

THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE  
OF  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE  
BOOK OF DISCIPLINE  
OF THE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
*1972*

The Methodist Episcopal Church  
The Methodist Episcopal Church, South  
The Methodist Protestant Church  
The Methodist Church  
The Evangelical United Brethren Church

The United Methodist Publishing House  
Nashville, Tennessee

"The Book Editor, the Secretary of the General Conference, and the Publisher of The United Methodist Church shall be charged with editing the *Discipline*. The editors in the exercise of their judgment shall have the authority to make such changes in phraseology as may be necessary to harmonize legislation without changing its substance."

—*Plan of Organization and Rules of Order of the General Conference, 1972*

See Judicial Council Decision 96 which declares the *Discipline* to be a book of law.

Emory Stevens Bucke  
Book Editor of The United Methodist Church

J. Wesley Hole  
Secretary of the General Conference

John E. Procter  
Publisher of The United Methodist Church

Jon L. Setzer  
Assistant Editor

Copyright © 1973 The United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved.

ISBN 0-687-03708-5

Deluxe edition ISBN 0-687-03709-3

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## EPISCOPAL GREETINGS

The United Methodist Church is a connectional church. It is not simply an aggregate of congregational units. It has thousands of local churches scattered over the world, and numerous institutions of various kinds, but all these are regarded as a part of a single whole, long known as "the connection." Its ministry is a connectional ministry pledged to the same ordination vows; its laity is a connectional laity, and church membership is in the connection rather than simply in a local church; and the ownership of its property is ultimately in the connection also.

Such a connectional church needs guidelines for its effective operation, and carefully developed organizational patterns for the accomplishment of its mission. Out of this need there has developed across the years the *Book of Discipline*. At first this was a small and modest book indeed, but as the Church has grown and its activities have expanded, it has become a sizable and a much involved volume, covering every aspect of the Church's ongoing life.

Traditionally United Methodists have not only been happy to be guided by the *Discipline* as a book of church law, but they have also usually regarded it with a certain degree of reverence, as representing something of the distilled wisdom of the church across the passage of almost two centuries of time. As a people subject to a respected *Discipline*, they have in turn become at least something of a disciplined people.

United Methodism has not hesitated to change its *Discipline* as new insights have come, as new situations have arisen in church and society, and as new structures for mission have appeared imperative. In fact, each succeeding General Conference has made numerous changes in the *Discipline*. The basic structure of the connectionalism

EPISCOPAL GREETINGS

has remained largely what it has been from the beginning, but nevertheless radical alterations in former patterns have been made from time to time as necessity seemed to demand. Thus United Methodism has sought to respond to the particular challenges of the succeeding years and to prove itself a living and growing organism.

The 1972 General Conference has sought to discharge its responsibility with fidelity, and the current issue of the Discipline embodies its considered effort to provide for the entire connection patterns of operation hopefully designed to enable both the general Church and our local churches meet the serious demands of the current hour. We commend it to all our people for their guidance and encouragement, as they work together in a common task and with a common loyalty to Him who is forever the Lord of the church.

The Council of Bishops  
Oliver Eugene Slater, President  
Roy H. Short, Secretary

CONTENTS

Note: The basic unit in the Book of Discipline is the paragraph (§) rather than page, chapter, section, etc. The paragraphs are numbered consecutively within each chapter, but many numbers are skipped between parts and chapters in order to allow for future enactments and to fit with the following plan:

- 1- 99 The Constitution, Doctrine, Doctrinal Statements, General Rules, and Social Principles
- 101- 299 The Local Church
- 301- 499 The Ministry
- 501- 599 The Lay Worker
- 601- 799 The Conferences
- 801-1399 Administrative Order
- 1401-1499 Church Property
- 1501-1699 Judicial Administration
- 1701-1799 Appendix: Enabling Legislation

Episcopal Greetings ..... page v  
 United Methodist Bishops ..... page 1  
 Historical Statement ..... page 7

PART I  
THE CONSTITUTION

¶¶ 1-67

The Constitution of The United Methodist Church ..... page 16

PART II  
DOCTRINE AND DOCTRINAL STATEMENTS AND  
THE GENERAL RULES

¶¶ 68-70

Historical Background ..... page 39

CONTENTS

Landmark Documents (The Articles of Religion, The  
Confession of Faith, The General Rules) ..... page 52  
Our Theological Task ..... page 68

PART III  
SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

¶¶ 71-77

Preface and Preamble ..... page 83  
The Natural World ..... page 84  
The Nurturing Community ..... page 85  
The Social Community ..... page 87  
The Economic Community ..... page 91  
The Political Community ..... page 93  
The World Community ..... page 95  
Our Social Creed ..... page 97

PART IV  
ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

¶¶ 101-1560

Chapter One  
THE LOCAL CHURCH

I. The Pastoral Charge ..... ¶¶ 101-106  
II. Church Membership ..... ¶¶ 107-109  
III. The Meaning of Membership ..... ¶¶ 110-114  
IV. Admission into the Church ..... ¶¶ 115-119  
V. Children and the Church ..... ¶¶ 120-124  
VI. Youth ..... ¶ 125  
VII. Affiliate and Associate Membership ..... ¶ 126  
VIII. Care of Members ..... ¶¶ 127-130  
IX. Membership Records and Reports ..... ¶¶ 131-134  
X. Transfer and Termination of Membership ..... ¶¶ 135-141  
XI. The Method of Organizing a New Local  
Church ..... ¶ 142  
XII. Protection of Rights of Congregations ..... ¶ 143  
XIII. The Charge Conference ..... ¶¶ 144-147  
XIV. The Administrative Board ..... ¶¶ 148-152

CONTENTS

XV. The Local Church and Parish Councils  
on Ministries ..... ¶¶ 153-161  
XVI. Committees ..... ¶ 162  
XVII. Special Days ..... ¶ 163

Chapter Two  
THE MINISTRY

I. The Nature of Ministry ..... ¶ 301  
II. The Ordained Ministry ..... ¶¶ 302-306  
III. Classifications ..... ¶ 307  
IV. General Provisions ..... ¶ 308  
V. Ordination and Orders ..... ¶¶ 309-314  
VI. Relationship to the Annual Conference ..... ¶¶ 315-349  
VII. Pastor ..... ¶¶ 350-351  
VIII. Special Appointments ..... ¶ 352  
IX. Counseling Elder ..... ¶ 353  
X. District Superintendent ..... ¶ 354  
XI. Continuing Education ..... ¶ 355  
XII. Sabbatical Leave ..... ¶ 356  
XIII. Disability Leave ..... ¶ 357  
XIV. Supernumerary Ministers ..... ¶ 358  
XV. Superannuated Ministers ..... ¶¶ 359-365  
XVI. Termination of Annual Conference  
Membership ..... ¶¶ 366-371  
XVII. Readmission to Conference Relationships ..... ¶¶ 372-374  
XVIII. Mission Elders ..... ¶ 375  
XIX. Ministers from Other Churches ..... ¶¶ 376-381  
XX. Episcopacy ..... ¶¶ 382-400

Chapter Three  
THE LAY WORKER  
¶¶ 501-508

Chapter Four  
THE CONFERENCES

I. The General Conference ..... ¶¶ 601-611  
II. The Jurisdictional Conference ..... ¶¶ 612-628

CONTENTS

III. The Central Conference .....	¶¶	629-631
IV. Provisional Central Conferences .....	¶¶	632-639
V. Affiliated Autonomous Churches .....	¶¶	640-646
VI. Provisional Annual Conferences .....	¶¶	647-653
VII. The Missionary Conference .....	¶¶	654-657
VIII. Missions .....	¶¶	658-659
IX. The Annual Conference .....	¶¶	660-668
X. The District Conference .....	¶¶	669-670

Chapter Five

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

I. General Provisions .....	¶¶	801-823
II. General Council on Ministries .....	¶¶	824-836
III. Council on Finance and Administration .....	¶¶	837-896
IV. Joint Committee on Communications .....	¶¶	897-906
V. Board of Publication .....	¶¶	907-953
VI. Board of Church and Society .....	¶¶	954-980
VII. Board of Discipleship .....	¶¶	981-1076
VIII. Board of Global Ministries .....	¶¶	1077-1188
IX. Board of Higher Education and Ministry .....	¶¶	1189-1253
X. Board of Pensions .....	¶¶	1254-1263
XI. Standing Commissions .....	¶¶	1264-1280
XII. Quadrennial Commissions and Committees .....	¶¶	1281-1283
XIII. Interdenominational Agencies .....	¶¶	1284-1289
XIV. Miscellany .....	¶¶	1290-1292

Chapter Six

CHURCH PROPERTY

I. All Titles—in Trust .....	¶¶	1401-1405
II. Compliance with Law .....	¶¶	1406-1407
III. Audits and Bonding of Church Officers .....	¶	1408
IV. The Methodist Corporation .....	¶	1409
V. Annual Conference Property .....	¶¶	1410-1412
VI. District Property .....	¶¶	1413-1418
VII. Local Church Property .....	¶¶	1419-1444

CONTENTS

VIII. Requirements—Trustees of Church Institutions .....	¶	1445
---	---	------

Chapter Seven

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

I. The Judicial Council .....	¶¶	1501-1519
II. Trials .....	¶¶	1520-1560

Appendix: Enabling Legislation .....	¶¶	1701-1706
Glossary .....		page 557
Index .....		page 569

## UNITED METHODIST BISHOPS

*A List Compiled for  
The Book of Discipline  
by the Council of Bishops*

NAME	CONSECRATED	NAME	CONSECRATED
Francis Asbury	1784	John Coons	1841
Thomas Coke	1784	Henry Kumler, Jr.	1841
Martin Boehm	1800	Joseph Long	1843
Philip William Otterbein	1800	Leonidas L. Hamline	1844
Richard Whatcoat	1800	Edmund S. Janes	1844
Jacob Albright	1807	Jacob Glossbrenner	1845
William McKendree	1808	William Hanby	1845
Christian Newcomer	1813	John Russel	1845
Enoch George	1816	William Capers	1846
Robert R. Roberts	1816	Robert Paine	1846
Andrew Zeller	1817	David Edwards	1849
Joseph Hoffman	1821	Henry B. Bascom	1850
Elijah Hedding	1824	Edward R. Ames	1852
Joshua Soule	1824	Osmon C. Baker	1852
Henry Kumler, Sr.	1825	Levi Scott	1852
James O. Andrew	1832	Matthew Simpson	1852
John Emory	1832	Lewis Davis	1853
William Brown	1833	John Early	1854
Samuel Hiestand	1833	Hubbard H. Kavanaugh	1854
Thomas A. Morris	1836	George F. Pierce	1854
Beverly Waugh	1836	Francis Burns	1858
Jacob Erb	1837	William Orwig	1859
John Seybert	1839	Jacob Markwood	1861

UNITED METHODIST BISHOPS

NAME	CONSECRATED	NAME	CONSECRATED
Daniel Shuck	1861	Willard F. Mallalieu	1884
John Esher	1863	Willaim X. Ninde	1884
Davis W. Clark	1864	William Taylor	1884
Calvin Kingsley	1864	John M. Walden	1884
Edward Thomson	1864	Daniel Flickinger	1885
Jonathan Weaver	1865	William W. Duncan	1886
David S. Doggett	1866	Charles B. Galloway	1886
Enoch M. Marvin	1866	Eugene R. Hendrix	1886
Holland N. McTyeire	1866	Joseph S. Key	1886
John W. Roberts	1866	James N. FitzGerald	1888
William M. Wightman	1866	Daniel A. Goodsell	1888
John Dickson	1869	Isaac W. Joyce	1888
John C. Keener	1870	John P. Newman	1888
Reuben Yeakel	1871	James M. Thoburn	1888
Edward G. Andrews	1872	John H. Vincent	1888
Thomas Bowman	1872	James Hott	1889
Randolph S. Foster	1872	Oscar P. Fitzgerald	1890
William L. Harris	1872	Atticus G. Haygood	1890
Gilbert Haven	1872	Sylvanus Breyfogel	1891
Stephen M. Merrill	1872	William Horn	1891
Jesse T. Peck	1872	Job Mills	1893
Isaac W. Wiley	1872	Wesley Stanford	1894
Thomas Bowman	1875	Earl Cranston	1896
Rudolph Dubs	1875	Joseph C. Hartzell	1896
Nicholas Castle	1877	Charles C. McCabe	1896
Milton Wright	1877	Warren A. Candler	1898
Cyrus D. Foss	1880	Henry C. Morrison	1898
Erastus O. Haven	1880	John W. Hamilton	1900
John F. Hurst	1880	David H. Moore	1900
Henry W. Warren	1880	Edwin W. Parker	1900
Ezekiel Kephart	1881	Frank W. Warne	1900
John C. Granbery	1882	Henry Hartzler	1902
Robert K. Hargrove	1882	William Heil	1902
Linus Parker	1882	E. Embree Hoss	1902
Alpheus W. Wilson	1882	George Mathews	1902
Charles H. Fowler	1884	A. Coke Smith	1902

UNITED METHODIST BISHOPS

NAME	CONSECRATED	NAME	CONSECRATED
James W. Bashford	1904	William P. Eveland	1912
Joseph F. Berry	1904	Theodore S. Henderson	1912
William Burt	1904	Frederick D. Leete	1912
Merriman C. Harris	1904	Naphtali Luccock	1912
William F. McDowell	1904	Francis J. McConnell	1912
Thomas B. Neely	1904	John W. Robinson	1912
William F. Oldham	1904	William O. Shepard	1912
John E. Robinson	1904	Homer C. Stuntz	1912
Isaiah B. Scott	1904	Wilbur P. Thirkield	1912
Henry Spellmeyer	1904	Henry H. Fout	1913
Luther B. Wilson	1904	Alfred T. Howard	1913
William Bell	1905	Cyrus J. Kephart	1913
Thomas Carter	1905	Gottlieb Heinmiller	1915
William Weekley	1905	Lawrence Seager	1915
James Atkins	1906	Alexander P. Camphor	1916
John J. Tigert	1906	Franklin Hamilton	1916
Seth Ward	1906	Matthew S. Hughes	1916
Samuel Spreng	1907	Eben S. Johnson	1916
William F. Anderson	1908	Adna W. Leonard	1916
Frank M. Bristol	1908	Charles B. Mitchell	1916
Edwin H. Hughes	1908	Thomas Nicholson	1916
Wilson S. Lewis	1908	Herbert Welch	1916
Robert McIntyre	1908	William Washinger	1917
John L. Nuelson	1908	William N. Ainsworth	1918
William A. Quayle	1908	James Cannon, Jr.	1918
Charles W. Smith	1908	Urban V. W. Darlington	1918
Collins Denny	1910	Horace M. Du Bose	1918
William Fouke	1910	Matthew Maze	1918
John C. Kilgo	1910	William F. McMurry	1918
Walter R. Lambuth	1910	John M. Moore	1918
James H. McCoy	1910	Anton Bast	1920
Edwin D. Mouzon	1910	George H. Bickley	1920
William B. Murrah	1910	Lauress J. Birney	1920
Uriah Swengel	1910	Edgar Blake	1920
Richard G. Waterhouse	1910	Charles W. Burns	1920
Richard J. Cooke	1912	Matthew W. Clair	1920

