regulations shall be implemented for <i>Membership</i>-[635.1] 1.</u> The board membership shall include women and ethnic persons, at least one ordained clergyperson in the retired relationship, at least one ordained clergyperson in extension ministry, and when possible at least one young adult clergyperson in full connection age 35 or younger, and a district superintendent named by the bishop to represent the cabinet.</p> <p><u>2.</u> No district superintendent or extended cabinet member shall be the chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry. Two-thirds of the members who are elders shall be graduates of seminaries listed by the University Senate.</p> <p>[635.1] <u>3.</u> <i>When</i> possible, at least two associate members or local pastors who have completed the Course of Study shall be included as members of the board with voice and vote. <u>Lay members of the board</u> may include diaconal ministers, and <u>the board</u> may at its discretion elect further lay members, up to one-third of the membership of the board.</p> <p>[635.1a] <u>4.</u>a <u>The executive committee or a committee elected by the board of the previous quadrennium, and the cabinet may be consulted by the bishop in board members' nomination.</u> To ensure adequate board membership, consultation shall include an evaluation of the workload of the board in meeting disciplinary and annual conference responsibilities. Vacancies shall be filled by the bishop after</p>	

<p>a maximum of three consecutive four-year terms.</p> <p>GBOD ¶539.005 = 635.1</p>	<p>consultation with the chairperson of the board. An elected board member may serve a maximum of three consecutive four-year terms.</p>	
<p>¶551.001. In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Purpose</i> – Each district of an annual conference may organize to develop, administer, and evaluate the missional life, advocacy needs, and ministries of the Church in and through the district. It shall maintain connectional relationships, organize to develop and strengthen ethnic ministries, including ethnic local churches and concerns, and provide encouragement, coordination, and support for local churches in their ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness in accordance with the mission of The United Methodist Church.</p> <p>GBOD ¶551.001 = 661</p>	<p>[661] ¶551.001. <u>In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Purpose</i> – Each district of an annual conference may organize to develop, administer, and evaluate the missional life, advocacy needs, and ministries of the Church in and through the district. It shall maintain connectional relationships, organize to develop and strengthen ethnic ministries, including ethnic local churches and concerns, and provide encouragement, coordination, and support for local churches in their ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness in accordance with the mission of The United Methodist Church.</u></p>	
<p>¶551.002. In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Powers and Duties</i> – 1. There shall be a district committee on ordained ministry (see ¶¶ 551.006.1).</p> <p>2. There shall be a committee on district superintendency (see ¶¶ 551.006.2).</p> <p>3. Every board, standing committee, commission, council, and work area of the district shall designate one of its members as its coordinator of witness ministries. These persons shall help the groups of which they are members to engage in witness ministries and, in particular, to ask, “How are we intentionally reaching new people for Jesus Christ through our ministries?” and “How are we helping new people grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ through our ministries and areas of responsibility?”</p> <p>4. The district conference shall issue certificates of candidacy for the ordained ministry on recommendation of the</p>	<p>¶551.002. <u>In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Powers and Duties</i> –</u>[666] 1. There shall be a district committee on ordained ministry (see ¶¶ 551.006.1).</p> <p>[669] 2. <i>Committee on District Superintendency</i>–There shall be a committee on district superintendency (see ¶¶ 551.006.2).</p> <p>[661 second part] 3. Every board, standing committee, commission, council, and work area of the district shall designate one of its members as its coordinator of witness ministries. These persons shall help the groups of which they are members to engage in witness ministries and, in particular, to ask, “How are we intentionally reaching new people for Jesus Christ through our ministries?” and “How are we helping new people grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ through our ministries and areas of responsibility?”</p> <p>[659.3+5] 4.3. The district conference shall issue</p>	

<p>district committee on ordained ministry and shall consider for approval the reports of this committee.</p> <p>5. If any district or conference initiates, joins, monitors, or terminates a boycott, the guidelines in <i>The Book of Resolutions</i>, 2008, should be followed. The General Conference is the only body that can initiate, empower, or join a boycott in the name of The United Methodist Church.</p> <p>GBOD ¶551.002 = 659.3+5, 661, 669</p>	<p>certificates of candidacy for the ordained ministry on recommendation of the district committee on ordained ministry and shall consider for approval the reports of this committee.</p> <p>5. If any district or conference initiates, joins, monitors, or terminates a boycott, the guidelines in <i>The Book of Resolutions</i>, 2008, should be followed. The General Conference is the only body that can initiate, empower, or join a boycott in the name of The United Methodist Church.</p>	
<p>¶551.003. In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Membership</i> – 1. A district conference shall be composed of members as determined and specified by the annual conference, giving attention to inclusiveness (see ¶¶ 124, 140).</p> <p>GBOD ¶551.003 = 659.1</p>	<p><u>¶551.003.</u> <u>In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Membership</i> –</u>[659.1] 1. A district conference shall be composed of members as determined and specified by the annual conference, giving attention to inclusiveness (see ¶¶ 124, 140).</p>	
<p>¶551.004. In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Conference Session</i> – 1. A district conference shall be held if directed by the annual conference of which it is a part and may be held upon the call of the district superintendent, which call shall specify the time and place.</p> <p>2. Upon approval of the annual conference, the term <i>subdistrict</i> may be used in the references to district in ¶¶ 551.001-551.007.</p> <p>3. The district conference may choose its own order of business. The secretary duly elected shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings and submit it to the annual conference for examination.</p> <p>4. The district lay leader is the elected leader of the district laity and shall be a professing member of a local church. The district lay leader shall provide for the training of local church</p>	<p><u>¶551.004.</u> <u>In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Conference Session</i> –</u>[658] <u>1.</u> A district conference shall be held if directed by the annual conference of which it is a part and may be held upon the call of the district superintendent, which call shall specify the time and place.</p> <p>[658 Intro] <u>2.</u> Upon approval of the annual conference, the term <i>subdistrict</i> may be used in the references to district in ¶¶ 658- ¶¶<u>551.001-551.007.</u></p> <p>[659.2] <u>23.</u> The district conference may choose its own order of business. The secretary duly elected shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings and submit it to the annual conference for examination.</p> <p>[660.1-10] <u>4.</u> The district lay leader is the elected leader of the district laity and shall be a professing member of a local church. The district lay leader shall provide for the training of</p>	