UNITED METHODIST BISHOPS

NAME	CONSECRATED	NAME	CONSECRATED
Frederick B. Fisher	1920	Juan E. Gattinoni	1932
Robert E. Jones	1920	J. Ralph Magee	1932
Frederick T. Keeney	1920	Elmer W. Praetorius	1934
Charles E. Locke	1920	Charles H. Stauffacher	1934
Charles L. Mead	1920	Roberto Elphick	1936
Ernest G. Richardson	1920	Charles W. Flint	1936
H. Lester Smith	1920	Wilbur E. Hammaker	1936
Ernest L. Waldorf	1920	F. H. Otto Melle	1936
Arthur Clippinger	1921	G. Bromley Oxnam	1936
William B. Beauchamp	1922	J. Waskom Pickett	1936
Hiram A. Boaz	1922	Alexander P. Shaw	1936
James E. Dickey	1922	John M. Springer	1936
Hoyt M. Dobbs	1922	Ralph A. Ward	1937
John F. Dunlap	1922	John L. Decell	1938
Sam R. Hay	1922	Ivan Lee Holt	1938
Brenton T. Badley	1924	William C. Martin	1938
Wallace E. Brown	1924	William W. Peele	1938
George R. Grose	1924	Clare Purcell	1938
Titus Lowe	1924	Charles C. Selecman	1938
George A. Miller	1924	William T. Watkins	1938
Arthur Statton	1925	Victor O. Weidler	1938
John S. Stamm	1926	John C. Broomfield	1939
S. J. Umbreit	1926	James H. Straughn	1939
James C. Baker	1928	Bruce R. Baxter	1940
Edwin F. Lee	1928	William A. C. Hughes	1940
Raymond J. Wade	1928	Lorenzo H. King	1940
Grant D. Batdorf	1929	Enrique C. Balloch	1941
Ira D. Warner	1929	W. Y. Chen	1941
George Edward Epp	1930	Fred L. Dennis	1941
John Gowdy	1930	Z. T. Kaung	1941
Paul B. Kern	1930	Carleton Lacy	1941
Arthur J. Moore	1930	Shot K. Mondol	1941
A. Frank Smith	1930	Clement D. Rockey	1941
Chih P'ing Wang	1930	Newell S. Booth	1944
Jashwant R. Chitamber	1931	Charles W. Brashares	1944
Ralph S. Cushman	1932	Robert N. Brooks	1944

UNITED METHODIST BISHOPS

NAME	CONSECRATED	NAME	CONSECRATED
Fred P. Corson	1944	F. Gerald Ensley	1952
Paul N. Garber	1944	A. Raymond Grant	1952
Schuyler E. Garth	1944	Edgar A. Love	1952
Costen J. Harrell	1944	Frederick B. Newell	1952
Lewis O. Hartman	1944	Julio B. Sabanes	1952
Edward W. Kelly	1944	Edwin E. Voigt	1952
Willis J. King	1944	H. Bascom Watts	1952
W. Earl Ledden	1944	Odd Hagen	1953
Paul E. Martin	1944	Friedrich Wunderlich	1953
W. Angie Smith	1944	L. L. Baughman	1954
Arthur F. Wesley	1944	H. R. Heining	1954
J. Balmer Showers	1945	Reuben H. Mueller	1954
John A. Subhan	1945	Ferdinand Sigg	1954
Dionisio D. Alejandro	1946	Hobart B. Amstutz	1956
Theodor Arvidson	1946	Ralph E. Dodge	1956
J. W. E. Sommer	1946	Eugene M. Frank	1956
J. W. E. Bowen	1948	Nolan B. Harmon	1956
Dana Dawson	1948	Bachman G. Hodges	1956
Marvin A. Franklin	1948	Mangal Singh	1956
Gerald H. Kennedy	1948	Gabriel Sundaram	1956
John W. Lord	1948	Prince A. Taylor, Jr.	1956
H. Clifford Northcott	1948	J. Gordon Howard	1957
Glenn R. Phillips	1948	Paul E. V. Shannon	1957
Richard C. Raines	1948	Paul M. Herrick	1958
Marshall R. Reed	1948	H. W. Kaebnick	1958
Roy H. Short	1948	W. Maynard Sparks	1958
Donald H. Tippet	1948	Ralph T. Alton	1960
Jose L. Valencia	1948	Kenneth W. Copeland	1960
Hazen G. Werner	1948	Paul V. Galloway	1960
Lloyd C. Wicke	1948	Edwin R. Garrison	1960
Sante Uberto Barbieri	1949	Charles F. Golden	1960
Raymond L. Archer	1950	Walter C. Gum	1960
D. T. Gregory	1950	Paul Hardin, Jr.	1960
John W. Branscomb	1952	Marquis L. Harris	1960
Matthew W. Clair, Jr.	1952	James W. Henley	1960
D. Stanley Coors	1952	Fred G. Holloway	1960

UNITED METHODIST BISHOPS

NAME	CONSECRATED	NAME	CONSECRATED
James K. Mathews	1960	Lance Webb	1964
W. Vernon Middleton	1960	Escrivao A. Zunguze	1964
Paul W. Milhouse	1960	P. C. B. Balaram	1965
Noah W. Moore, Jr.	1960	Stephen T. Nagbe	1965
T. Otto Nall	1960	A. J. Shaw	1965
Everett W. Palmer	1960	Franz Schafer	1966
W. Kenneth Pope	1960	L. Scott Allen	1967
O. Eugene Slater	1960	Benjamin Guansing	1967
John O. Smith	1960	Arthur J. Armstrong	1968
B. Foster Stockwell	1960	William R. Cannon	1968
Aubrey G. Walton	1960	Alsie H. Carleton	1968
W. Ralph Ward	1960	Cornelio M. Ferrer	1968
Pedro Zottele	1962	Paul L. A. Granadosin	1968
Harry P. Andreassen	1964	Abel T. Muzorewa	1968
H. Ellis Finger, Jr.	1964	Roy C. Nichols	1968
W. Kenneth Goodson	1964	John V. Samuel	1968
Earl G. Hunt, Jr.	1964	C. Ernst Sommer	1968
Francis E. Kearns	1964	Paul A. Washburn	1968
Dwight H. Loder	1964	D. Frederick Wertz	1968
Robert F. Lundy	1964	R. D. Joshi	1969
Edward J. Pendergrass	1964	Joseph R. Lance	1969
Thomas M. Pryor	1964	Eric A. Mitchell	1969
John Wesley Shungu	1964	Federico J. Pagura	1969
W. McFerrin Stowe	1964	Ole E. Borgen	1970
R. Marvin Stuart	1964	Armin Haertel	1970
James S. Thomas	1964		

## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

The Plan of Union proposes to bring together The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, two churches that share a common historical and spiritual heritage. They hold the same fundamental doctrines of faith. Ecclesiastical organization is similar. They are Protestant churches, whose streams of spiritual life and thought come out of the Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century.

Since their beginnings they had lived and worked side by side in friendly fellowship. Had it not been for the difference in language—the Methodists working among English-speaking people and the Evangelical and United Brethren working among those speaking German—they might, from the beginning, have been one church. Today the language barrier is gone and the uniting of forces for our common task and calling seems appropriate and timely. Brief historical sketches of the two churches, taken from their respective Disciplines, follow.

### The Methodist Church

The Methodist Church is a church of Christ in which "the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments duly administered." This church is a great Protestant body, though it did not come directly out of the Reformation but had its origin within the Church of England. Its founder was John Wesley, a clergyman of that church, as was his father before him. His mother, Susanna Wesley, was a woman of zeal, devotion, and strength of character who was perhaps the greatest single human influence in Wesley's life.

Nurtured in this devout home, educated at Oxford University, the young John Wesley, like a second Paul, sought in vain for religious

## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

satisfaction by the strict observance of the rules of religion and the ordinances of the church. The turning point in his life came when, at a prayer meeting in Aldersgate Street, London, on May 24, 1738, he learned what Paul had discovered, that it is not by rules and laws, nor by our own efforts at self-perfection, but by faith in God's mercy as it comes to us in Christ, that man may enter upon life and peace.

The gospel which Wesley thus found for himself he began to proclaim to others, first to companions who sought his counsel, including his brother Charles, then in widening circles that took him throughout the British Isles. His message had a double emphasis, which has remained with Methodism to this day. First was the gospel of God's grace, offered to all men and equal to every human need. Second was the moral ideal which this gospel presents to men. The Bible, he declared, knows no salvation which is not salvation from sin. He called men to holiness of life, and this holiness, he insisted, is "social holiness," the love and service of their fellowmen. Methodism meant "Christianity in earnest." The General Rules which are still found in the Discipline are the directions which Wesley gave to his followers to enable them to test the sincerity of their purpose and to guide them in this life.

Wesley did not plan to found a new church. In his work he simply followed, like Paul, the clear call of God, first to preach the gospel to the needy who were not being reached by the Established Church and its clergy, second to take care of those who were won to the Christian life. Step by step he was led on until Methodism became a great and transforming movement in the life of England. He gathered his people in groups, in classes and societies. He appointed leaders. He found men who were ready to carry the gospel to the masses, speaking on the streets, in the open fields, and in private homes. These men were not ordained ministers but lay preachers, or "local preachers," as they were called. He appointed these men, assigned them to various fields of labor, and supervised their work. Once a year he called them together for a conference, just as Methodist preachers meet in their Annual conference sessions today.

Wesley thus united in extraordinary fashion three notable activities, in all of which he excelled. One was evangelism; "The world is my parish," he declared. His preachers went to the people; they did

## THE METHODIST CHURCH

not wait for the people to come to them, and he himself knew the highways and byways of England as did no other man of his day. The second was organization and administration, by which he conserved the fruits of this preaching and extended its influence. The third was his appreciation of education and his use of the printed page. He made the press a servant of the Church and was the father of the mass circulation of inexpensive books, pamphlets, and periodicals.

From England, Methodism spread to Ireland and then to America. In 1766 Philip Embury, a lay preacher from Ireland, began to preach in the city of New York. At about the same time Robert Strawbridge, another lay preacher from Ireland, settled in Frederick County, Maryland, and began the work there. In 1769 Wesley sent Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmoor to America, and two years later Francis Asbury, who became the great leader of American Methodism.

Methodism was especially adapted to American life. These itinerant preachers served the people under conditions where a settled ministry was not feasible. They sought out the scattered homes, followed the tide of migration as it moved west, preached the gospel, organized societies, established "preaching places," and formed these into "circuits." Thus by the close of the American Revolution the Methodists numbered some fifteen thousand members and eighty preachers.

In the beginning Wesley had thought of his fellows not as constituting a church but simply as forming so many societies. The preachers were not ordained, and the members were supposed to receive the Sacraments in the Anglican Church. But the Anglican clergy in America were few and far between. The Revolution had severed America from England, and Methodism to all intents and purposes had become an independent church. Wesley responded to appeals for help from America by asking the Bishop of London to ordain some of his preachers. Failing in this, he himself ordained two men and set aside Dr. Thomas Coke, who was a presbyter of the Church of England, to be a superintendent, "to preside over the flock of Christ" in America. Coke was directed to ordain Francis Asbury as a second superintendent.

At the Christmas Conference, which met in Baltimore December 24, 1784, some sixty preachers, with Dr. Coke and his companions,

## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

organized the Methodist Episcopal Church in America. Wesley had sent over *The Sunday Service*, a simplified form of the English Book of Common Prayer, with the Articles of Religion reduced in number. This book they adopted, adding to the articles one which recognized the independence of the new nation.

Our present Articles of Religion come from this book and unite us with the historic faith of Christendom. Our Ritual, too, though it has been modified, has this as its source. However, the forms for public worship taken from the Book of Common Prayer were not adapted to the freer religious life of American Methodism and never entered into common use. Instead, Methodism created a book of its own, its Discipline. This contains today the Articles of Religion, Wesley's General Rules, the Ritual and other forms of worship, and a large section which deals with the ministry, the various church organizations, and the rules governing the life and work of the Church.

In the history of Methodism two notable divisions occurred. In 1828 a group of earnest and godly persons, largely moved by an insistence on lay representation, separated and became The Methodist Protestant Church. In 1844 there was another division, the cause being construed by some as the question of slavery, by others as a constitutional issue over the powers of the General Conference versus the episcopacy. After years of negotiation a Plan of Union was agreed upon; and on May 10, 1939, The Methodist Episcopal Church, The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and The Methodist Protestant Church united to form The Methodist Church.

The Methodist Church believes today, as Methodism has from the first, that the only infallible proof of a true church of Christ is its ability to seek and to save the lost, to disseminate the Pentecostal spirit and life, to spread scriptural holiness, and to transform all peoples and nations through the gospel of Christ. The sole object of the rules, regulations, and usages of The Methodist Church is to aid the Church in fulfilling its divine commission. United Methodism thanks God for the new life and strength which have come with reunion, while realizing the new obligations which this brings. At the same time it rejoices in the fact that it is a part of the one Church of our Lord and share in a common task. Its spirit is still expressed in Wesley's words: "I desire to have a league, offensive and defensive, with every soldier of Christ.

## THE EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

We have not only one faith, one hope, one Lord, but are directly engaged in one warfare."

### The Evangelical United Brethren Church

The Evangelical United Brethren Church had its roots in the spiritual quickening which emerged in the United States in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. This movement not only challenged religious indifference, but also the contemporary tendency to substitute "religion" for a vital and experiential relationship with God. In its present form the Evangelical United Brethren Church represents the union, consummated in 1946, of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and The Evangelical Church.

#### I. CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST

The eighteenth century witnessed the eruption of revolutionary ideas and programs in science, industry, and politics. In this agitated world there were marked evidences of religious revitalization. In the English-speaking world it was associated with, though not confined to, Wesleyanism; in the German-speaking world it was associated with pietism. In some places and in some persons, these two movements impinged upon each other.

Philip William Otterbein, an ordained minister of the German Reformed Church, who served congregations in Pennsylvania and Maryland, and Martin Boehm, a Pennsylvanian of Mennonite parentage, were among those who sensed a call to preach the Good News of God's redeeming mercy and love as demonstrated in Jesus Christ, especially among neglected German-speaking settlers of the Middle Colonies. In obedience to this call, they invited men to accept salvation. To be saved, they held, meant both awareness, as real as any sensory awareness, of God's acceptance and personal commitment to Christ. Their labors were blessed, and thriving societies were established which were conceived not so much as alternatives or rivals to established churches, as centers for renewal in those churches. This work expanded, and helpers were sought to devote themselves to this evan-

## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

gelistic effort. As persons responded, they were received as fellow laborers.

The gracious work of renewal and reformation spread through Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia. Otterbein's leadership was increasingly acknowledged. In the larger "big meetings" and in more intimate circles, he emphasized the necessity to persuade men to accept the divine invitation to salvation and to lead a new kind of life. To share experiences in this ministry and to seek greater effectiveness in this mission, it was resolved that preachers' meetings be held. One such meeting was held in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1789; another in Paradise Township, York County, Pennsylvania, in 1791.

Beginning with the meeting, September 25, 1800, in Frederick County, Maryland, these ministers' meetings were held annually. They agreed each of them should have liberty as to the mode of baptism, each administering it according to his own conviction. They agreed that Otterbein and Boehm should be their leaders as superintendents or bishops. About this time the name United Brethren in Christ came into use. The work soon extended across the Appalachian Mountains into Ohio, and this prompted the decision to organize a Conference in Ohio in 1810.

Martin Boehm died in 1812; Philip William Otterbein was incapacitated by ill health. Accordingly, in 1813 Christian Newcomer was elected bishop to superintend the concerns of the growing church. Up to this time there was no book of discipline, so it was determined that a General Conference should be called to provide such a book. The first General Conference of this church convened June 6, 1815, near Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania. After deliberation, the conference recommended a book of Discipline containing the doctrines and rules of the church with the exhortation that these together with the Word of God should be strictly observed, and admonished the members that "God is a God of order, but where there is no order and no church discipline, the spirit of love and charity will be lost."

The book of Discipline, together with a Constitution which was adopted in 1841, provided regulations under which the Church of the United Brethren in Christ expanded in numbers and mission in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Constitution, with several other factors, was the ground for a division in the denomination in

## THE EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

1889 as the majority, authorized by a referendum in the church, made changes in the Constitution.

### II. THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Jacob Albright, an unordained Pennsylvania tilemaker-farmer, began preaching that religion was a personal, conscious experiential relationship with God. About 1800, small groups of people living in three separated communities, impressed by Albright's ideas, covenanted themselves to seek God's grace which would enable them to live holily. Following his experience of salvation in 1791, Albright began to witness in the German language to God's saving grace. He and those associated with him agreed to measures of self-discipline and Christian witness. The number of those inclined to participate in this endeavor increased, and this in turn promoted the enlistment of helpers.

The transition from movement to ecclesiastical organization was marked by the first council of those acknowledging Albright as leader on November 3, 1803. Beginning in 1807, with a meeting at Kleinfeltersville, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, the preachers gathered in annual meetings. In 1809 a book of Discipline was adopted and printed. In 1816, at the first General Conference of the body, the name, The Evangelical Association, was adopted. For the courageous ministry of this church, conversion was the central theme and purpose, a word which signified the gracious, conscious vitalization of the life of a man by an act of God.

During the nineteenth century the operations of this church enlarged in evangelism, education, and publications. In the latter part of the century differences arose in The Evangelical Association which in 1891 culminated in a division. A considerable number of ministers and laymen withdrew and took the name, The United Evangelical Church, which held its first General Conference in 1894. Both churches continued their activities, side by side, both endeavoring to carry on the work of the Lord with zeal and devotion. Both churches grew in numbers and in missionary enterprise. By 1910 the growing conviction that the two churches should be reunited found articulate expression,

## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

and in 1922 The Evangelical Association and The United Evangelical Church were united under the name The Evangelical Church.

### III. UNION IN 1946

Negotiations, beginning in 1933, were consummated in 1946 when the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and The Evangelical Church became The Evangelical United Brethren Church. This church has sought to serve its Lord faithfully in the proclamation that salvation is available to any upon the free, personal acceptance of God's offer. Conversion, while personal, is not a private matter and finds its consummation in holy living and in serving as an instrument of God for the redemption of the whole world. In this task, it views itself as one fold, in the one flock, whose Shepherd is our Lord.

### The United Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church brings together two streams of spiritual life with similar emphases which had their beginnings in the evangelistic concerns and passion of John Wesley, Francis Asbury, Philip William Otterbein, Jacob Albright, Martin Boehm, and others who labored with them. These men were dedicated to the task of preaching the gospel to their fellow countrymen.

Since they were men who were deeply moved by a common faith and zeal and held a like emphasis upon personal spiritual experience of salvation, it is no surprise to find instances of fraternity and cooperation among them. They often conferred with each other and sometimes traveled together on their preaching missions. In many communities they shared the same building, with the Methodist preachers conducting services in English at one hour and the Evangelical or United Brethren preachers conducting a German service at another hour. There are many references to the Asbury groups as "English Methodists" and the Otterbein-Boehm-Albright groups as "German Methodists" or "Dutch Methodists."

The firm conviction that Christian faith and experience ought to be expressed in holy living led these early leaders to adopt similar

## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

patterns of ecclesiastical organization and discipline to assist Christians in spiritual growth and Christian witness.

When Asbury was ordained and consecrated as bishop in 1784, Otterbein participated with the laying on of hands. When Otterbein ordained Christian Newcomer in 1813, he requested that a Methodist minister participate. William Ryland responded and joined Otterbein in the act of ordination.

There is evidence that Asbury conferred with Otterbein when he was working on the book of Discipline for the Methodists. When this Discipline was later translated into German, it became the basis for the Discipline of the *Evangelische Gemeinschaft* (later known as The Evangelical Church) and—to a lesser degree—the *Vereinigten Bruder* (later known as the United Brethren in Christ).

Over the years there have been many conversations concerning union. Bishop Newcomer's journal records such a conversation as early as April 1, 1803. In 1871 The Evangelical Association voted by a narrow margin of one to join the Methodists, but union was never consummated. During the past several years these conversations, under the instruction and authorization of the respective General Conferences, led to a plan and basis of union that united The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church into The United Methodist Church. This union embodies the history and traditions of the following churches which are Methodist in name or tradition:

The Methodist Episcopal Church	United Brethren in Christ
The Methodist Episcopal Church, South	The Evangelical Association
The Methodist Protestant Church	The United Evangelical Church
The Methodist Church (merged into the Protestant Methodist Church in 1877)	The Evangelical Church
	The Methodist Church
	The Evangelical United Brethren Church

*Part I*  
**THE CONSTITUTION**

**PREAMBLE**

The Church is a community of all true believers under the Lordship of Christ. It is the redeemed and redeeming fellowship in which the Word of God is preached by men divinely called, and the Sacraments are duly administered according to Christ's own appointment. Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit the Church seeks to provide for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world.

The Church of Jesus Christ exists in and for the world, and its very dividedness is a hindrance to its mission in that world.

The prayers and intentions of The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church have been and are for obedience to the will of our Lord that His people be one, in humility for the present brokenness of the Church and in gratitude that opportunities for reunion have been given. In harmony with these prayers and intentions these churches do now propose to unite, in the confident assurance that this act is an expression of the oneness of Christ's people.

Conversations concerning union between the two churches and their constituent members have taken place over a long period of years, and the churches have a long and impressive history of fellowship and cooperation.

Therefore, we, the Commissions on Church Union of The Methodist Church, and of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, holding that these churches are essentially one in origin, in belief, in spirit, and in purpose, and desiring that this essential unity be made actual

in organization and administration in the United States of America and throughout the world, do hereby propose and transmit to our respective General Conferences the following Plan of Union and recommend to the two churches its adoption by the processes which they respectively require.<sup>1</sup>

**DIVISION ONE—GENERAL**

¶ 1. *Article I. Declaration of Union.*—The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church shall be united in one Church. The united Church, as thus constituted, is, and shall be, the ecclesiastical and legal successor of the two uniting churches.

¶ 2. *Article II. Name.*—The name of the Church shall be The United Methodist Church. The name of the Church may be translated freely into languages other than English as the General Conference may determine.

¶ 3. *Article III. Articles of Religion and the Confession of Faith.*—The Articles of Religion and the Confession of Faith shall be those currently held by The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church respectively.

¶ 4. *Article IV. Inclusiveness of the Church.*—The United Methodist Church is a part of the Church Universal which is one Body in Christ. Therefore all persons, without regard to race, color, national origin, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, to participate in its programs, and, when they take the appropriate vows, to be admitted into its membership in any local church in the connection. In The United Methodist Church no conference or other organizational unit of the Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member or any constituent body of the Church because of race, color, national origin, or economic condition.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Constitution was adopted in Chicago, Illinois, on Nov. 11, 1966, by the General Conferences of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church and thereafter by the requisite vote in the Annual Conferences of the two churches. The Plan of Union was made effective by the Uniting Conference in Dallas, Texas, on April 23, 1968.

<sup>2</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 242, 246, 340, 351, and Decisions 4 and 5, Interim Judicial Council.

¶ 5. *Article V. Ecumenical Relations.*—As part of the Church Universal, The United Methodist Church believes that the Lord of the Church is calling Christians everywhere to strive toward unity, and therefore it will seek, and work for, unity at all levels of church life: through world relationships with other Methodist churches and united churches related to The Methodist Church or The Evangelical United Brethren Church, through councils of churches, and through plans of union with churches of Methodist or other denominational traditions.

¶ 6. *Article VI. Title to Properties.*—Titles to properties in The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church shall, upon consummation of the union, automatically vest in The United Methodist Church. Nothing in the Plan of Union at any time after the union is to be construed so as to require any local church or any other property owner of the former The Evangelical United Brethren Church or the former The Methodist Church to alienate or in any way to change the title to property contained in its deed or deeds at the time of union, and lapse of time or usage shall not affect said title or control.

## DIVISION TWO—ORGANIZATION

### Section I. Conferences.

¶ 7. *Article I.*—There shall be a General Conference for the entire Church with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth.

¶ 8. *Article II.*—There shall be Jurisdictional Conferences for the Church in the United States of America and Canada, with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth;<sup>3</sup> *provided* that in The United Methodist Church there shall be no jurisdictional or central conference based on any ground other than geographical and regional division.

¶ 9. *Article III.*—There shall be Central Conferences for the Church outside the United States of America and Canada and, if neces-

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 128, and Amendment III, ¶ 67.

sary, Provisional Central Conferences, all with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth.<sup>4</sup>

¶ 10. *Article IV.*—There shall be Annual Conferences as the fundamental bodies of the Church and, if necessary, Provisional Annual Conferences, with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth.<sup>5</sup>

¶ 11. *Article V.*—There shall be a Charge Conference for each church or charge with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth.

### Section II. General Conference.

¶ 12. *Article I.*—The General Conference shall be composed of not less than 600 nor more than 1,000 delegates, one half of whom shall be ministers and one half lay members, to be elected by the annual Conferences.<sup>6</sup>

¶ 13. *Article II.*—The General Conference shall meet in the month of April or May once in four years at such time and in such place as shall be determined by the General Conference or by its duly authorized committees.

A special session of General Conference, possessing the authority and exercising all the powers of the General Conference, may be called by the Council of Bishops, or in such other manner as the General Conference may from time to time prescribe, to meet at such time and in such place as may be stated in the call. Such special session of the General Conference shall be composed of the delegates to the preceding General Conference or their lawful successors, except that when a particular Annual Conference shall prefer to have a new election it may do so.<sup>7</sup> The purpose of such special session shall be stated in the call, and only such business shall be transacted as is in harmony with the purpose stated in such call unless the General Conference by a two-thirds vote shall determine that other business may be transacted.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>4</sup> See Amendment IV, ¶ 67.

<sup>5</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 354.

<sup>6</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 333, and Amendment I, ¶ 67.

<sup>7</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 221, 226, 228, 238, 302.

<sup>8</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 227.

¶ 14. *Article III.*—The General Conference shall fix the ratio of representation in the General, Jurisdictional, and Central Conferences from the Annual Conferences and the Provisional Annual Conferences, computed on a two-factor basis: (1) the number of ministerial members of the Annual Conference and (2) the number of church members in the Annual Conference; *provided* that each Annual Conference or Provisional Annual Conference, except for the Provisional Annual Conferences of a Central Conference or a Provisional Central Conference, shall be entitled to at least one ministerial and one lay delegate in the General Conference and also in the Jurisdictional or Central Conference.

¶ 15. *Article IV.*—The General Conference shall have full legislative power over all matters distinctively connectional, and in the exercise of this power shall have authority as follows:<sup>9</sup>

1. To define and fix the conditions, privileges, and duties of church membership which shall in every case be without reference to race or status.

2. To define and fix the powers and duties of elders, deacons, supply preachers, local preachers, exhorters, and deaconesses.<sup>10</sup>

3. To define and fix the powers and duties of Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences and Missions, and of Central Conferences, District Conferences, Charge Conferences, and Congregational Meetings.

4. To provide for the organization, promotion, and administration of the work of the Church outside the United States of America and Canada.<sup>11</sup>

5. To define and fix the powers, duties, and privileges of the episcopacy, to adopt a plan for the support of the bishops, to provide a uniform rule for their retirement, and to provide for the discontinuance of a bishop because of inefficiency or unacceptability.<sup>12</sup>

6. To provide and revise the Hymnal and Ritual of the Church and to regulate all matters relating to the form and mode of worship, subject to the limitations of the first and second Restrictive Rules.

<sup>9</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 96, 232, 236, 318, 325.

<sup>10</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 58, 313.

<sup>11</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 182.

<sup>12</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 35, 114, 312.

7. To provide a judicial system and a method of judicial procedure for the Church, except as herein otherwise prescribed.

8. To initiate and to direct all connectional enterprises of the Church and to provide boards for their promotion and administration.<sup>13</sup>

9. To determine and provide for raising and distributing funds necessary to carry on the work of the Church.<sup>14</sup>

10. To fix a uniform basis upon which bishops shall be elected by the Jurisdictional Conferences and to determine the number of bishops that may be elected by Central Conferences.

11. To select its presiding officers from the bishops, through a committee; *provided* that the bishops shall select from their own number the presiding officer of the opening session.<sup>15</sup>

12. To change the number and the boundaries of Jurisdictional Conferences upon the consent of a majority of the Annual Conferences in each Jurisdictional Conference involved.<sup>16</sup>

13. To establish such commissions for the general work of the Church as may be deemed advisable.

14. To secure the rights and privileges of membership in all agencies, programs, and institutions in The United Methodist Church regardless of race or status.<sup>17</sup>

15. To enact such other legislation as may be necessary, subject to the limitations and restrictions of the Constitution of the Church.<sup>18</sup>

### Section III. Restrictive Rules.

¶ 16. *Article I.*—The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, or change our Articles of Religion or establish any new standards or rules of doctrine contrary to our present existing and established standards of doctrine.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>13</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 214.

<sup>14</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 30.

<sup>15</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 126.

<sup>16</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 55, 56, 215.

<sup>17</sup> See Decisions, 4, 5, Interim Judicial Council.

<sup>18</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 215.

<sup>19</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 86, 142, 243, 358.

**Article II.**—The General Conference shall not revoke, alter, or change our Confession of Faith.

¶ 17. **Article III.**—The General Conference shall not change or alter any part or rule of our government so as to do away with episcopacy or destroy the plan of our itinerant general superintendency.

¶ 18. **Article IV.**—The General Conference shall not do away with the privileges of our ministers of right to trial by a committee and of an appeal; neither shall it do away with the privileges of our members of right to trial before the church, or by a committee, and of an appeal.<sup>20</sup>

¶ 19. **Article V.**—The General Conference shall not revoke or change the General Rules of Our United Societies.<sup>21</sup>

¶ 20. **Article VI.**—The General Conference shall not appropriate the net income of the publishing houses, the book concerns, or the Chartered Fund to any purpose other than for the benefit of retired or disabled preachers, their wives, widows, and children or other beneficiaries of the ministerial pension systems.<sup>22</sup>

¶ 21. **Article VII.**—The General Conference shall not do away with the following rights, which are hereby defined: In order that The Evangelical United Brethren Church shall be assured of effective representation in The United Methodist Church it is agreed that at the level of the General Conference, Jurisdictional Conferences, and Central Conferences and on all boards and agencies at the Annual Conference, Central Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, and General Conference levels, in every instance there shall be chosen, during the first three quadrenniums following union, at least twice the number of representatives coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership as the relative numerical membership in said particular conference would indicate in relationship to the number of representatives coming from The Methodist Church, and further agreed that during such period every General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference, and if practical every Central Conference and Annual Conference, board, or agency, regardless of size, shall have at least

<sup>20</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 351.

<sup>21</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 358.

<sup>22</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 322, 330.

one such representative; *provided* that this provision shall not be applied so as to give to representatives coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church a majority position which, except for this provision, they would not have; and further *provided* that in the Germany Central Conference during the first three quadrenniums following union the relative number of representatives coming from the former Methodist Church and the former *Evangelische Gemeinschaft* shall be equal. The relative numerical membership shall be computed by taking the membership of The Evangelical United Brethren Church as reported immediately prior to union and the total membership of the particular conference immediately after union. The General Conference may adopt legislative rules designed to carry out the intent and spirit of this provision. At the termination of the first three quadrenniums following union, this Article VII shall be automatically deleted from the Constitution.<sup>23</sup>

#### Section IV. Jurisdictional Conferences.

¶ 22. **Article I.**—The Jurisdictional Conferences shall be composed of as many representatives from the Annual Conferences as shall be determined by a uniform basis established by the General Conference.

¶ 23. **Article II.**—All Jurisdictional Conferences shall have the same status and the same privileges of action within the limits fixed by the Constitution. The ratio of representation of the Annual Conferences in the General Conference shall be the same for all Jurisdictional Conferences.

¶ 24. **Article III.**—The General Conferences shall fix the basis of representation in the Jurisdictional Conferences; *provided* that the Jurisdictional Conferences shall be composed of an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates to be elected by the Annual Conferences and the Provisional Annual Conferences.

¶ 25. **Article IV.**—Each Jurisdictional Conference shall meet at the time determined by the Council of Bishops or its delegated committee, each Jurisdictional Conference convening on the same date as the others and at a place selected by the Jurisdictional Committee on

<sup>23</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 333, 356.

Entertainment, appointed by its College of Bishops unless such a committee has been appointed by the preceding Jurisdictional Conference.

¶ 26. *Article V.*—The Jurisdictional Conferences shall have the following powers and duties and such others as may be conferred by the General Conferences:

1. To promote the evangelistic, educational, missionary, and benevolent interests of the Church, and to provide for interests and institutions within their boundaries.<sup>24</sup>

2. To elect bishops and to cooperate in carrying out such plans for their support as may be determined by the General Conference.

3. To establish and constitute Jurisdictional Conference boards as auxiliary to the general boards of the Church as the need may appear and to choose their representatives on the general boards in such manner as the General Conference may determine.<sup>25</sup>

4. To determine the boundaries of their Annual Conferences; *provided* that there shall be no Annual Conference with a membership of fewer than fifty ministers in full connection, except by the consent of the General Conference; and *provided* further that this provision shall not apply to Annual Conferences of the former The Evangelical United Brethren Church during the first three quadrenniums after union.