lay leaders for their ministries in the local churches in relation to ¶ 231. The district lay leader shall have responsibility for fostering awareness of the role of the laity both within congregations and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church, and supporting and enabling lay participation in the planning and decision-making processes of the district and the local churches in cooperation with the district superintendent and pastors.

a) The district lay leader shall be elected as determined by the annual conference for a term of not less than four years. The method of nomination and the maximum term of office shall be determined by the annual conference.

There may be one or more associate district lay leader(s) within a district. The associate district lay leader(s) shall be elected as determined by the annual conference. The method of nomination and the maximum term of office shall be determined by the annual conference. The district lay leader and the associate district lay leader(s) may be reimbursed for their approved expenses.

b) The district lay leader will meet regularly with the district superintendent to discuss the state of the district, the Church, and the needs for ministry both locally and globally.

c) The district lay leader is a member of annual conference (see ¶ 32).

d) The district lay leader shall be a member of the conference board of laity or equivalent structure.

e) The district lay leader shall work with the District Superintendent to ensure that there is a district director of Lay Servant Ministries and shall serve on the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries.

f) The district lay leader is a member of the district conference and shall be a member of the district council on ministries or alternative structure and its executive committee. The district lay leader shall also be a member of the committee on district superintendency of the district.

local church lay leaders for their ministries in the local churches in relation to ¶ ~~249~~ 231. The district lay leader shall have responsibility for fostering awareness of the role of the laity both within congregations and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church, and supporting and enabling lay participation in the planning and decision-making processes of the district and the local churches in cooperation with the district superintendent and pastors.

~~*a)2.*~~ The district lay leader shall be elected as determined by the annual conference for a term of not less than four years. The method of nomination and the maximum term of office shall be determined by the annual conference.

There may be one or more associate district lay leader(s) within a district. The associate district lay leader(s) shall be elected as determined by the annual conference. The method of nomination and the maximum term of office shall be determined by the annual conference. The district lay leader and the associate district lay leader(s) may be reimbursed for their approved expenses.

~~*b)3.*~~ The district lay leader will meet regularly with the district superintendent to discuss the state of the district, the Church, and the needs for ministry both locally and globally.

~~*c)4.*~~ The district lay leader is a member of annual conference (see ¶ 32).

~~*d)5.*~~ The district lay leader shall be a member of the conference board of laity or equivalent structure.

~~*e)6.*~~ The district lay leader shall work with the District Superintendent to ensure that there is a district director of Lay Servant Ministries and shall serve on the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries.

~~*f)7.*~~ The district lay leader is a member of the district conference and shall be a member of the district council on ministries or alternative structure and its executive committee. The district lay leader shall also be a member of the committee on district superintendency of the district.

<p>g) The district lay leader may serve as a lay member of the district committee on ordained ministry (or equivalent agency) and the district board of church location and building (or equivalent agency).</p> <p>h) The district lay leader shall relate to the organized lay groups in the district such as United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, and United Methodist Youth and support their work and their activities.</p> <p>i) The district lay leader may designate persons to serve as proxy in any of the above groups except the annual conference, the district conference, district council on ministries, and the district council on ministries executive committee, district committee on ordained ministry, and the district board of church location and building.</p> <p>GBOD ¶551.004 = 658, 659.2, 660.1-10</p>	<p>g)8. The district lay leader may serve as a lay member of the district committee on ordained ministry (or equivalent agency) and the district board of church location and building (or equivalent agency).</p> <p>h)9. The district lay leader shall relate to the organized lay groups in the district such as United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, and United Methodist Youth and support their work and their activities.</p> <p>i)40. The district lay leader may designate persons to serve as proxy in any of the above groups except the annual conference, the district conference, district council on ministries, and the district council on ministries executive committee, district committee on ordained ministry, and the district board of church location and building.</p>	
<p>¶551.006. In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>District Units</i> – 1. <i>Committee on Ordained Ministry</i> – There shall be a district committee on ordained ministry.</p> <p>a) The district committee on ordained ministry shall be amenable to the annual conference through the Board of Ordained Ministry. All members shall be nominated annually by the district superintendent in consultation with the chairperson or executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry and approved by the annual conference. Interim vacancies shall be filled by the district superintendent. The committee shall be composed of at least three professing members of local churches, a representative from the Board of Ordained Ministry who may be named chairperson; the district superintendent, who shall not be the chairperson, and at least six other clergy in the district. The clergy shall include elders and deacons, and where possible, women and ethnic clergy, a deacon or elder who is age 35 or younger, an associate member,</p>	<p><u>¶551.006.</u> <u>In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>District Units</i> –[666] 1. <i>Committee on Ordained Ministry</i> –</u> There shall be a district committee on ordained ministry.</p> <p>a)4. The district committee on ordained ministry shall be amenable to the annual conference through the Board of Ordained Ministry. All members shall be nominated annually by the district superintendent in consultation with the chairperson or executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry and approved by the annual conference. Interim vacancies shall be filled by the district superintendent. The committee shall be composed of at least three professing members of local churches, a representative from the Board of Ordained Ministry who may be named chairperson; the district superintendent, who shall not be the chairperson, and at least six other clergy in the district. The clergy shall include elders and deacons, and where possible, women and ethnic clergy, a deacon or elder who is age 35 or younger, an associate member,</p>	

and may include one local pastor who has completed the Course of Study. All persons named to the district committee on ordained ministry shall be members with vote. The conference Board of Ordained Ministry shall provide orientation for new members, including education regarding the ministry and roles of all clergy and distribution of any available written guidelines.

b) The district committee on ordained ministry shall elect its officers at the first meeting following the annual conference session when the members are elected.

c) The committee shall maintain a list of all persons who have declared their candidacy for the ordained ministry and are pursuing candidacy studies with a candidacy mentor. A duplicate list shall be forwarded to the annual conference registrar for candidacy; such list being made current at least prior to each session of the annual conference.

d) The committee, through the Board of Ordained Ministry, shall seek ways to make reasonable accommodations for cultural and ethnic/racial realities and language translations as candidates meet the requirements for candidacy, including interviews, psychological assessments, criminal background, and credit checks.

e) The committee shall offer counsel to candidates regarding pre-theological studies.

f) The committee shall supervise all matters dealing with candidacy for the ordained ministry and with the license for local pastor.

g) The vote of the committee on matters of candidacy shall be by individual written ballot of the committee present. A three-fourths majority vote is required for certification. All other matters of candidacy shall be by a simple majority vote.⁴⁵

h) The committee shall maintain a service record and file on every local pastor and candidate for the ordained ministry until the individual becomes an associate or provisional member of the annual conference, at which time a copy of the files shall be forwarded to the registrar of the Board of

and may include one local pastor who has completed the Course of Study. All persons named to the district committee on ordained ministry shall be members with vote. The conference Board of Ordained Ministry shall provide orientation for new members, including education regarding the ministry and roles of all clergy and distribution of any available written guidelines.

~~*b)2.*~~ The district committee on ordained ministry shall elect its officers at the first meeting following the annual conference session when the members are elected.

~~*c)3.*~~ The committee shall maintain a list of all persons who have declared their candidacy for the ordained ministry and are pursuing candidacy studies with a candidacy mentor. A duplicate list shall be forwarded to the annual conference registrar for candidacy; such list being made current at least prior to each session of the annual conference.

~~*d)4.*~~ The committee, through the Board of Ordained Ministry, shall seek ways to make reasonable accommodations for cultural and ethnic/racial realities and language translations as candidates meet the requirements for candidacy, including interviews, psychological assessments, criminal background, and credit checks.

~~*e)5.*~~ The committee shall offer counsel to candidates regarding pre-theological studies.

~~*f)6.*~~ The committee shall supervise all matters dealing with candidacy for the ordained ministry and with the license for local pastor.

~~*g)7.*~~ The vote of the committee on matters of candidacy shall be by individual written ballot of the committee present. A three-fourths majority vote is required for certification. All other matters of candidacy shall be by a simple majority vote.⁴⁵

~~*h)8.*~~ The committee shall maintain a service record and file on every local pastor and candidate for the ordained ministry until the individual becomes an associate or provisional member of the annual conference, at which time a copy of the files shall be forwarded to the registrar of the Board of

Ordained Ministry. The records and files of the committee are kept on behalf of the annual conference and shall be maintained under guidelines provided by the General Council on Finance and Administration in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

i) The committee shall recommend to the Board of Ordained Ministry those persons who qualify for associate and provisional membership, for license or continuance as local pastors, and for restoration of credentials. All persons shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church or a baptized participant of a recognized United Methodist campus ministry or other United Methodist ministry setting for a minimum of one (1) year.

j) The committee shall examine all persons who apply in writing for certification or renewal of certificate. Where there is evidence that their gifts, evidence of God's grace, and usefulness warrant and that they are qualified under ¶¶ 309-310, and on recommendation of their charge conference or the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, the committee shall issue or renew their certificate.

k) The committee shall examine all persons who apply in writing to be certified as lay ministers. When there is evidence that their gifts, evidence of God's grace and usefulness, warrant and that they are qualified under ¶213.003, and on recommendation of their charge conference, the committee shall recommend their certification or recertification. The district committee shall report annually to the annual conference through the annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry a roster of all persons certified as lay ministers.

l) All persons interviewed by the district committee shall be informed of decisions and recommendations as soon as possible, both orally and in writing.

m) The committee shall assist the conference Board of Ordained Ministry in providing support services for all clergy under appointment within the district.

Ordained Ministry. The records and files of the committee are kept on behalf of the annual conference and shall be maintained under guidelines provided by the General Council on Finance and Administration in consultation with the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits.

~~*i)9.*~~ The committee shall recommend to the Board of Ordained Ministry those persons who qualify for associate and provisional membership, for license or continuance as local pastors, and for restoration of credentials. All persons shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church or a baptized participant of a recognized United Methodist campus ministry or other United Methodist ministry setting for a minimum of one (1) year.

~~*j)10.*~~ The committee shall examine all persons who apply in writing for certification or renewal of certificate. Where there is evidence that their gifts, evidence of God's grace, and usefulness warrant and that they are qualified under ¶¶ ~~315-319~~ 309-310, and on recommendation of their charge conference or the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, the committee shall issue or renew their certificate.

~~*k)11.*~~ The committee shall examine all persons who apply in writing to be certified as lay ministers. When there is evidence that their gifts, evidence of God's grace and usefulness, warrant and that they are qualified under ¶~~268~~ 213.003, and on recommendation of their charge conference, the committee shall recommend their certification or recertification. The district committee shall report annually to the annual conference through the annual conference Board of Ordained Ministry a roster of all persons certified as lay ministers.