5. To make rules and regulations for the administration of the work of the Church within the jurisdiction, subject to such powers as have been or shall be vested in the General Conference.

6. To appoint a Committee on Appeals to hear and determine the appeal of a traveling preacher of that jurisdiction from the decision of a trial committee.

#### Section V. Central Conferences.

¶ 27. *Article I.*—There shall be Central Conferences for the work of the Church outside the United States of America and Canada with such duties, powers, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth. The number and boundaries of the Central Conferences shall be determined by the Uniting Conference. Subsequently the General Confer-

<sup>24</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 67.

<sup>25</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 183.

ence shall have authority to change the number and boundaries of Central Conferences. The Central Conferences shall have the duties, powers, and privileges hereinafter set forth.

¶ 28. *Article II.*—The Central Conferences shall be composed of as many delegates as shall be determined by a basis established by the General Conference. The delegates shall be ministerial and lay in equal numbers.

¶ 29. *Article III.*—The Central Conferences shall meet within the year succeeding the meeting of the General Conference at such times and places as shall have been determined by the preceding respective Central Conferences or by commissions appointed by them or by the General Conference. The date and place of the first meeting succeeding the Uniting Conference shall be fixed by the bishops of the respective Central Conferences, or in such manner as shall be determined by the General Conference.

¶ 30. *Article IV.*—The Central Conferences shall have the following powers and duties and such others as may be conferred by the General Conference:

1. To promote the evangelistic, educational, missionary, social-concern, and benevolent interests and institutions of the Church within their own boundaries.

2. To elect the bishops for the respective Central Conferences in number as may be determined from time to time, upon a basis fixed by the General Conference, and to cooperate in carrying out such plans for the support of their bishops as may be determined by the General Conference.

3. To establish and constitute such Central Conference boards as may be required and to elect their administrative officers.<sup>26</sup>

4. To determine the boundaries of the Annual Conferences within their respective areas.

5. To make such rules and regulations for the administration of the work within their boundaries including such changes and adaptations of the General Discipline as the conditions in the respective areas may require, subject to the powers that have been or shall be vested in the General Conference.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>26</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 69.

<sup>27</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 142, 147, 313.

6. To appoint a Judicial Court to determine legal questions arising on the rules, regulations, and such revised, adapted, or new sections of the Central Conference Discipline enacted by the Central Conference.

7. To appoint a Committee on Appeals to hear and determine the appeal of a traveling preacher of that Central Conference from the decision of a Committee on Trial.

#### Section VI. Episcopal Administration in Central Conferences.

¶ 31. *Article I.*—The bishops of the Central Conferences shall be elected by their respective Central Conferences and inducted into office in the historic manner.

¶ 32. *Article II.*—The bishops of the Central Conferences shall have membership in the Council of Bishops with vote.

¶ 33. *Article III.*—The bishops of the Central Conferences shall preside in the sessions of their respective Central Conferences.

¶ 34. *Article IV.*—The bishops of each Central Conference shall arrange the plan of episcopal visitation within their Central Conference.

¶ 35. *Article V.*—The Council of Bishops may assign one of their number to visit each Central Conference. When so assigned, the bishop shall be recognized as the 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.

#### Section VII. Annual Conferences.

¶ 36. *Article I.*—The Annual Conference shall be composed of ministerial members as defined by the General Conference, together with a lay member elected by each charge, the conference president of the Women's Society of Christian Service, the conference president of United Methodist Men, and the conference lay leader.<sup>28</sup> Each charge served by more than one minister shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are ministerial members. The lay members shall

<sup>28</sup> See Amendments II, VII, ¶ 67.

be at least twenty-one (21) years of age<sup>29</sup> and shall have been for the four years next preceding their election members of one of the constituent churches forming this union or of The United Methodist Church.<sup>30</sup>

¶ 37. *Article II.*—The Annual Conference is the basic body in the Church and as such shall have reserved to it the right to vote on all constitutional amendments, on the election of ministerial and lay delegates to the General and the Jurisdictional or Central Conferences, on all matters relating to the character and conference relations of its ministerial members, and on the ordination of ministers and such other rights as have not been delegated to the General Conference under the Constitution, with the exception that the lay members may not vote on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers. It shall discharge such duties and exercise such powers as the General Conference under the Constitution may determine.<sup>31</sup>

¶ 38. *Article III.*—The Annual Conference shall elect ministerial and lay delegates to the General Conference and to its Jurisdictional or Central Conference in the manner provided in this section, Articles IV and V. The persons first elected up to the number determined by the ratio for representation in the General Conference shall be representatives in that body. Additional delegates shall be elected to complete the number determined by the ratio for representation in the Jurisdictional or Central Conference, who, together with those first elected as above, shall be delegates in the Jurisdictional or Central Conference. The additional delegates to the Jurisdictional or Central Conference shall in the order of their election be the reserve delegates to the General Conference.<sup>32</sup> The Annual Conference shall also elect reserve ministerial and lay delegates to the Jurisdictional or Central Conference as it may deem desirable.

¶ 39. *Article IV.*—The ministerial delegates to the General Conference and to the Jurisdictional or Central Conference shall be

<sup>29</sup> See Amendment VI, ¶ 67.

<sup>30</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 24, 113, 129, 349, Decision 7, Interim Judicial Council, and Amendment VI, ¶ 67.

<sup>31</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 78, 79, 132.

<sup>32</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 352.

ected by the ministerial members in full connection with the Annual Conference or Provisional Annual Conference; *provided* that such delegates shall have been traveling preachers in the constituent churches forming this union or in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election and are in full connection with the Annual Conference or Provisional Annual Conference electing them when elected and at the time of holding the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences.<sup>33</sup>

¶ 40. *Article V.*—The lay delegates to the General Conference and to the Jurisdictional or Central Conferences shall be elected by the lay members of the Annual Conference or Provisional Annual Conference; *provided* that such delegates be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and shall have been members of one of the constituent churches forming this union or of The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election, and are members thereof within the Annual Conference electing them at the time of holding the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences.<sup>34</sup>

¶ 41. *Article VI.*—For a period of twelve years following union, Annual Conferences shall not have their names or boundaries changed without their consent; and during such period Annual Conferences formerly of The Evangelical United Brethren Church may in electing delegates to General, Jurisdictional, and Central Conferences and their superintendents of districts continue their time-honored methods, the provisions of Division Two, Section VII, Arts. IV and V; Division Two, Section VIII, Art. IV; and Division Three, Art. IX, notwithstanding; but nothing herein shall be construed as preventing the elimination of Annual Conferences based on race.

### Section VIII. Boundaries.

¶ 42. *Article I.*—The United Methodist Church shall have Jurisdictional Conferences made up as follows:

Northeastern—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey,

<sup>33</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 1, 162, 308.

<sup>34</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 346, 354.

Maryland, West Virginia, Delaware, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Province of Ontario.

Southeastern—Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi.

North Central—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota.

South Central—Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico.

Western—Washington, Idaho, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Alaska, Hawaii, Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia.<sup>35</sup>

¶ 43. *Article II.*—The work of the Church outside the United States of America and Canada may be formed into Central Conferences, the number and boundaries of which shall be determined by the Uniting Conference, the General Conference having authority subsequently to make changes in the number and boundaries.

¶ 44. *Article III.*—Changes in the number, names and boundaries of the Jurisdictional Conferences may be effected by the General Conference upon the consent of a majority of the Annual Conferences of each of the Jurisdictional Conferences involved.<sup>36</sup>

¶ 45. *Article IV.*—Changes in the number, names, and boundaries of the Annual Conferences may be effected by the Jurisdictional Conferences in the United States of America and Canada and by the Central Conferences outside the United States of America and Canada according to the provisions under the respective powers of the Jurisdictional and the Central Conferences.<sup>37</sup>

¶ 46 *Article V. Transfer of Local Churches.*—1. A local church may be transferred from one Annual Conference to another in which it is geographically located upon approval by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting in each of the following:

- a) The Charge Conference
- b) The Congregational Meeting of the local church
- c) Each of the two Annual Conferences involved

<sup>35</sup> See Amendment V, ¶ 67.

<sup>36</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 55, 56, 85, 215.

<sup>37</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 28, 85, 217, and Decisions 1, 2, Interim Judicial Council.

The vote shall be certified by the secretaries of the specified conferences or meetings to the bishops having supervision of the Annual Conferences involved, and upon their announcement of the required majorities the transfer shall immediately be effective.

2. The vote on approval of transfer shall be taken by each Annual Conference at its first session after the matter is submitted to it.

3. Transfers under the provisions of this article shall not be governed or restricted by other provisions of this Constitution relating to changes of boundaries of conferences.

#### Section IX. District Conferences.

¶ 47. *Article I.*—There may be organized in an Annual Conference, District Conferences composed of such persons and invested with such powers as the General Conference may determine.

#### Section X. Charge Conferences.

¶ 48. *Article I.*—There shall be organized in each charge a Charge Conference composed of such persons and invested with such powers as the General Conference shall provide.

¶ 49. *Article II. Election of Church Officers.*—Unless the General Conference shall order otherwise, the officers of the church or churches constituting a charge shall be elected by the Charge Conference or by the members of said church or churches at a meeting called for that purpose, as may be arranged by the Charge Conference, unless the election is otherwise required by local church charters or state or provincial laws.

### DIVISION THREE—EPISCOPAL SUPERVISION

¶ 50 *Article I.*—There shall be a continuance of an episcopacy in The United Methodist Church of like plan, powers, privileges, and duties as now exist in The Methodist Church and in The Evangelical United Brethren Church in all those matters in which they agree and may be considered identical; and the differences between these historic episcopacies are deemed to be reconciled and harmonized by and in

this Plan of Union and Constitution of The United Methodist Church and actions taken pursuant thereto so that a unified superintendency and episcopacy is hereby created and established of, in, and by those who now are and shall be bishops of The United Methodist Church; and the said episcopacy shall further have such powers, privileges, and duties as are herein set forth.<sup>38</sup>

¶ 51. *Article II.*—The bishops shall be elected by the respective Jurisdictional and Central Conferences and consecrated in the historic manner at such time and place as may be fixed by the General Conference for those elected by the jurisdictions and by each Central Conference for those elected by such Central Conference.<sup>39</sup>

¶ 52. *Article III.*—There shall be a Council of Bishops composed of all the bishops of The United Methodist Church. The council shall meet at least once a year and plan for the general oversight and promotion of the temporal and spiritual interests of the entire Church and for carrying into effect the rules, regulations, and responsibilities prescribed and enjoined by the General Conference and in accord with the provisions set forth in this Plan of Union.

¶ 53. *Article IV.*—The bishops of each Jurisdictional and Central Conference shall constitute a College of Bishops and such College of Bishops shall arrange the plan of episcopal supervision of the Annual Conferences, Mission Conferences, and Missions within their respective territories.

¶ 54. *Article V.*—The bishops shall have residential and presidential supervision in the Jurisdictional Conferences in which they are elected or to which they are transferred. Bishops may be transferred from one jurisdiction to another jurisdiction for presidential and residential supervision under the following conditions: (1) The transfer of bishops may be on either of two bases: (a) a jurisdiction which receives a bishop by transfer from another jurisdiction may transfer to that jurisdiction or to a third jurisdiction one of its own bishops eligible for transfer, so that the number transferred in by each jurisdiction shall be balanced by the number transferred out, or (b) a jurisdiction may receive a bishop from another jurisdiction and not

<sup>38</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 4, 114, 127.

<sup>39</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 21.

transfer out a member of its own College of Bishops. (2) No bishop shall be transferred unless he shall have given his specific consent. (3) No bishop shall be eligible for transfer unless he shall have served one quadrennium in the jurisdiction which elected him to the episcopacy. (4) All such transfers shall require the approval by a majority vote of the members, present and voting, of the Jurisdictional Conferences which are involved after consideration by the Committees on Episcopacy. After the above procedures have been followed, the transferring bishop shall become a member of the receiving College of Bishops and shall be subject to residential assignment by that Jurisdictional Conference.

A bishop may be assigned by the Council of Bishops for presidential service or other temporary service in another jurisdiction than that which elected him, provided request is made by a majority of the bishops in the jurisdiction of the proposed service.

In the case of an emergency in any jurisdiction or Central Conference through the death or disability of a bishop or other cause, the Council of Bishops may assign a bishop from another jurisdiction or Central Conference to the work of the said jurisdiction or Central Conference with the consent of a majority of the bishops of that jurisdiction or Central Conference.

¶ 55. *Article VI.*—The bishops, both active and retired, of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and of The Methodist Church at the time union is consummated, shall be bishops of The United Methodist Church.

The bishops of The Methodist Church elected by the jurisdictions, the active bishops of The Evangelical United Brethren Church at the time of union, and bishops elected by the jurisdictions of The United Methodist Church shall have life tenure. Each bishop elected by a Central Conference of The Methodist Church shall have such tenure as the Central Conference electing him shall have determined.<sup>40</sup>

The Jurisdictional Conference shall elect a standing Committee on Episcopacy, to consist of one ministerial and one lay delegate from each Annual Conference, on nomination of the Annual Conference delegation. The committee shall review the work of the bishops, pass

<sup>40</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 4, 303.

on their character and official administration, and report to the Jurisdictional Conference its findings for such action as the conference may deem appropriate within its constitutional warrant of power. The committee shall recommend the assignments of the bishops to their respective residences, for final action by the Jurisdictional Conference.

¶ 56. *Article VII.*—A bishop presiding over an Annual, Central, or Jurisdictional Conference shall decide all questions of law coming before him in the regular business of a session;<sup>41</sup> *provided* that such questions be presented in writing and that his decisions be recorded in the journal of the conference.

Such an episcopal decision shall not be authoritative except for the pending case until it shall have been passed upon by the Judicial Council. Each bishop shall report in writing annually all his decisions of law, with a syllabus of the same, to the Judicial Council, which shall affirm, modify, or reverse them.

¶ 57. *Article VIII.*—The bishops of the several Jurisdictional and Central Conferences shall preside in the sessions of their respective conferences.

¶ 58. *Article IX.*—In each Annual Conference there shall be one or more district superintendents who shall assist the bishop in the administration of the Annual Conference and shall have such responsibilities and term of office as the General Conference may determine.

¶ 59. *Article X.*—The bishops shall appoint, after consultation with the district superintendents, ministers to the charges, and they shall have such responsibilities and authorities as the General Conference shall prescribe.

#### DIVISION FOUR—THE JUDICIARY

¶ 60. *Article I.*—There shall be a Judicial Council. The General Conference shall determine the number and qualifications of its members, their terms of office, and the method of election and the filling of vacancies.

¶ 61. *Article II.*—The Judicial Council shall have authority:

<sup>41</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 33.

1. To determine the constitutionality of any act of the General Conference upon an appeal of a majority of the Council of Bishops or one fifth of the members of the General Conference, and to determine the constitutionality of any act of a Jurisdictional or Central Conference upon an appeal of a majority of the bishops of that Jurisdictional or Central Conference or upon the appeal of one fifth of the members of that Jurisdictional or Central Conference.

2. To hear and determine any appeal from a bishop's decision on a question of law made in the Annual Conference when said appeal has been made by one fifth of that conference present and voting.

3. To pass upon decisions of law made by bishops in Annual Conferences.

4. To hear and determine the legality of any action taken therein by any General Conference board or Jurisdictional or Central Conference board or body, upon appeal by one third of the members thereof, or upon request of the Council of Bishops or a majority of the bishops of a Jurisdictional or a Central Conference.

5. To have such other duties and powers as may be conferred upon it by the General Conference.

6. To provide its own methods of organization and procedure.

¶ 62. *Article III.*—All decisions of the Judicial Council shall be final. When the Judicial Council shall declare unconstitutional any act of the General Conference then in session, that decision shall be reported back to that General Conference immediately.

¶ 63. *Article IV.*—The General Conference shall establish for the Church a judicial system which shall guarantee to our ministers a right to trial by a committee and an appeal and to our members a right to trial before the church, or by a committee, and an appeal.