~~*l)12.*~~ All persons interviewed by the district committee shall be informed of decisions and recommendations as soon as possible, both orally and in writing.

~~*m)13.*~~ The committee shall assist the conference Board of Ordained Ministry in providing support services for all clergy

2. *Committee on District Superintendency*-There shall be a committee on district superintendency.

a) *Membership*-This committee shall be composed of eleven members, including the district lay leader, and two persons appointed by the district superintendent. It is recommended that the remaining members of the committee consist of two laywomen, two laymen, two clergy, and two at-large members, all of whom should be selected with special attention to the representation of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§ 233.004), young adults, older adults, and people with disabilities. At least three of the eleven persons shall be clergy, and seven shall be laypersons. All laypersons shall be professing members of a local church.

b) *Selection*-The members shall be selected in such manner as may be determined by the district conference or, where there is no district conference, by the annual conference. The district committee shall be authorized to co-opt members as advisory members who have expertise in areas of special need. The bishop of the area, or his or her authorized representative, shall be an ex officio member of said committee.

c) *Meeting*-The district committee shall meet at least annually and upon call of the district superintendent and/or the chairperson of the committee. The committee shall elect a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary.

d) *Purpose*-The purpose of the committee on district superintendency shall be to support the district superintendent of the district in the oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church, with special reference to the district where the superintendent has responsibilities. In fulfilling this purpose, the committee shall give attention to the following responsibilities:

(1) To advocate for adequate budget-support services for the district superintendent, such as adequate secretarial support, travel, continuing education, and parsonage needs (§ 538.003.2).

(2) To be available for counsel.

under appointment within the district.

[669] 2. *Committee on District Superintendency*-There shall be a committee on district superintendency.

~~a)1.~~ *Membership*-This committee shall be composed of eleven members, including the district lay leader, and two persons appointed by the district superintendent. It is recommended that the remaining members of the committee consist of two laywomen, two laymen, two clergy, and two at-large members, all of whom should be selected with special attention to the representation of racial and ethnic persons, youth (§ ~~256.3~~ 233.004), young adults, older adults, and people with disabilities. At least three of the eleven persons shall be clergy, and seven shall be laypersons. All laypersons shall be professing members of a local church.

~~b)2.~~ *Selection*-The members shall be selected in such manner as may be determined by the district conference or, where there is no district conference, by the annual conference. The district committee shall be authorized to co-opt members as advisory members who have expertise in areas of special need. The bishop of the area, or his or her authorized representative, shall be an ex officio member of said committee.

~~c)3.~~ *Meeting*-The district committee shall meet at least annually and upon call of the district superintendent and/or the chairperson of the committee. The committee shall elect a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary.

~~d)4.~~ *Purpose*-The purpose of the committee on district superintendency shall be to support the district superintendent of the district in the oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church, with special reference to the district where the superintendent has responsibilities. In fulfilling this purpose, the committee shall give attention to the following responsibilities:

~~(1)a)~~ To advocate for adequate budget-support services for the district superintendent, such as adequate secretarial support, travel, continuing education, and parsonage needs (§

(3) To keep the district superintendent advised concerning conditions within the district as they affect relations among the district superintendent, the laity, the clergy, and the district agencies.

(4) To establish a clearly understood process for observing the district superintendent's ministry with direct evaluation and feedback, with special concern for the inclusiveness of the Church and its ministry with respect to sex, race, and national origin, and implementation of the consultative process in appointment-making.

(5) To consult with the district superintendent concerning continuing education and to arrange with the cabinet and bishop for the necessary time and financial assistance for the attendance of the district superintendent at such continuing education events as may serve his or her professional and spiritual growth.

(6) To interpret to the people of the district and to the district boards and agencies the nature and function of the district superintendency.

e) Consultation-The district committee and the district superintendent shall engage in an annual consultation and appraisal of the work of the district superintendent in the district and shall serve in an advisory relationship with the bishop of the area.

3. *Church and Society* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the conference board, may appoint a district director of church and society. Also, if desirable, a district may create a committee on church and society of laypersons and clergy, to work with the district superintendent to further the purposes of the conference board. The mission coordinator for social action of the district United Methodist Women shall be an ex officio member.

4. *Ethnic Local Church* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the annual conference ethnic local church concerns committee, may appoint a district director of ethnic local church concerns. This director would become a member

~~614.1.a~~ 538.003.2).

~~(2)b)~~ To be available for counsel.

~~(3)e)~~ To keep the district superintendent advised concerning conditions within the district as they affect relations among the district superintendent, the laity, the clergy, and the district agencies.

~~(4)d)~~ To establish a clearly understood process for observing the district superintendent's ministry with direct evaluation and feedback, with special concern for the inclusiveness of the Church and its ministry with respect to sex, race, and national origin, and implementation of the consultative process in appointment-making.

~~(5)e)~~ To consult with the district superintendent concerning continuing education and to arrange with the cabinet and bishop for the necessary time and financial assistance for the attendance of the district superintendent at such continuing education events as may serve his or her professional and spiritual growth.

~~(6)f)~~ To interpret to the people of the district and to the district boards and agencies the nature and function of the district superintendency.

~~e)5.~~ *Consultation*-The district committee and the district superintendent shall engage in an annual consultation and appraisal of the work of the district superintendent in the district and shall serve in an advisory relationship with the bishop of the area.

[662] 3. *Church and Society* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the conference board, may appoint a district director of church and society. Also, if desirable, a district may create a committee on church and society of laypersons and clergy, to work with the district superintendent to further the purposes of the conference board. The mission coordinator for social action of the district United Methodist Women shall be an ex officio member.

[663] 4. *Ethnic Local Church* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the annual conference ethnic local

of the district council on ministries or its structural counterpart. A district may establish a committee on ethnic local church concerns comprised of laypersons and clergy to work with the district superintendent to implement the annual conference's comprehensive plan as it relates to that district and to further the purposes of the annual conference committee.

5. *Religion and Race* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the annual conference commission on religion and race, may appoint a district director of religion and race. A district may establish a committee on religion and race to work with the district superintendent to further the purposes of the annual conference commission in the district. The district director, if appointed, shall be a member of the annual conference commission on religion and race. (See ¶ 536.015.2)

6. *Young Adult Ministries* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the conference council on young-adult ministries or equivalent structure, if available, may appoint a district coordinator of young-adult ministries. This coordinator would become a member of the district committee on ministries or its structural counterpart. Also, if desirable, a district may create a committee on young-adult ministries to work with the district superintendent to further the purposes of increasing young adult participation in local churches. The district coordinator, if appointed, shall be a member of the annual conference council on young-adult ministries or equivalent structure.

7. *Board of Laity* – Each district of an annual conference may organize a district board of laity or alternative structure.

a) The purpose of the district board of laity shall be:

(1) To foster an awareness of the role of laity both within the local congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church.

(2) To work with the district lay leader in: (1) developing and promoting an increased role for laity in the life of the local church, (2) increasing the participation of laity in

church concerns committee, may appoint a district director of ethnic local church concerns. This director would become a member of the district council on ministries or its structural counterpart. A district may establish a committee on ethnic local church concerns comprised of laypersons and clergy to work with the district superintendent to implement the annual conference's comprehensive plan as it relates to that district and to further the purposes of the annual conference committee.

[664] *5. Religion and Race* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the annual conference commission on religion and race, may appoint a district director of religion and race. A district may establish a committee on religion and race to work with the district superintendent to further the purposes of the annual conference commission in the district. The district director, if appointed, shall be a member of the annual conference commission on religion and race. (See ¶ ~~643.2~~ 536.015.2)

[665] *6. Young Adult Ministries* – The district superintendent, after consultation with the conference council on young-adult ministries or equivalent structure, if available, may appoint a district coordinator of young-adult ministries. This coordinator would become a member of the district committee on ministries or its structural counterpart. Also, if desirable, a district may create a committee on young-adult ministries to work with the district superintendent to further the purposes of increasing young adult participation in local churches. The district coordinator, if appointed, shall be a member of the annual conference council on young-adult ministries or equivalent structure.

[667] *7. Board of Laity* – Each district of an annual conference may organize a district board of laity or alternative structure.

~~a)†~~ The purpose of the district board of laity shall be:

~~(1)†~~ To foster an awareness of the role of laity both within the local congregation and through their ministries in

the sessions and programs of the district and local churches in cooperation with the district superintendent and pastors, and (3) encouraging laypersons to participate in the general ministry of the Church in the world. (See ¶ 551.001)

(3) To develop and promote stewardship of time, talent, and possessions within the district in cooperation with the district council on ministries.

b) The membership of the board shall include the district lay leader, associate district lay leader(s), district director of Lay Servant Ministries, and may include the district superintendent, district president of United Methodist Women, district president of United Methodist Men, district president of United Methodist Youth, district president of United Methodist Young Adults, and, where organized, the district president of the Older Adult Council, and others as deemed necessary. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women, men, youth, young adults, and older adults; people with disabilities; and racial and ethnic group persons.

c) The district lay leader shall chair the board. Other officers shall be elected as the board shall deem necessary.

d) The board shall relate to the lay servant program and to the organized groups in the district such as the United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Youth, and United Methodist Young Adults and shall support their work and help them coordinate their activities.

8. *Committee on Lay Servant Ministries*-Districts are encouraged to create a district committee on Lay Servant Ministries related to the annual conference through the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries. There shall be a district director of Lay Servant Ministries filled in a manner determined by the district. This position shall be filled by a certified lay servant.

a) The purpose of the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries is to plan and supervise the program within the district.

b) The committee is chaired by the district director of Lay

the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church.

~~(2)b)~~ To work with the district lay leader in: (1) developing and promoting an increased role for laity in the life of the local church, (2) increasing the participation of laity in the sessions and programs of the district and local churches in cooperation with the district superintendent and pastors, and (3) encouraging laypersons to participate in the general ministry of the Church in the world. (See ¶ ~~661-551.001~~)

~~(3)e)~~ To develop and promote stewardship of time, talent, and possessions within the district in cooperation with the district council on ministries.

~~b)2.~~ The membership of the board shall include the district lay leader, associate district lay leader(s), district director of Lay Servant Ministries, and may include the district superintendent, district president of United Methodist Women, district president of United Methodist Men, district president of United Methodist Youth, district president of United Methodist Young Adults, and, where organized, the district president of the Older Adult Council, and others as deemed necessary. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women, men, youth, young adults, and older adults; people with disabilities; and racial and ethnic group persons.

~~c)3.~~ The district lay leader shall chair the board. Other officers shall be elected as the board shall deem necessary.

~~d)4.~~ The board shall relate to the lay servant program and to the organized groups in the district such as the United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Youth, and United Methodist Young Adults and shall support their work and help them coordinate their activities.