#### DIVISION FIVE—AMENDMENTS

¶ 64. *Article I.*—Amendments to the Constitution shall be made upon a two-thirds majority of the General Conference present and voting and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the aggregate number of members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting, except in the case of the first, second, and seventh Restrictive Rules

which shall require a three-fourths majority of all the members of the Annual Conferences present and voting. The vote, after being completed, shall be canvassed by the Council of Bishops, and the amendment voted upon shall become effective upon their announcement of its having received the required majority.<sup>42</sup>

¶ 65. *Article II.*—Amendments to the Constitution may originate in either the General Conference or the Annual Conferences.

¶ 66. *Article III.*—A Jurisdictional Conference may by a majority vote propose changes in the Constitution of the Church, and such proposed changes shall be submitted to the next General Conference. If the General Conference adopts the measure by a two-thirds vote, it shall be submitted to the Annual Conferences according to the provision for amendments.

#### ¶ 67. Amendments

*Amendment I* [Adopted, 1968]

*Amend Division Two, Section II, Article I (¶ 12), by deleting the entire paragraph and substituting the following as new paragraph 12:*

*Article I.*—1. The General Conference shall be composed of not less than 600 nor more than 1,000 delegates, one half of whom shall be ministers and one half lay members.

2. Delegates shall be elected by the Annual Conferences except that delegates may be elected by other autonomous Methodist churches if and when the General Conference shall approve concordats with such other autonomous Methodist churches for the mutual election and seating of delegates in each other's highest legislative conferences.

3. In the case of The Methodist Church in Great Britain, mother church of Methodism, upon mutual approval of the concordat now pending, provision shall be made for the reciprocal election and seating of four delegates, two clergy and two lay.

*Amendment II* [Adopted, 1968]

*Amend Division Two, Section VII, Article I (¶ 36), by adding at the end of the first sentence the words AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE*

<sup>42</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 154, 243, 244, 349.

CONFERENCE YOUTH ORGANIZATION, and by adding at the beginning of the last sentence the words EXCEPT FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE YOUTH ORGANIZATION, so that the new paragraph will read:

*Article I.*—The Annual Conference shall be composed of ministerial members as defined by the General Conference, together with a lay member elected by each charge, the conference president of the Women's Society of Christian Service, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference lay leader, and the president of the conference youth organization. Each charge served by more than one minister shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are ministerial members. Except for the president of the conference youth organization, the lay members shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and shall have been for the four years next preceding their election members of one of the constituent churches forming this union or of The United Methodist Church.

**Amendment III** [Adopted, 1968]

*Amend Division Two, Article II (¶ 8), line 2, by deleting the words AND CANADA, so that the new paragraph will read:*

*Article II.*—There shall be Jurisdictional Conferences for the Church in the United States of America with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth; *provided* that in The United Methodist Church there shall be no jurisdictional or central conference based on any ground other than geographical and regional division.

**Amendment IV** [Adopted, 1968]

*Amend Division Two, Article III (¶ 9), line two, by deleting the words AND CANADA, so that the new paragraph will read:*

*Article III.*—There shall be Central Conferences for the Church outside the United States of America and, if necessary, Provisional Central Conferences, all with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth.

**Amendment V** [Adopted, 1968]

*Amend Division Two, Section VIII, Article I (¶ 42), lines 14 and*

15, by deleting the words PROVINCES OF MANITOBA, SASKATCHEWAN, ALBERTA, AND BRITISH COLUMBIA, so that the new paragraph will read:

*Article I.*—The United Methodist Church shall have Jurisdictional Conferences made up as follows:

Northeastern—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, West Virginia, Delaware, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Province of Ontario.

Southeastern—Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi.

North Central—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota.

South Central—Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico.

Western—Washington, Idaho, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Alaska, and Hawaii.

**Amendment VI** [Adopted, 1970]

*Amend Division Two, Section VII, Article I (¶ 36), by deleting from the last sentence the words SHALL BE AT LEAST TWENTY-ONE (21) YEARS OF AGE, and by adding the following at the end of the paragraph: AND FOR ONE YEAR NEXT PRECEDING THEIR ELECTION AS A MEMBER OF THE CHARGE THEY ARE TO REPRESENT, so that the new paragraph will read:*

*Article I.*—The Annual Conference shall be composed of ministerial members as defined by the General Conference, together with a lay member elected by each charge, the conference president of United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference lay leader, and the president of the conference youth organization. Each charge served by more than one minister shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are ministerial members. The lay members shall have been for the four years next preceding their election members of one of the constituent churches forming this union or of The United Methodist Church, and for one year next preceding their election as a member of the charge they are to represent.

**Amendment VII** [Adopted, 1970]

*Amend Division Two, Section VII, Article I (¶ 36), by adding at the end of the first sentence the words AND TWO YOUNG PERSONS UNDER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS OF AGE FROM EACH DISTRICT TO BE SELECTED IN SUCH MANNER AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE, so that the new paragraph will read:*

*Article I.*—The Annual Conference shall be composed of ministerial members as defined by the General Conference, together with a lay member elected by each charge, the conference president of United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference lay leader, the president of the conference youth organization, and two young persons under twenty-five (25) years of age from each district to be selected in such manner as may be determined by the Annual Conference. Each charge served by more than one minister shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are ministerial members. The lay members shall have been for the four years preceding their election members of one of the constituent churches forming this union or of The United Methodist Church, and for one year next preceding their election as a member of the charge they are to represent.

**Part II**  
**DOCTRINE AND DOCTRINAL**  
**STATEMENTS AND THE GENERAL**  
**RULES<sup>1</sup>**

¶ 68. SECTION I—HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The pioneers in the traditions that flowed together in The United Methodist Church—the Wesleys, Albright, Otterbein, Boehm—understood themselves as standing in the center stream of Christian spirituality and doctrine, loyal heirs to all that was best in the Christian past. As John Wesley had claimed, theirs was

“the old religion, the religion of the Bible, the religion . . . of the whole church in the purest ages.”

Their gospel was rooted in the biblical message of God's gracious response to man's deep need, in his self-giving love revealed in Jesus Christ. Their interest in dogma as such was minimal; thus they were able to insist on the integrity of Christian truth even while allowing for a decent latitude in its interpretation. This was the point to their familiar dictum: “As to all opinions *which do not strike at the root of Christianity*, we think and let think.”

But, even as they were fully committed to the principles of religious toleration and doctrinal pluralism, they were equally confident that there is a “marrow” of Christian truth that can be identified

<sup>1</sup>It is the ruling of the Judicial Council that Sections I and III of this Part II “are legislative enactments and neither part of the Constitution nor under the Restrictive Rules” (*cf.* Judicial Council Decision 358; *see also* Decisions 41, 176).

and that must be conserved. This living core, as they believed, stands revealed in Scripture, illumined by tradition, vivified in personal experience, and confirmed by reason. They were very much aware, of course, that God's eternal Word never has been, nor can be, exhaustively expressed in any single form of words. They were also prepared, as a matter of course, to reaffirm the ancient creeds and confessions as valid summaries of Christian truth. But they were careful not to invest them with final authority or to set them apart as absolute standards for doctrinal truth and error.

In this same spirit, they also declined to adopt any of the classical forms of the "confessional principle"—the claim that the essence of Christian truth can, and ought to be, stated in precisely defined propositions, legally enforceable by ecclesiastical authority. Instead, they turned to a unique version of the ancient "conciliar principle," in which the collective wisdom of living Christian pastors, teachers and people was relied upon to guard and guide their ongoing communal life. Wesley's agency for this collegial process he called the *Conference*, and he was followed in this usage by both Albright and Otterbein. In its original aim and function, every United Methodist Conference, at whatever level, is both a consultative and legislative body, responsible for valid applications of church teaching and polity to theoretical and practical questions alike. The earliest agenda of Wesley's Conferences focused on three basic questions:

1. What to teach? (the substance of the gospel)
2. How to teach? (the proclamation of the gospel)
3. What to do? (the gospel in action)

#### Wesleyan Doctrinal Standards

The *Sermons* and the *Notes*

In addition to his own personal leadership and that of the Conference, Wesley provided his people with published sermons and a simplified biblical commentary for their doctrinal guidance. Over the span of fourteen years (beginning in 1746), he issued four volumes of forty-four *Sermons on Several Occasions*, in which he set forth the sum of his basic teaching on all the main themes of Christian doctrine, together with many of his own most distinctive theological

opinions. In 1754 he prepared and published a volume of *Explanatory Notes Upon the New Testament* as a guide for Methodist biblical exegesis and doctrinal interpretation. In both the *Sermons* and the *Notes*, the primary doctrinal norm is Scripture, first and last, but always Scripture as interpreted by living tradition and vital faith. Indeed, his very first theological tract (*The Doctrine of Salvation, Faith and Good Works*, 1738) was a digest of the first five *Homilies* of the Church of England (1547).

It was inevitable that the paired rights of Methodist preachers to freedom in their pulpits and of the Methodist people to the hearing of sound doctrine from their preachers would stir occasional conflicts requiring adjudication. Accordingly, in 1763, Wesley produced a "Model Deed" for his chapels, which stipulated the authority of their lay trustees, under the overall direction of the Conference:

. . . the major part of the Trustees of the said premises, for the time being, shall from time to time, and at all times forever thereafter, permit such persons as shall be appointed at the yearly Conference of the people called Methodists, in London, Bristol, or Leeds, and no others, to have and enjoy the said premises for the purposes aforesaid: Provided always, that the said persons preach no other doctrine than is contained in Mr. Wesley's *Notes Upon the New Testament*, and four volumes of *Sermons*.

The aim here was not to impose an inflexible system of doctrine or to inhibit responsible intellectual freedom, but rather to provide a broad and flexible framework of doctrine which would define the outside limits for public teaching in the societies, in disputed cases. These standards were more flexible than any of the classical creeds or confessions or articles, they gave the Methodists a measure of protection from doctrinal eccentricity, and they gave Methodist laymen a new role in the assessment of doctrinal standards. This particular collegial formula for doctrinal guidance was unique in Christendom. It committed the Methodist people to the biblical revelation as primary without proposing a literal summary of that revelation in any single propositional form. It anchored Methodist theology to a stable core, but allowed it freedom of movement in the further unfoldings of history.

### The Wesleyan Perspective in the *Sermons* and the *Notes*

Even a brief synopsis of the *Sermons on Several Occasions* underscores the integral logic of the Christian message, as Wesley understood it. *Faith* is everywhere the foundation of all else—faith understood as trust, faith as man's grateful acceptance of God's gracious gift of pardon ("justification"). The prime effect of faith is to transform the believer's consciousness from an inward dread of God's justice to a lively assurance of his merciful, healing love in Christ. This is the theme of the first five sermons (I-V). The first fruits of faith of this sort are "righteousness," "the marks of the new birth," and "the witness of the Spirit"; these become the topics for the second sermon cluster (VI-XV). "The righteousness of faith" generates its own distinctive life-style, which has been delineated best of all in Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount." Wesley, therefore, proceeds to devote his largest single sermon bloc to an exposition of that Sermon—thirteen connected essays which amount to a broad-spectrum commentary on the ethical imperatives of grace (XVI-XXVIII). Here, he stresses the vital interplay between the freedom of the "Gospel" and the self-constraints of the moral "Law." Thus, in the following sermons, Wesley shows how a final polarization between these two may be avoided (XXIX-XXXIV). This brings him to the keystone-arch of his doctrinal "system": to "the fullness of faith"—which is what he meant by "Christian Perfection" (XXXV). After this, it was enough to add a concluding miscellany (XXXVI-XLIV) of practical advices on the personal and social implications of Christian faith in day-to-day Christian living (e.g., "the Use of Money," XLIV).

In the *Explanatory Notes* we may see Wesley's way of interpreting biblical language as conveying the mysteries and insights of revelation to the eyes of faith rather than merely literal propositions to philosophers and critics. Revelation is everywhere in Scripture and everywhere open to seeking minds, but always its summit and summation is Jesus Christ. Human understanding of biblical truth depends upon the Spirit's "inward testimony" in the hearts of faithful believers in the community of faith. Consequently, the primary aim of biblical interpretation is to guide the Christian seeker toward insights

of his own, to assist him in his Christian witness, and to direct him in his mission of service to God and neighbor.

### American Methodists and the Wesleyan "Standards"

From their beginnings, the Methodists in America understood themselves as the dutiful heirs of Wesley and the Wesleyan tradition. In 1773, they affirmed their allegiance to the principles of the "Model Deed" and ratified this again in 1784, when they stipulated that "The London Minutes," including the doctrinal minutes of the early Conferences and the Model Deed, were accepted as their own doctrinal guidelines. In this way they established a threefold agency—the *Conference*, the *Sermons*, and the *Notes*—as their guides in matters of doctrine.

### The Articles of Religion

Wesley expected that the new American church would need a fundamental liturgy, and he undertook to provide this in his personal abridgment of the Book of Common Prayer (in its 1662 edition). This so-called "Sunday Service" included his revisions of the *Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion* (set as an appendix even as they also appeared in his own copy of the Book of Common Prayer). He reduced their number from thirty-nine to twenty-four and made slight textual revisions, chiefly by omission. In the earliest American *Disciplines* (beginning in 1788) these *Articles* (with an additional Article now numbered XXIII, asserting the autonomy of the new American nation) were also printed as an appendix. In 1792, without recorded authorization, they were moved forward to the front of the *Discipline*, where they have remained ever since. Then, when "The Sunday Service" failed to gain acceptance in the new church, the *Articles* survived in *The Discipline*, where their prominence has seemed to suggest that they were more of a doctrinal "confession" than had ever been intended.

The original distinction between the intended functions of the *Articles* on the one hand and of the *Sermons* and *Notes* on the other, may be inferred from the double reference to them in the First Restrictive Rule (adopted in 1808 and unchanged ever since). On the

one hand, it forbids any further *alterations* of the *Articles* and, on the other, any further contrary *additions* "to our present existing, and established standards of doctrine," (i.e., the *Minutes*, *Sermons*, and *Notes*). At that time, the Wesleyan appeal to the fourfold norms of Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason was so widely understood that it was taken for granted.

### The Fading Force of Doctrinal Discipline

In the climate of "The Second Great Awakening," the normative influence of European traditions was sharply diminished, especially on the opening frontier. Indeed, the great frontier revivals wrought a transformation in American Christianity generally. Critical reason as a criterion in theological reflection was applied unevenly at best. In the "free" churches especially, Christian doctrine focused more and more on "Christian experience," understood chiefly as "saving faith in Christ." Among the Methodists in particular there was a consistent stress on free will, infant baptism, and informal worship (and this led to protracted controversies with the Presbyterians, Baptists, and Episcopalians respectively). At the same time, Methodist concerns about formal standards of doctrine were correspondingly diminished. Indeed, it was the Wesleyan hymnody that served as the most important single means of communicating the doctrinal substance of the gospel and in its guardianship as well. By the end of the nineteenth century, and thereafter increasingly in the twentieth, Methodist theology had become decidedly eclectic, with less and less specific attention paid to its Wesleyan sources as such. Despite continued and quite variegated theological development, there has been no significant project in formal doctrinal re-formulation in Methodism since 1808.

### Doctrinal Traditions in The Evangelical Church and The United Brethren Church

The unfolding of doctrinal concerns among the Albright Evangelicals and Otterbein's United Brethren in Christ has run a course roughly parallel to that of the Methodists—with such differences as there were springing largely from the different ecclesiastical heritage which they had brought from Germany and Holland, together with

the mellowed Calvinism of the Heidelberg Catechism. In the German-speaking communities of America, Albright and Otterbein believed it more important to stress evangelism than theological speculation. Their constant and common stress was on "conversion," on "justification by faith confirmed by a sensible assurance thereof," on Christian nurture, on the priesthood of all true believers in a shared ministry of Christian witness and service, and on "entire sanctification" as the goal and crown of Christian life.

As with Wesley, their primary source and norm for Christian teaching was Scripture. Otterbein enjoined his followers "to be careful to preach no other doctrine than what is plainly laid down in the Bible." Each new member was asked "to confess that he received the Bible as the Word of God." Ordinands were required to affirm the plenary authority of Scripture "without reserve." Matched with these affirmations was the conviction that "converted" Christians are enabled by the Holy Spirit to read Scripture with a special "Christian consciousness," and this principle was prized as the supreme guide in biblical interpretation.