[668] ~~8. District-Committee on Lay Servant Ministries~~-Districts are encouraged to create a district committee on Lay Servant Ministries related to the annual conference through the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries. There shall be a district director of Lay Servant Ministries filled in a manner determined by the district. This position shall be filled

Servant Ministries. In addition to the director, membership of the committee will include the district lay leader, the district superintendent, and an instructor of lay servant courses. Other resource people may be added as needed.

c) The responsibilities of a district committee on Lay Servant Ministries are to provide basic training for local church lay servants and advanced courses for certified lay servants as recommended by the General Board of Discipleship, or as approved by the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries; to decide who will be recognized as certified lay servants; to help match lay servants and certified lay ministers with service opportunities; and to support and affirm lay servants and certified lay ministers as they serve.

d) The district committee shall plan advanced courses for lay servants that will enable certified lay servants to maintain that recognition.

e) The district committee will report to the pastor and charge conference of each certified lay servant the courses that have been satisfactorily completed by the certified lay servant.

9. *United Methodist Women-Constitution of United Methodist Women in the District-Article 1. Name*-In each district there shall be a district organization named United Methodist Women, auxiliary to the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 2. Responsibilities-The responsibilities of the district organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with United Methodist Women members and local organizations of United Methodist Women existing within the district to develop programs to meet the needs and interests of women and the concerns and responsibilities of the global Church; to encourage and support spiritual growth, missionary outreach, and Christian social action; and to promote the plans and responsibilities of the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 3. Authority-Each district organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in

by a certified lay servant.

~~a)1.~~ The purpose of the district committee on Lay Servant Ministries is to plan and supervise the program within the district.

~~b)2.~~ The committee is chaired by the district director of Lay Servant Ministries. In addition to the director, membership of the committee will include the district lay leader, the district superintendent, and an instructor of lay servant courses. Other resource people may be added as needed.

~~c)3.~~ The responsibilities of a district committee on Lay Servant Ministries are to provide basic training for local church lay servants and advanced courses for certified lay servants as recommended by the General Board of Discipleship, or as approved by the conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries; to decide who will be recognized as certified lay servants; to help match lay servants and certified lay ministers with service opportunities; and to support and affirm lay servants and certified lay ministers as they serve.

~~d)4.~~ The district committee shall plan advanced courses for lay servants that will enable certified lay servants to maintain that recognition.

~~e)5.~~ The district committee will report to the pastor and charge conference of each certified lay servant the courses that have been satisfactorily completed by the certified lay servant.

[670] 9. *United Methodist Women-Constitution of United Methodist Women in the District-Article 1. Name*-In each district there shall be a district organization named United Methodist Women, auxiliary to the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 2. Responsibilities-The responsibilities of the district organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with United Methodist Women members and local organizations of United Methodist Women existing within the district to develop programs to meet the needs and interests of women and the concerns and responsibilities of the global Church; to encourage and support spiritual growth, missionary

accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 4. Membership-The district organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of members of United Methodist Women existing within the district. The district superintendent shall be an ex officio member of the district organization of United Methodist Women and of its leadership team or equivalent structure.

Article 5. Leadership Team-The district organization shall elect as its leaders those persons who are needed to help the organization to fulfill the Purpose, including at least a president, a treasurer, a secretary, and a Committee on Nominations. Additional committees or teams may be formed to fulfill the Purpose in accordance with this constitution and guidance from the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 6. Meetings and Elections-There shall be an annual meeting of the district organization of United Methodist Women to adopt a program designed to meet the needs of the women of the district in harmony with the Purpose, the plans and responsibilities of the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women, to elect members of the Leadership team and the Committee on Nominations, to transact the necessary business, and to receive pledges made for the ensuing year.

Article 7. Relationships-a) The district organization of United Methodist Women shall designate members to serve on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the district and/or the annual conference as the constitution and bylaws of such agencies provide.

b) The district president shall be a member with vote of the conference Leadership Team.

c) The district organization shall encourage women to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and

outreach, and Christian social action; and to promote the plans and responsibilities of the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 3. Authority-Each district organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 4. Membership-The district organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of members of United Methodist Women existing within the district. The district superintendent shall be an ex officio member of the district organization of United Methodist Women and of its leadership team or equivalent structure.

Article 5. Leadership Team-The district organization shall elect as its leaders those persons who are needed to help the organization to fulfill the Purpose, including at least a president, a treasurer, a secretary, and a Committee on Nominations. Additional committees or teams may be formed to fulfill the Purpose in accordance with this constitution and guidance from the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women.

Article 6. Meetings and Elections-There shall be an annual meeting of the district organization of United Methodist Women to adopt a program designed to meet the needs of the women of the district in harmony with the Purpose, the plans and responsibilities of the conference and national organizations of United Methodist Women, to elect members of the Leadership team and the Committee on Nominations, to transact the necessary business, and to receive pledges made for the ensuing year.

Article 7. Relationships-a) The district organization of United Methodist Women shall designate members to serve on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the district and/or the annual conference as the constitution and bylaws of such agencies provide.

leadership.

Article 8. *Amendments*-Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the United Methodist Women's national organization for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.

10. *United Methodist Men-Constitution of United Methodist Men in the District-Article 1. Name*-In each district there shall be a district organization named United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the conference organization of United Methodist Men and the General Commission on United Methodist Men (BOD¶ 2301).

Article 2. Responsibilities-The responsibilities of the district organization of United Methodist Men shall be to work with local units of United Methodist Men in developing resources to meet the needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal witness and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to encourage and support spiritual growth and faith development; and to promote the objectives and responsibilities of the conference organization and the General Commission on United Methodist Men. The district organization shall also encourage and promote the chartering and annual recertification of local units through the General Commission on United Methodist Men (BOD¶¶ 2302 and 256.6).