Jacob Albright was directed by the Conference of 1807 to prepare a list of Articles of Religion. Before he could attempt the task he died. George Miller then assumed the responsibility. He recommended to the Conference of 1809 the adoption of a German translation of the Methodist *Articles of Religion*, with the addition of a new one, "Of the Last Judgment." The recommendation was adopted. This suggests a conscious choice of the Methodist *Articles* as normative, since the added article was their only other borrowing—from the *Augsburg Confession* (Article XVII), on a theme strangely omitted in the Anglican Articles. These Twenty-Six Articles were generally interpreted among the Albright Evangelicals in a typically non-dogmatic temper.

In 1816, the original "Twenty-Six Articles" were reduced to "Twenty-One" by the excision of five of the most polemical ones in the earlier text: XI.—"Of Works of Supererogation," XIV.—"Of Purgatory," XIX.—"Of Both Kinds" (all aimed at Roman Catholics), XXI.—"Of the Marriage of Ministers" (aimed at both Roman Catholics and Anabaptists), and XXV.—"Of a Christian Man's Oath" (aimed originally at sixteenth century sectaries!). This act of deletion

was a notable instance of a conciliar spirit in a time of bitter controversy.

In 1839, a few slight further changes were made in the text of 1816 and it was then stipulated that "the Articles of Faith . . . should be constitutionally unchangeable among us." In 1851, it was discovered that Article I had been altered without authorization, and this was promptly corrected. In the 1870's a proposal that the Articles be extensively revised touched off a flurry of debate, but the Conference of 1875 decisively rejected the proposal. In later action the Twenty-One Articles were reduced to nineteen in number by combining several of them, but without omitting any of their original content. These nineteen were brought intact into the Evangelical United Brethren union of 1946.

Among the United Brethren in Christ, a summary of normative teaching was formulated in 1813 by the disciples and colleagues of William Otterbein, Christian Newcomer, and Christopher Grosch. Its first three paragraphs follow the order of the Apostles' Creed. Paragraphs four and five affirm the primacy of Scripture and the universal proclamation of "the biblical doctrine . . . of man's fall in Adam and his deliverance through Jesus Christ." An added section commends "the ordinances of baptism and the remembrance of the Lord" and approves foot-washing as optional. In the first General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ (1815) a slight revision of this earlier statement was formally adopted as their official "Confession of Faith." A further slight revision was adopted in 1841, with the stipulation that there should be no subsequent changes in the "Confession":

No rule or ordinance shall at any time be passed to change or do away with the Confession of Faith as it now stands.

Even so, agitation for change continued, and in 1885 a Church Commission was appointed to:

prepare such a form of belief and such amended fundamental rules for the government of this church in the future as will, in their judgment, be best adapted to secure its growth and efficiency in the work of evangelizing the world.

The resulting proposal for a new Confession of Faith and Con-

stitution was submitted to the general membership of the Church (the first such referendum on a Confession of Faith in its history) and was then placed before the General Conference of 1889. Both the general membership and the Conference approved it by preponderant majorities, and it was thereupon enacted by episcopal "Proclamation." However, this action was protested by a minority as a violation of the restrictive rule of 1841 and became a basic cause for a consequent schism ("The United Brethren Church [Old Constitution]").

The Confession of Faith of 1889 was more comprehensive than any of its antecedents, with articles on depravity, justification, regeneration and adoption, sanctification, the Christian Sabbath, and "the future state." Its article on sanctification, though brief, is significant in its reflection of the doctrine of holiness of the Heidelberg Catechism. It was this Confession of 1889 that was brought by the United Brethren into the union of 1946.

#### The Evangelical United Brethren Confession of Faith

In that union, the Evangelical *Articles* and the United Brethren *Confession* were both printed in the *Discipline* of the new Evangelical United Brethren Church. A dozen years later, however, the General Conference of the united church authorized its Board of Bishops to prepare a new "Confession of Faith." This was done after extensive consultation. A new Confession, with sixteen Articles, of a somewhat more modern character than any of its antecedents, was presented to the General Conference of 1962 and adopted without amendment. In it the influence of the Evangelical statement on "Entire Sanctification and Christian Perfection" is reflected as a distinctive emphasis. This Confession was declared to supplant both former Articles and Confession, and was brought over intact into the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church (1968).

#### Doctrinal Standards in the United Methodist Church *Discipline* (1968)

In the Plan of Union for The United Methodist Church, the Preface to the Methodist *Articles of Religion* and the Evangelical United Brethren *Confession of Faith* explains that both had been accepted

as doctrinal standards for the new church. It was declared that "they are thus deemed congruent if not identical in their doctrinal perspectives, and not in conflict." Additionally, it was stipulated that although the language of the First Restrictive Rule has never been formally defined, Wesley's *Sermons* and *Notes* were specifically included in our present existing and established standards of doctrine by plain historical inference. This, however, raises the question as to the status and function of "doctrinal standards" in The United Methodist Church without supplying a clear answer. There are abundant references throughout the *Discipline* to "our standards of doctrine"—along with prohibitions against contrary teaching and provisions for disciplinary action against deviant public teaching—but there is no precise reference to the "standards" thus referred to. The *Discipline* seems to assume that for the determination of otherwise irreconcilable doctrinal disputes, the Annual and General Conferences are the appropriate courts of appeal, under the guidance of the first two Restrictive Rules (which is to say, the *Articles* and *Confession*, the *Sermons* and the *Notes*).

There are, however, at least two general principles with respect to the discipline of doctrine in The United Methodist Church on which there has been broad and basic agreement. In the first place, the *Articles* and the *Confession* are *not* to be regarded as positive, juridical norms for doctrine, demanding unqualified assent on pain of excommunication. They are and ought to remain as important landmarks in our complex heritage and ought rightly to be retained in the *Discipline*. The United Methodist Church would be much the poorer if they were simply relegated to the attic of history's discards. But, since they are not accorded any status of finality, either in content or rhetoric, there is no objection in principle to the continued development of still other doctrinal summaries and liturgical creeds that may gain acceptance and use in the church—without displacing those we already have. This principle of the historical interpretation of all doctrinal statements, past and present, is crucial. Such statements never have been and ought not to be legal tests for membership. We should interpret them, appreciatively, in their historic contexts, seeking always to appropriate the contributions of our Christian past even as we also stretch forward toward the Christian future.

By the same token, there is likewise general agreement that The United Methodist Church stands urgently in need of doctrinal reinvigoration for the sake of authentic renewal, fruitful evangelism, and the effective discharge of our ecumenical commitments. Seen in this light, the recovery and updating of our distinctive doctrinal heritage—"truly catholic, truly evangelical and truly reformed"—takes on a high priority. It calls for a concerted double movement: zealous repossession of our traditions and also vigorous promotion of theological dialogue and development within the denomination and in all our ecumenical endeavors. There are many effective agencies in the Church that must share in the joint endeavor to stimulate an active interest in doctrinal standards and doctrinal statements—educational institutions, boards and agencies at every level, ministers and laymen in the Conferences, the Council of Bishops, etc. At all these levels there is a pressing need of renewed effort both to repose our legacy from the churches we have been and to re-mint this for the church we aspire to be.

#### The "General Rules" and Christian Social Concerns

No motif in the Wesleyan tradition has been more constant or insistent than the linkage between Christian doctrine and Christian ethics. Methodists have always been strictly enjoined never to divorce faith from good works. This is mirrored in the abundance of "rules" and "directions" for the various groups in the Societies and their leaders. The most famous of these directives was Wesley's original pamphlet, "The Nature, Design and General Rules of the United Societies" (1743). In 1784, a slight revision of this earlier text was adopted by the American Methodists and has appeared in all subsequent *Disciplines*, with further slight revisions.

The "General Rules" were originally designed as moral directives for members of a religious society quite self-consciously included within the sacramental life of the Church of England. Wesley's own statement of the purpose of a Methodist Society is described in the Rules as "a company . . . united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation." The terms of

membership in these societies were simple and personal (and deliberately quite different from the conditions of church membership): "a desire to flee from the wrath to come and to be saved from their sins." But Wesley insisted that evangelical faith should manifest itself in evangelical living, and he spelled this out in his three-part formula in the Rules. There it is thrice-repeated that, "It is expected of all who continue therein that *they shall continue* to evidence *their desire of salvation*" by:

1. Doing no harm, avoiding evil, especially that which is most generally practiced, such as . . . (then follows a listing of specific examples).
2. Doing good of every possible sort and, as far as possible to all men . . .
3. By attending upon all the ordinances of God. Such are . . .

Wesley's illustrative cases under each of these three rules serve to remind us of the endless task of the Christian conscience in the constant crises of passing from general principles to actual ethical decisions. They range over many problems of self-restraint and social control; they touch on many of the great issues of what was then current secular policy, and they stress the crucial importance of private prayer and corporate worship—always as the spiritual spring of ethical action. It was clearly Wesley's intention that these three basic principles—"doing no harm, doing good and using the means of grace"—should be accepted as constants and that the inventories of their applied cases might be updated *at any time*, in keeping with changing times and circumstance. That he did not intend them to be interpreted in any legalistic spirit is plain from his second sermon on the Sermon on the Mount (XXII) where he repeats the same three rules and then denounces any undue reliance on them as "only the outside of that religion for which (the true believer) insatiably longs." This true religion he then defines as "the knowledge of God in Christ Jesus," "the life which is hid with Christ in God," and "the righteousness that (the true believer) thirsts after." And as Augustine before him, Wesley concludes: "Nor ever can he (the true believer) rest till thus he rests in God."

Upon such evangelical premises, United Methodists have sought

to conceive and exercise their responsibility for the moral and spiritual quality of secular society. Our historic oppositions to smuggling, or slavery, or alcohol, or child labor etc., were, in each instance, founded in a vivid sense of God's wrath against human injustice and wastage. Our struggles for human dignity and social reform have reflected a vision of God's demand for justice, even as they have also reflected a woeful ambivalence in our actual ethical behavior. Intention here, as elsewhere, has all too often surpassed performance. And yet, on one point we have been clear, in principle at least: there is no "personal gospel" worth the name that does not express itself in relevant and effective social concerns; there is no "social gospel" that can be regarded as authentically Christian that is not rooted in our daily prayer—"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done *on earth!*"

In 1908, the Methodist Episcopal Church promulgated a "Social Creed," and was followed in this by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1914, and by the Methodist Protestants in 1916. In 1913 the United Brethren adopted the same general document in the form that had been ratified by the then newly formed "Federal Council of Churches." In 1946, the present Evangelical United Brethren statement on "Social Issues and Moral Standards" was formulated for the E.U.B. *Discipline*. Every United Methodist Annual and General Conference has produced its quota of resolutions and pronouncements seeking to apply the Christian vision of righteousness to current social, economic and political issues. It is crucial, however, that Christians should not confuse the *roots* and *fruits* of faith. Moral zeal apart from man's grateful response to God's unfailing grace tends either toward self-righteous and joyless moralism or else toward some variant of the cult of human self-sufficiency.

The last paragraph of *The General Rules*—providing for the expulsion of delinquent members of the Methodist Societies—poses the agonizing problem of how discipline is to be administered in a community of compassion in extreme cases. Originally, of course, there was no thought in Wesley's mind of "excommunication" from the sacraments—he had no canonical warrant for *that*. And he always stressed the therapeutic tasks of the religious society, so that expulsion from the society was never for any single lapse in itself, but for

persistent disloyalty after patient warnings and prolonged pastoral counsel. But the problem persists even now in the changed circumstances of The United Methodist Church, since our *Discipline* provides for both reprimands and expulsions, of both pastors and laity—always in cases of last resort (e.g., ¶¶ 1521.1, 2, 1529.8, 1559-60, etc.). The history of church discipline cannot always provide valid answers for particular cases. It does, however, point to two interacting general principles: *accountability* to the community of the church is an inherent obligation on those who claim that community's support. Support without accountability promotes moral weakness; accountability without support is a form of cruelty. A church that rushes to punishment is deaf to God's mercy; but a church lacking the conviction and courage to act decisively loses its claim to moral authority. On either side, the balance is struck only as the church understands herself primarily as a community of the reconciled and reconciling in Christ—in whom God continues to "reconcile the world to himself."

#### Conclusion

*Legacies affect their heirs in different ways. Some are content to ignore them and never know their loss. Others cling too closely to their past and so forfeit its full value to themselves and others. Still others are led to seek appropriate ways of receiving what has been bequeathed them and of sharing it gladly with others. It is some such combination of loyalty and freedom that bespeaks the true liberty of Christian men and women—our true confidence in Christ's Lordship over our pasts and our futures. This was the way of Wesley and Albright and Otterbein—and still may be the way of their sons and daughters in the faith.*

#### ¶ 69. SECTION 2—LANDMARK DOCUMENTS

[A Bibliographical Preface: The Articles of Religion are here reprinted from Wesley's original text in *The Sunday Service of the Methodists . . .* (1784), collated against their first printing in *A Form of Discipline, For The Ministers, Preachers, and Members of The*

*Methodist Episcopal Church in America* (1788), and the text of the *Discipline* of 1812 (when the first Restrictive Rule took effect). To these are added two Articles: "Of Sanctification" and "Of The Duty of Christians to The Civil Authority," which are legislative enactments and not integral parts of the Constitution (cf., Judicial Council Decisions 41, 176). The text of the Confession of Faith is identical with that of its original in *The Discipline of The Evangelical United Brethren Church* (1963).

John Wesley's "standard" *Sermons* have been frequently reprinted from Thomas Jackson's edition of his *Works* (1829-31), most recently by the Zondervan Press (Grand Rapids, 1958). An annotated edition by E. H. Sugden—*The Standard Sermons of John Wesley*—was first published in 1921 and most recently reprinted in 1961. The most recent edition of *The Explanatory Notes Upon the New Testament* is that of John Lawson (London: Epworth Press, 1955). A selection of Wesley's sermons and doctrinal essays is included in the volume *John Wesley*, in *A LIBRARY OF PROTESTANT THOUGHT* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1964). The General Rules are printed here in the text of 1812 (when the fifth Restrictive Rule took effect).]

#### THE ARTICLES OF RELIGION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH (1784)

##### Article I.—Of Faith in the Holy Trinity

There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body or parts, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; the maker and preserver of all things, both visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

##### Article II.—Of the Word, or Son of God, Who Was Made Very Man

The Son, who is the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the

womb of the blessed Virgin; so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and Manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided; whereof is one Christ, very God and very Man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile his Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men.

#### Article III.—Of the Resurrection of Christ

Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again his body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until he return to judge all men at the last day.

#### Article IV.—Of the Holy Ghost

The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance majesty, and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

#### Article V.—Of the Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation

The Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scripture we do understand those canonical books of the Old and New Testament of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church. The names of the canonical books are:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, The First Book of Samuel, The Second Book of Samuel, The First Book of Kings, The Second Book of Kings, The First Book of Chronicles, The Second Book of Chronicles, The Book of Ezra, The Book of Nehemiah, The Book of Esther, The Book of Job, The Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes or the Preacher, Cantica or Songs of Solomon, Four Prophets the Greater, Twelve Prophets the Less.

All the books of the New Testament, as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

#### Article VI.—Of the Old Testament

The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the law given from God by Moses as touching ceremonies and rites doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity be received in any commonwealth; yet notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

#### Article VII.—Of Original or Birth Sin

Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

#### Article VIII.—Of Free Will

The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good work, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

#### Article IX.—Of the Justification of Man

We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith, only, is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

#### Article X.—Of Good Works

Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity

of God's judgment; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

#### Article XI.—Of Works of Supererogation

Voluntary works—besides, over and above God's commandments—which they call works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than the bounden duty is required; whereas Christ saith plainly: When ye have done all that is commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants.

#### Article XII.—Of Sin After Justification

Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification. After we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

#### Article XIII.—Of the Church

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

#### Article XIV.—Of Purgatory<sup>2</sup>

The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon, worshiping, and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocation of

<sup>2</sup> For the contemporary interpretation of this and similar articles (i.e. Articles XIV, XV, XVI, XVIII, XIX, XX and XXI), cf. *A Resolution of Intent* of the General Conference of 1970 (*Journal*, pp. 254-55) and *The Book of Resolutions* (1968, pp. 65-72).

saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God.

#### Article XV.—Of Speaking in the Congregation in Such a Tongue as the People Understand

It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the church, or to minister the Sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

#### Article XVI.—Of the Sacraments

Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us, by which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.