Article 3. Authority-Each district organization of United Methodist Men shall have the authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference organization and the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

Article 4. Membership-All men and clergy of local churches or charges (chartered and unchartered) of the district

b) The district president shall be a member with vote of the conference Leadership Team.

c) The district organization shall encourage women to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.

Article 8. *Amendments*-Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the United Methodist Women's national organization for consideration by the board of directors. The last date for consideration of any amendments will be the last regular meeting of the board of directors before the date by which it must submit proposed legislation for action of the General Conference.

[671] 10. *United Methodist Men-Constitution of United Methodist Men in the District-Article 1. Name*-In each district there shall be a district organization named United Methodist Men, auxiliary to the conference organization of United Methodist Men and the General Commission on United Methodist Men (BOD¶ 2301).

Article 2. Responsibilities-The responsibilities of the district organization of United Methodist Men shall be to work with local units of United Methodist Men in developing resources to meet the needs and interests of men and the responsibilities of discipleship; to empower personal witness and evangelism; to enable outreach in individual and group mission and ministry; to encourage and support spiritual growth and faith development; and to promote the objectives and responsibilities of the conference organization and the General Commission on United Methodist Men. The district organization shall also encourage and promote the chartering and annual recertification of local units through the General Commission on United Methodist Men BOD(¶¶ 2302 and 256.6).

Article 3. Authority-Each district organization of United Methodist Men shall have the authority to promote its work in

shall be considered members of the district organization.

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

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

c) The district superintendent shall be a member of the district organization and of its executive committee.

d) The district lay leader (or designated representative) shall be a member of the district organization and of its executive committee.

*Article 6. Meetings and Elections-*There shall be an annual meeting of the district organization of United Methodist Men, at which time there shall be presented an annual report as well as a program plan designed to meet the needs of the men of the district. Officers and committees shall be elected in accordance with the requirements of the organization's bylaws.

Article 7. Relationships-a) Designated officers or members shall represent the district organization of United Methodist Men on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the district as the constitutions, bylaws and rules of such agencies provide.

b) The district president shall be a member of the conference executive committee.

c) The district organization shall encourage men to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall encourage them to assume positions of leadership as part of their discipleship.

*Article 8. Finances-*The District United Methodist Men shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. All funds from whatever source secured by the District United Methodist Men belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and/or by-laws and by its

accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference organization and the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

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

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

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

c) The district superintendent shall be a member of the district organization and of its executive committee.

d) The district lay leader (or designated representative) shall be a member of the district organization and of its executive committee.

*Article 6. Meetings and Elections-*There shall be an annual meeting of the district organization of United Methodist Men, at which time there shall be presented an annual report as well as a program plan designed to meet the needs of the men of the district. Officers and committees shall be elected in accordance with the requirements of the organization's bylaws.

Article 7. Relationships-a) Designated officers or members shall represent the district organization of United Methodist Men on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the district as the constitutions, bylaws and rules of such agencies provide.

b) The district president shall be a member of the conference executive committee.

c) The district organization shall encourage men to participate in the total life and work of the Church and shall encourage them to assume positions of leadership as part of their discipleship.

order.

a) District United Methodist Men may have their own bank accounts.

b) It is recommended that there be an annual financial audit.

Article 9. Amendments-Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the General Commission on United Methodist Men prior to the last annual meeting of the commission in the third year of the quadrennium.

Article 10. Connectional Reporting-a) Each district shall file a current copy of their constitution with the conference organization of United Methodist Men.

b) Each district shall submit an annual report to the conference organization of United Methodist Men prior to its annual meeting.

11. *Council on Youth Ministries* –Each district of an annual conference may organize a district council on youth ministry.

a) *Purpose*-The purpose of the district council on youth ministry is defined as follows: to assist local churches in ministry for, with, and by junior high and senior high youth more effectively; to serve as a channel of communication and involvement among the youth ministry in the local churches, the conference council on youth ministry, and the general agencies of the Church; to initiate youth programs for the district to influence the total programming of the district and conference as it relates to the concerns and needs of youth; and to take primary responsibility for promoting and raising money for the Youth Service Fund.

b) *Membership*-Each district may determine the membership and the method of election of its district council on youth ministry in consultation with the conference council on youth ministry. It is recommended that the membership include the following: (1) no more than one-third of the membership shall be adults; (2) an equal number of persons

Article 8. Finances-The District United Methodist Men shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose. All funds from whatever source secured by the District United Methodist Men belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and/or by-laws and by its order.

a) District United Methodist Men may have their own bank accounts.

b) It is recommended that there be an annual financial audit.

Article 9. Amendments-Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the General Commission on United Methodist Men prior to the last annual meeting of the commission in the third year of the quadrennium.

Article 10. Connectional Reporting-a) Each district shall file a current copy of their constitution with the conference organization of United Methodist Men.

b) Each district shall submit an annual report to the conference organization of United Methodist Men prior to its annual meeting.

[672] 11. *Council on Youth Ministries* –Each district of an annual conference may organize a district council on youth ministry.

~~a) Purpose~~-The purpose of the district council on youth ministry is defined as follows: to assist local churches in ministry for, with, and by junior high and senior high youth more effectively; to serve as a channel of communication and involvement among the youth ministry in the local churches, the conference council on youth ministry, and the general agencies of the Church; to initiate youth programs for the district to influence the total programming of the district and conference as it relates to the concerns and needs of youth; and to take primary responsibility for promoting and raising money for the Youth Service Fund.

~~b) Membership~~-Each district may determine the

with respect to race, ethnicity, gender, and social status as defined by the annual conference or episcopal area; (3) the district youth coordinator, to be a member by virtue of his or her office; and (4) representatives on the conference council on youth ministry.

c) Functions-The functions of the district council on youth ministry may be determined by the annual conference council on youth ministry and/or the district council on youth ministry. The following functions may be incorporated in its work:

(1) To study the needs of the junior high and senior high youth ministry of the local churches in the district and help them establish and provide more effective ministry in and through the district.

(2) To keep local churches informed of the work of the whole Church in youth ministry and to challenge each church to full participation.

(3) To serve as a two-way channel of communications between the local church youth and the annual conference and to assist local church youth in communication with one another.

(4) To cooperate with the programming and ministry of the district council on ministries as it serves to provide leadership training to persons in the district.

(5) To assist in the implementation of the program of the annual conference and particularly of the annual conference council on youth ministry.

(6) To serve as an advocate for the free expression of youth in the district and local churches of the district.

(7) To provide leadership training.

(8) To promote, introduce and encourage youth in the district to become active in Wesley Foundations or United Methodist campus ministries when they attend a college or university and to become aware of opportunities to attend United Methodist-related colleges and universities.

(9) to cooperate with Wesley Foundations, United Methodist campus ministries and United Methodist-related

membership and the method of election of its district council on youth ministry in consultation with the conference council on youth ministry. It is recommended that the membership include the following: ~~(1)a~~) no more than one-third of the membership shall be adults; ~~(2)b~~) an equal number of persons with respect to race, ethnicity, gender, and social status as defined by the annual conference or episcopal area; ~~(3)e~~) the district youth coordinator, to be a member by virtue of his or her office; and ~~(4)d~~) representatives on the conference council on youth ministry.

~~c)3.~~ *Functions*-The functions of the district council on youth ministry may be determined by the annual conference council on youth ministry and/or the district council on youth ministry. The following functions may be incorporated in its work:

~~(1)a~~) To study the needs of the junior high and senior high youth ministry of the local churches in the district and help them establish and provide more effective ministry in and through the district.

~~(2)b~~) To keep local churches informed of the work of the whole Church in youth ministry and to challenge each church to full participation.

~~(3)e~~) To serve as a two-way channel of communications between the local church youth and the annual conference and to assist local church youth in communication with one another.

~~(4)d~~) To cooperate with the programming and ministry of the district council on ministries as it serves to provide leadership training to persons in the district.

~~(5)e~~) To assist in the implementation of the program of the annual conference and particularly of the annual conference council on youth ministry.

~~(6)f~~) To serve as an advocate for the free expression of youth in the district and local churches of the district.

~~(7)g~~) To provide leadership training.

~~(8)h~~) To promote, introduce and encourage youth in the

<p>colleges and universities to assist district youth in the transition to college life.</p> <p>(10) To promote, educate, and be a resource to local churches on Youth Service Fund.</p> <p>(11) To participate with the district superintendent and the conference coordinator of youth ministry, who shall serve as its advisor. The district council on youth ministry’s responsibilities shall include organizing, programming, consulting with local churches, and nurturing adult workers with youth in the district.</p> <p>GBOD ¶551.006 = 666, 669, 662, 663, 663, 664, 665, 667, 668, 670, 671 ,672</p> <p>⁴⁵ Judicial Council Decision 586</p>	<p>district to become active in Wesley Foundations or United Methodist campus ministries when they attend a college or university and to become aware of opportunities to attend United Methodist-related colleges and universities.</p> <p>(9) to cooperate with Wesley Foundations, United Methodist campus ministries and United Methodist-related colleges and universities to assist district youth in the transition to college life.</p> <p>(10) To promote, educate, and be a resource to local churches on Youth Service Fund.</p> <p>(11) To participate with the district superintendent and the conference coordinator of youth ministry, who shall serve as its advisor. The district council on youth ministry’s responsibilities shall include organizing, programming, consulting with local churches, and nurturing adult workers with youth in the district.</p> <p>⁴⁵ Judicial Council Decision 586</p>	
<p>¶551.007. In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Properties</i> – 1. The district conference may incorporate a district union, under the laws of the state in which it is located, to hold and administer district real and personal property, receive and administer church extension and mission funds for use within the district, and exercise such other powers and duties as may be set forth in its charter or articles of incorporation as authorized by the annual conference having jurisdiction over said district. If a district union is so incorporated, it shall also assume the power and duties of the district board of trustees (¶2513.007.2). All such district unions chartered or incorporated by districts of the churches that joined and united in adopting the Constitution of The United Methodist Church are declared to be disciplinary agencies of The United Methodist Church as though originally created and authorized by that Constitution and may act for or as a district</p>	<p>¶551.007. <u>In regards to District Conferences in ¶¶ 551, the following additional regulations shall be implemented concerning <i>Properties</i> –</u>[659.4] 41. The district conference may incorporate a district union, under the laws of the state in which it is located, to hold and administer district real and personal property, receive and administer church extension and mission funds for use within the district, and exercise such other powers and duties as may be set forth in its charter or articles of incorporation as authorized by the annual conference having jurisdiction over said district. If a district union is so incorporated, it shall also assume the power and duties of the district board of trustees (¶ <u>2513.007.2</u> 2518.2). All such district unions chartered or incorporated by districts of the churches that joined and united in adopting the Constitution of The United Methodist Church are declared to be disciplinary agencies of The United Methodist Church as though originally created and authorized by that Constitution and may act for or</p>	

<p>conference when convened for that purpose by the district superintendent, who shall be its executive secretary, or by its president or other executive officer.</p> <p>GBOD¶551.007 = 659.4</p>	<p>as a district conference when convened for that purpose by the district superintendent, who shall be its executive secretary, or by its president or other executive officer.</p>	
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