There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called sacraments, that is to say, confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel; being such as have partly grown out of the *corrupt* following of the apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they have not any visible sign or ceremony ordained of God.

The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about; but that we should duly use them. And in such only as worthily receive the same, they have a wholesome effect or operation; but they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves condemnation, as St. Paul saith.

#### Article XVII.—Of Baptism

Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not bap-

tized; but it is also a sign of regeneration or the new birth. The baptism of young children is to be retained in the church.<sup>3</sup>

#### Article XVIII.—Of the Lord's Supper

The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather is a sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch that, to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the mean whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshiped.

#### Article XIX.—Of Both Kinds

The cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the lay people; for both the parts of the Lord's Supper, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

#### Article XX.—Of the One Oblation of Christ, Finished upon the Cross

The offering of Christ, once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of masses, in the which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 142.

#### Article XXI.—Of the Marriage of Ministers

The ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage; therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

#### Article XXII.—Of the Rites and Ceremonies of Churches

It is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should in all places be the same, or exactly alike; for they have been always different, and may be changed according to the diversity of countries, times, and men's manners, so that nothing be ordained against God's Word. Whosoever, through his private judgment, willingly and purposely doth openly break the rights and ceremonies of the church to which he belongs, which are not repugnant to the Word of God, and are ordained and approved by common authority, ought to be rebuked openly, that others may fear to do the like, as one that offendeth against the common order of the church, and woundeth the consciences of weak brethren.

Every particular church may ordain, change, or abolish rites and ceremonies, so that all things may be done to edification.

#### Article XXIII.—Of the Rulers of the United States of America

The President, the Congress, the general assemblies, the governors, and the councils of state, *as the delegates of the people*, are the rulers of the United States of America, according to the division of power made to them by the Constitution of the United States and by the constitutions of their respective states. And the said states are a sovereign and independent nation, and ought not to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction.

#### Article XXIV.—Of Christian Men's Goods

The riches and goods of Christians are not common as touching the right, title, and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

**Article XXV.—Of a Christian Man's Oath**

As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ and James his apostle, so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment, and truth.

The following Article from the Methodist Protestant Discipline is placed here by the Uniting Conference (1939). It was not one of the Articles of Religion voted upon by the three churches.

**Of Sanctification**

Sanctification is that renewal of our fallen nature by the Holy Ghost, received through faith in Jesus Christ, whose blood of atonement cleanseth from all sin; whereby we are not only delivered from the guilt of sin, but are washed from its pollution, saved from its power, and are enabled, through grace, to love God with all our hearts and to walk in his holy commandments blameless.

The following provision was adopted by the Uniting Conference. This statement seeks to interpret to our churches in foreign lands Article XXIII of the Articles of Religion. It is a legislative enactment but is not a part of the Constitution. (See Judicial Council Decisions 41, 176, and Decision 6, Interim Judicial Council.)

**Of the Duty of Christians to the Civil Authority**

It is the duty of all Christians, and especially of all Christian ministers, to observe and obey the laws and commands of the governing or supreme authority of the country of which they are citizens or subjects or in which they reside, and to use all laudable means to encourage and enjoin obedience to the powers that be.

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH  
OF THE EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

**Article I.—God**

We believe in the one true, holy and living God, Eternal Spirit, who is Creator, Sovereign and Preserver of all things visible and

invisible. He is infinite in power, wisdom, justice, goodness and love, and rules with gracious regard for the well-being and salvation of men, to the glory of his name. We believe the one God reveals himself as the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, distinct but inseparable, eternally one in essence and power.

**Article II.—Jesus Christ**

We believe in Jesus Christ, truly God and truly man, in whom the divine and human natures are perfectly and inseparably united. He is the eternal Word made flesh, the only begotten Son of the Father, born of the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. As ministering Servant he lived, suffered and died on the cross. He was buried, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven to be with the Father, from whence he shall return. He is eternal Savior and Mediator, who intercedes for us, and by him all men will be judged.

**Article III.—The Holy Spirit**

We believe in the Holy Spirit who proceeds from and is one in being with the Father and the Son. He convinces the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. He leads men through faithful response to the gospel into the fellowship of the Church. He comforts, sustains and empowers the faithful and guides them into all truth.

**Article IV.—The Holy Bible**

We believe the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, reveals the Word of God so far as it is necessary for our salvation. It is to be received through the Holy Spirit as the true rule and guide for faith and practice. Whatever is not revealed in or established by the Holy Scriptures is not to be made an article of faith nor is it to be taught as essential to salvation.

**Article V.—The Church**

We believe the Christian Church is the community of all true believers under the Lordship of Christ. We believe it is one, holy, apostolic and catholic. It is the redemptive fellowship in which the

Word of God is preached by men divinely called, and the sacraments are duly administered according to Christ's own appointment. Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit the Church exists for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers and the redemption of the world.

#### Article VI.—The Sacraments

We believe the sacraments, ordained by Christ, are symbols and pledges of the Christian's profession and of God's love toward us. They are means of grace by which God works invisibly in us, quickening, strengthening and confirming our faith in him. Two sacraments are ordained by Christ our Lord, namely, Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

We believe Baptism signifies entrance into the household of faith, and is a symbol of repentance and inner cleansing from sin, a representation of the new birth in Christ Jesus and a mark of Christian discipleship.

We believe children are under the atonement of Christ and as heirs of the Kingdom of God are acceptable subjects for Christian baptism. Children of believing parents through baptism become the special responsibility of the Church. They should be nurtured and led to personal acceptance of Christ, and by profession of faith confirm their baptism.

We believe the Lord's Supper is a representation of our redemption, a memorial of the sufferings and death of Christ, and a token of love and union which Christians have with Christ and with one another. Those who rightly, worthily and in faith eat the broken bread and drink the blessed cup partake of the body and blood of Christ in a spiritual manner until he comes.

#### Article VII.—Sin and Free Will

We believe man is fallen from righteousness and, apart from the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, is destitute of holiness and inclined to evil. Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God. In his own strength, without divine grace, man cannot do good works pleasing and acceptable to God. We believe, however, man in-

fluenced and empowered by the Holy Spirit is responsible in freedom to exercise his will for good.

#### Article VIII.—Reconciliation Through Christ

We believe God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself. The offering Christ freely made on the cross is the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, redeeming man from all sin, so that no other satisfaction is required.

#### Article IX.—Justification and Regeneration

We believe we are never accounted righteous before God through our works or merit, but that penitent sinners are justified or accounted righteous before God only by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe regeneration is the renewal of man in righteousness through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, whereby we are made partakers of the divine nature and experience newness of life. By this new birth the believer becomes reconciled to God and is enabled to serve him with the will and the affections.

We believe, although we have experienced regeneration, it is possible to depart from grace and fall into sin; and we may even then, by the grace of God, be renewed in righteousness.

#### Article X.—Good Works

We believe good works are the necessary fruits of faith and follow regeneration but they do not have the virtue to remove our sins or to avert divine judgment. We believe good works, pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, spring from a true and living faith, for through and by them faith is made evident.

#### Article XI.—Sanctification and Christian Perfection

We believe sanctification is the work of God's grace through the Word and the Spirit, by which those who have been born again are cleansed from sin in their thoughts, words and acts, and are enabled to live in accordance with God's will, and to strive for holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Entire sanctification is a state of perfect love, righteousness and true holiness which every regenerate believer may obtain by being delivered from the power of sin, by loving God with all the heart, soul, mind and strength, and by loving one's neighbor as one's self. Through faith in Jesus Christ this gracious gift may be received in this life both gradually and instantaneously, and should be sought earnestly by every child of God.

We believe this experience does not deliver us from the infirmities, ignorance, and mistakes common to man, nor from the possibilities of further sin. The Christian must continue on guard against spiritual pride and seek to gain victory over every temptation to sin. He must respond wholly to the will of God so that sin will lose its power over him; and the world, the flesh, and the devil are put under his feet. Thus he rules over these enemies with watchfulness through the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### Article XII.—The Judgment and the Future State

We believe all men stand under the righteous judgment of Jesus Christ, both now and in the last day. We believe in the resurrection of the dead; the righteous to life eternal and the wicked to endless condemnation.

#### Article XIII.—Public Worship

We believe divine worship is the duty and privilege of man who, in the presence of God, bows in adoration, humility and dedication. We believe divine worship is essential to the life of the Church, and that the assembling of the people of God for such worship is necessary to Christian fellowship and spiritual growth.

We believe the order of public worship need not be the same in all places but may be modified by the Church according to circumstances and the needs of men. It should be in a language and form understood by the people, consistent with the Holy Scriptures to the edification of all, and in accordance with the order and *Discipline* of the Church.

#### Article XIV.—The Lord's Day

We believe the Lord's Day is divinely ordained for private and public worship, for rest from unnecessary work, and should be devoted to spiritual improvement, Christian fellowship and service. It is commemorative of our Lord's resurrection and is an emblem of our eternal rest. It is essential to the permanence and growth of the Christian Church, and important to the welfare of the civil community.

#### Article XV.—The Christian and Property

We believe God is the owner of all things and that the individual holding of property is lawful and is a sacred trust under God. Private property is to be used for the manifestation of Christian love and liberality, and to support the Church's mission in the world. All forms of property, whether private, corporate or public, are to be held in solemn trust and used responsibly for human good under the sovereignty of God.

#### Article XVI.—Civil Government

We believe civil government derives its just powers from the sovereign God. As Christians we recognize the governments under whose protection we reside and believe such governments should be based on, and be responsible for, the recognition of human rights under God. We believe war and bloodshed are contrary to the gospel and spirit of Christ. We believe it is the duty of Christian citizens to give moral strength and purpose to their respective governments through sober, righteous and godly living.

### THE GENERAL RULES OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

#### The Nature, Design, and General Rules of Our United Societies

In the latter end of the year 1739 eight or ten persons came to Mr. Wesley, in London, who appeared to be deeply convinced of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption. They desired, as did two or

three more the next day, that he would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads. That he might have more time for this great work, he appointed a day when they might all come together, which from thenceforward they did every week, namely, on Thursday in the evening. To these, and as many more as desired to join with them (for their number increased daily), he gave those advices from time to time which he judged most needful for them, and they always concluded their meeting with prayer suited to their several necessities.

This was the rise of the **United Society**, first in Europe, and then in America. Such a society is no other than "*a company of men having the form and seeking the power of godliness, united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation.*"

That it may the more easily be discerned whether they are indeed working out their own salvation, each society is divided into smaller companies, called **classes**, according to their respective places of abode. There are about twelve persons in a class, one of whom is styled the **leader**. It is his duty:

1. To see each person in his class once a week at least, in order: (1) to inquire how their souls prosper; (2) to advise, reprove, comfort or exhort, as occasion may require; (3) to receive what he is willing to give toward the relief of the preachers, church, and poor.

2. To meet the ministers and the stewards of the society once a week, in order: (1) to inform the minister of any that are sick, or of any that walk disorderly and will not be reprov'd; (2) to pay the stewards what he has received of his class in the week preceding.

There is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these societies: "a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." But wherever this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits.

It is therefore expected of all who continue therein that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

*First:* By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced, such as:

The taking of the name of God in vain.

The profaning the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling.

Drunkenness: drinking spirituous liquors, unless in cases of necessity.

The buying or selling of men, women, and children with an intention to enslave them.

Fighting, quarreling, brawling, brother going to law with brother; returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using many words in buying or selling.

The buying or selling goods that have not paid the duty.

The giving or taking things on usury—i.e., unlawful interest.

Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation; particularly speaking evil of magistrates or of ministers.

Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us.

Doing what we know is not for the glory of God, as:

The putting on of gold and costly apparel.

The taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The singing those songs, or reading those books, which do not tend to the knowledge or love of God.

Softness and needless self-indulgence.

Laying up treasure upon earth.

Borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying for them.

It is expected of all who continue in these societies that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation.

*Secondly:* By doing good; by being in every kind merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison.

To their souls, by instructing, reprov'g, or exhorting all we have any intercourse with; trampling under foot that enthusiastic doctrine that "we are not to do good unless *our hearts be free to it.*"

By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of

faith or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others; buying one of another, helping each other in business, and so much the more because the world will love its own and them only.

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the gospel be not blamed.

By running with patience the race which is set before them, denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily; submitting to bear the reproach of Christ, to be as the filth and offscouring of the world; and looking that men should say all manner of evil of them *falsely*, for the Lord's sake.

It is expected of all who desire to continue in these societies that they should continue to evidence their desire of salvation.

*Thirdly:* By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are:

The public worship of God.

The ministry of the Word, either read or expounded.

The Supper of the Lord.

Family and private prayer.

Searching the Scriptures.

Fasting or abstinence.

These are the General Rules of our societies; all of which we are taught of God to observe, even in his written Word, which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice. And all these we know his Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observe them not, who habitually break any of them, let it be known unto them who watch over that soul as they who must give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season. But then, if he repent not, he hath no more place among us. We have delivered our own souls.

## ¶ 70. SECTION 3—OUR THEOLOGICAL TASK

### The Gospel in a New Age

United Methodists, along with all other Christians, are a pilgrim people under the Lordship of Christ. Both our heritage in doctrine and our present theological task share common aims: the continuous-

ly renewed grasp of the gospel of God's love in Christ and its application in the ceaseless crises of human existence. Our forefathers in the faith reaffirmed the ancient Christian message, even as they applied it to their immediate circumstances. Their innovative efforts serve as an encouraging precedent for our attempts to relate the gospel to the needs and aspirations of our contemporary world. The purpose in Christian theologizing is to aid people who seek understanding of their faith, authentic worship and celebration, effective evangelical persuasion, openness to God's concern for the world's agonies and turmoil, infusion of that faith in life and work, and courageous ministries in support of justice and love.

We are called to proclaim and live out the eternal gospel in an age of catastrophic perils and soaring hopes. Humanity stands nearer the brink of irreversible disaster than ever before. Our reckless disregard of nature's fragile balances, our rush to overpopulation, pollution, the exhaustion of basic ecological support systems, the proliferation of nuclear weaponry go on unchecked. Inhumanity toward our fellow human creatures poses clear and present dangers, not only to mankind's well-being, but even to bare survival. At the same time, visions of a more fully human quality of life for all mankind haunt our imaginations and stir our aspirations as never before. Science and technology may threaten to engulf us, but they also hold the promise of triumph over many of the age-old barriers to human self-realization. Hopes for justice, peace, dignity, and community have never been higher. Demands that all persons be accorded a growing share in the goods and goodness of life have never been more insistent.

We who are caught up in this perplexing situation seek to understand our Christian faith and interpret it to others. Such a task calls for profound and urgent moral decisions. We do not possess infallible rules to follow, or reflex habits that suffice, or precedents for simple imitation. Whatever may be our differences of heritage or mindset, we are forced to re-examine our convictions and alter our attitudes toward our own future and the human future as well.

In this task of reappraising and applying the gospel, theological pluralism should be recognized as a principle. It is true that some would wish traditional doctrinal statements and standards recovered

and enforced; others would demand that they be repealed; some would urge that they be perfected; others would insist that they be superseded. When doctrinal standards are understood as legal or juridical instruments, it is easy to suppose that a doctrinal statement of some sort could be drawn up that would be normative and enforceable for an entire Christian body. Many persons with quite different views on doctrine insist that our inherited statements (e.g., the *Articles, Confession, Sermons, Notes, and General Rules*) ought either to be reaffirmed and enforced or superseded by new propositions. The effort to substitute new creeds for old has a long history of partisanship and schism.

Our older traditions and our newer experiments in ecumenical theology provide a constructive alternative to this confessional tradition. This is fortunate because the theological spectrum in The United Methodist Church ranges over all the current mainstream options and a variety of special-interest theologies as well. This is no new thing. Our founders supported what Wesley called "catholic spirit," which also prevails in much contemporary ecumenical theology. But theological pluralism must not be confused with "theological indifferentism"—the notion that there are no essential doctrines and that differences in theology, when sincerely held, need no further discussion. Our newer historical consciousness allows us to retain the various landmarks of our several heritages, interpreting them in historical perspective. Similarly, our awareness of the transcendent mystery of divine truth allows us in good conscience to acknowledge the positive virtues of doctrinal pluralism even within the same community of believers, not merely because such an attitude is realistic.

The invitation to theological reflection is open to all—young and old, unlettered and learned, persons of all cultures, ethnic groups, and races. Rightly understood, our history of doctrinal diversity in The United Methodist Church has been a source of strength, producing fruitful tension when accompanied with a genuine concern for the vital unity of Christian truth and life. United Methodists can heartily endorse the classical ecumenical watchword: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; and, in all things, charity" (love that cares and understands).

### United Methodists and the Christian Tradition

United Methodists never undertake the task of theologizing as a totally new venture. We share a common heritage with all other Christians everywhere and in all ages. There is a core of doctrine which informs in greater or less degree our widely divergent interpretations. From our response in faith to the wondrous mystery of God's love in Jesus Christ as recorded in Scripture, all valid Christian doctrine is born. This is the touchstone by which all Christian teaching may be tested. This is the focus of catholic belief by which United Methodists identify themselves with all other Christian bodies.

With them we acknowledge belief in the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We hold common faith in the mystery of salvation in and through Jesus Christ. We proclaim together that, in our willful alienation, God judges us, seeks us, pardons us, and receives us, only because he truly loves us. We therefore believe that the Holy Spirit prompts us to respond in faith and enables us to accept God's gift of reconciliation and justification. This sense of common Christian heritage is rich in our hymnody and liturgies: sound doctrine is often expressed with greater persuasive power in song than prose. Here we borrow, and gladly share our own historic and current contributions. And we also honor the intent and import of the historic creeds and confessions, even as we encourage new ventures in contemporary affirmation and formulation.

Our participation in this common Christian tradition has carried with it a typically practical attitude toward theological reflection. Generally, we have been more interested in relating doctrine to life than in speculative analysis. The ethical fruits of faith concern us more than systems of doctrine. But the freedom we foster in this regard has been a function of our larger sense of belonging to the whole People of God. We gratefully claim our place in this common Christian history.

The theological substance of this common heritage begins with the biblical witness to God's reality as Creator and to his gracious self-involvement in the dramas of history. We find no words adequate to describe the mystery of goodness that sustains our hopes or the mystery of evil which can plunge us into chaos and despair. In the

created order, designed for harmony and human fulfillment, disruptions have fractured man's good intentions and have frustrated the intended course of human history. Estranged from God, men and women wound themselves and one another and wreak havoc throughout the natural order. Human hopes for achieving the good are thwarted so long as we seek to realize such ends apart from God. But in the midst of our condition of alienation, God's unfailing grace shows itself in his suffering love working for our redemption.

At the heart of the gospel of salvation is God's self-presentation in Jesus of Nazareth. Scripture focuses on the witness to Jesus' life and teachings, his death and resurrection, and his triumph within and over the agonies of history. Those who even now find in him their clue to God's redeeming love also find their hearts and wills transformed. In his life we see the power and wisdom of God, confirming his new covenant with his people in the revelation of the fullness of human possibilities.

Christian teaching from its beginning has known God's redemptive love in Jesus Christ as actualized by the activity of the Holy Spirit, both in personal experience and in the larger community of believers called the Body of Christ. "Life in the Spirit" means for individuals the life of prayer and inward searching, but it also involves them in the communal life of the church: in its corporate worship, service and mission. The church becomes the sacramental community when, by adoration, proclamation, and self-sacrifice, its members become conformed to Christ. Persons are initiated and incorporated into this community of faith by Baptism and Confirmation and accept their membership as confirmed by the Holy Spirit. By continuing celebration of the Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, the church participates in the risen and present Body of Christ, being thereby nourished and strengthened for faithful discipleship. With churches of many traditions United Methodists affirm Baptism and the Lord's Supper as the *two* principal sacraments given by God to his people.

In these and many other ways we join our fellow Christians, affirming within "the communion of saints" our oneness in Christ. With them we gladly declare that the forgiveness of sins and life eternal are ours through the power of God's invincible love. In this love we live and move and have our being. In this love God made and

sustains the good earth and all creation. In this love he creates in our hearts a desire for true community and arouses our impulses to engage in unselfish service. It is this love that puts us under moral obligation and increases our joy. It is this love that defines our chief aim in life: "to glorify God and to enjoy him forever."

### Distinctive Emphases of United Methodists

Within this tradition of common Christian belief, each of the several Christian churches has developed particular traditions of its own. Just as these separate traditions ought never to be appealed to in defense of sectarianism, certainly they cannot be ignored, scorned, or lightly abandoned. One of our avowed ecumenical commitments is that our own distinctive emphases shall not simply disappear, but be gathered into the larger Christian unity, there to be made meaningful in a richer whole. But this requires a deliberate effort on our part to engage in critical self-understanding, as church, if we are to offer our best gifts to the common Christian treasury. Such self-knowledge is prerequisite to any and all productive ecumenical partnership. Thus when we speak of our distinctive doctrinal emphases, we ought to do so as Christians involved in dialogue with each other.

United Methodists have emphasized God's endowment of each person with dignity and moral responsibility. We do not overvalue human nature in and of itself but, with Christian humanists in all ages, we view humanity and its destiny as chief among God's purposes in earthly history. More than that, we see the splendor of full and true humanity in Jesus Christ, as God's personal revelation. In this divine-human synergism, or cooperation, there is real interaction. God's initiative cannot be fulfilled in man until decisive human response is activated.

One of the most familiar accents in traditional United Methodist teaching has been on the primacy of grace. By grace we mean God's loving action in human existence through the ever-present agency of the Holy Spirit. Grace, so understood, is the spiritual climate and environment surrounding all human life at all times and in all places. In Christian experience, it is self-conscious and personal.

Out of our heritage we gratefully reaffirm belief in "prevenient grace," the divine love that anticipates all our conscious impulses and that persuades the heart toward faith. But grace signifies also God's accepting and pardoning love: the active cause of our justification, by which we are made new creatures in Christ. Even the wonder of God's acceptance and pardon does not end the working of God's grace. He continues to nurture the believers as they "grow in grace" and in Christian understanding. Finally, grace in its fullness crowns the Christian life with the perfection of love (sanctification).

Another United Methodist family trait has been an active stress on conversion and the new birth. Whatever our language or labels for it, we hold that a decisive change in the human heart can and does occur under the promptings of grace and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Such a change may be sudden, dramatic, gradual, cumulative. Always it is a new beginning in a process. Christian experience as personal transformation expresses itself in many different thought-forms and life-styles. All of these have a common feature: faith working by love.

Perhaps the most widely cherished doctrinal emphasis among United Methodists is that faith and good works belong together. Guided by the Spirit, our understanding swings between two poles. On the one side, faith is intensely personal ("Christ is *my* Savior"; "Christ for *us!*"). On the other side, as *The General Rules* remind us, this inward assurance, if genuine, is bound to show itself outwardly in good works. By joining heart and hand, United Methodists have stressed that personal salvation leads always to involvement in Christian mission in the world. Thus we assert that personal religion, evangelical witness, and Christian social action are reciprocal and mutually reinforcing.

Finally, the United Methodist view of faith and its fruits is linked with a distinctive emphasis on polity. In our understanding of the church, there has been a long-standing tension between our original image of small, voluntary "religious societies" organized for Christian fellowship, and the worldwide church which has developed in the course of two centuries. These twin concepts of "religious society" and "institutional church" with their respective values and concerns have never been wholly reconciled. On the one hand, the

basic premise of the small group is the principle of "subsidiarity" or voluntary association and local initiative. It is in the local communities and in small groups within them that the Holy Spirit nurtures meaningful experiences which then seek wider avenues of mission and outreach. On the other hand, United Methodists, believing themselves led by the same Spirit, have a long tradition of connectional administration which binds us together in seeing our task as a whole, in efficient planning, and in deploying our material and human resources. The church seeks to encourage optimum freedom for local initiative and action. Local churches are responsive to the connectional leadership of the whole Church, while the connectional leadership is accountable to representatives of Annual Conferences and local congregations. Church structures are designed to support the local congregation and to provide effective channels for faith in action.

#### Doctrinal Guidelines in The United Methodist Church

Since "our present existing and established standards of doctrine" cited in the first two Restrictive Rules of the Constitution of The United Methodist Church are not to be construed literally and juridically, then by what methods can our doctrinal reflection and construction be most fruitful and fulfilling? The answer comes in terms of our free inquiry within the boundaries defined by four main sources and guidelines for Christian theology: Scripture, tradition, experience, reason. These four are interdependent; none can be defined unambiguously. They allow for, indeed they positively encourage, variety in United Methodist theologizing. Jointly, they have provided a broad and stable context for reflection and formulation. Interpreted with appropriate flexibility and self-discipline, they may instruct us as we carry forward our never-ending tasks of theologizing in The United Methodist Church.

#### Scripture

United Methodists share with all other Christians the conviction that Scripture is the primary source and guideline for doctrine. The Bible is the deposit of a unique testimony to God's self-disclosures:

in the world's creation, redemption and final fulfillment; in Jesus Christ as the incarnation of God's Word; in the Holy Spirit's constant activity in the dramas of history. It is the primitive source of the memories, images, and hopes by which the Christian community came into existence and that still confirm and nourish its faith and understanding. Christian doctrine has been formed, consciously and unconsciously, from metaphors and themes the origins of which are biblical.

As we immerse ourselves in the biblical testimony, as we open our minds and hearts to the Word of God through the words of persons inspired by the Holy Spirit, faith is born and nourished, our understanding deepens and develops, and both the core of faith and the range of our theological opinions are expanded and enriched.

As the constitutive witness to God's self-revelation, Scripture is rightly read and understood within the believing community and its interpretation is informed by the traditions of that community. Scripture texts are rightly interpreted in the light of their place in the Bible as a whole, as this is illumined by scholarly inquiry and personal insight. The meaning of each text is best understood when its original intention and significance have been grasped. From this careful handling of Scripture, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, believers may appropriately apply the truth to the circumstances of their own time and place.

### Tradition

Christian interpretations of the biblical revelation have a complex history. In every age, Christian people have formulated and reformulated their understandings of what they have received in doctrines and liturgies that interact upon each other. All church traditions profess themselves bound to Scripture for their original insights and may rightly be judged by their essential faithfulness to its disclosures. An uncritical acceptance of tradition amounts to traditionalism, deliverance from which requires an adequate understanding of history as a resource for acquiring new wisdom. Traditions are the residue of corporate experience of earlier Christian communities. A critical

appreciation of them can enlarge our vision and enrich faith in God's provident love.

In contemporary Faith and Order discussions of "Tradition and Traditions," three dimensions have been delineated. First, there is tradition as a historical process, a function of historical development. In this process Christian memories, and their interpretation, aid in reinterpreting the Christian message and ethos from person to person, region to region, generation to generation. Second, there are the multiple traditions of the various churches understood as sociological phenomena: the specific historical differentiations within denominations or between them (as in their several polities, liturgies, and doctrinal statements). Tradition, in this sense, serves as a partial aid to Christians, in their separate denominations, in identifying and understanding themselves and one another. In a third sense, however, "the Christian tradition" may be spoken of transcendently: as the history of that environment of grace in and by which all Christians live, which is the continuance through time and space of God's self-giving love in Jesus Christ. It is in this transcendent tradition that Christians who have been isolated from one another by various barriers of schism, race, and rivalries may recognize one another as Christians together. Through their appreciation of these complex and dynamic traditions, modern Christians may bridge the chasms that have for so long divided the Body of Christ.

### Experience

Experience is to the individual as tradition is to the Church as a whole: the personal appropriation of God's unmeasured mercy in life and interpersonal relations. There is a radical distinction between intellectual assent to the message of the Bible and doctrinal propositions set forth in creeds, and the personal experience of God's pardoning and healing love. Traditionally, personal faith and assurance have been described as "a sure trust and confidence of the mercy of God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and a steadfast hope of all good things at God's hand." This new relationship of assurance is God's doing, his free gift through his Holy Spirit. This "new life in Christ" is what is meant by the phrase "Christian experience." Such experi-

ence opens faith's eyes to living truth in Scripture, informs and guides the Christian conscience in ethical decisions, and illumines the Christian understanding of God and creation.

Christian experience is not only deeply private and inward; it is also corporate and active. The Bible knows nothing of solitary religion. God's gift of liberating love must be shared if it is to survive. The range of reconciliation must continually be widened to embrace the world and all who are alienated and who suffer. "Christian experience" carries with it the imperative to engage in ministries of liberation and healing in the world.

This specialized usage of the term "experience" implies that any particular personal experiences of God's accepting love will affect one's total understanding of life and truth. This changed and changing understanding, in turn, will alter the believer's mindset and world-view. This applies equally to the empirical sciences, the arts, philosophy, and culture in general. All religious experience affects our understanding of religious experience.

#### Reason

Christian doctrines which are developed from Scripture, tradition, and "experience" must be submitted to critical analysis so that they may commend themselves to thoughtful persons as valid. This means that they must avoid self-contradiction and take due account of scientific and empirical knowledge, and yet we recognize that revelation and "experience" may transcend the scope of reason. Since all truth is from God, efforts to discern the connections between revelation and reason, faith and science, grace and nature are useful endeavors in developing credible and communicable doctrine.

No claims are made for reason's autonomy or omniscience, but it does provide tests of cogency and credibility. When submitting doctrinal formulations to critical and objectively rational analysis, our proper intention is to enhance their clarity and verifiability.

#### These Guidelines in Interaction

These four norms for doctrinal formulations are not simply parallel and none can be subsumed by any other. There is a primacy that

goes with Scripture, as the constitutive witness to biblical wellsprings of our faith. In practice, however, theological reflection may find its point of departure in tradition, "experience," or rational analysis. What matters most is that all four guidelines be brought to bear upon every doctrinal consideration. Insights arising from serious study of the Scriptures and tradition enrich contemporary experience of existence. Imaginative and critical thought enable us to understand better the Bible and our common Christian history.

#### Theological Frontiers and New Directions

In charting a course between doctrinal dogmatism on the one hand and doctrinal indifferentism on the other, The United Methodist Church expects all its members to accept the challenge of responsible theological reflection. The absence of a single official theological system does not imply approval of theological perspectives currently dominant in the church, nor disapproval of any serious exploration across new theological frontiers or the confronting of new issues, of which there are many. Indeed, it welcomes all serious theological opinions developed within the framework of our doctrinal heritage and guidelines, so long as they are not intolerant or exclusive toward other equally loyal opinions.

Theological reflections do change as Christians become aware of new issues and crises. The Church's role in this tenuous process is to provide a stable and sustaining environment in which theological conflict can be constructive and productive. Our heritage and guidelines support this position. United Methodism in doctrinal lock-step is unthinkable. Fortified with doctrinal guidelines, we have a frame of reference which protects us from sliding into confusion. "Our present existing and established standards of doctrine" are not rigid or juridical. Flexibly interpreted and applied, they properly honor and respect the integrity of serious and thoughtful persons.

Of crucial current importance is the surfacing of new theological emphases focusing on the great struggles for human liberation and fulfillment. Notable among them are black theology, female liberation theology, political and ethnic theologies, third-world theology, and theologies of human rights. In each case, they express the heart

cries that dehumanization has produced. They are theologies born of conflict. They reflect the consequences of tragic victimization and deep natural yearnings for human fulfillment. More positively, they agree in their demands for human dignity, true liberty, and genuine community. Since these aspirations are inherent elements in God's original design for his highest creation, we cannot resent or deny the positive objectives these theologies espouse nor withhold support from their practical implementation. Indeed, The United Methodist Church encourages such developments so long as they are congruent with the gospel and its contemporary application. However, no special-interest theology can be allowed to set itself in invidious judgment over against any or all of the others, or claim exemption from being critically assessed in the general theological forum.

The United Methodist Church also takes seriously other widely varied theological emphases of our time. Some of these may be short-lived, others may last. We witness recurring expressions of neo-fundamentalism, new pentecostalism, new forms of Christian naturalism and secularity. These, allied with experimental forms of ministry and community, may speak to us as we consider and evaluate them within the framework of our doctrinal heritage and guidelines. All claims to Christian truth deserve an open and fair hearing for their sifting and assessment. The viability of all doctrinal opinion demands that the processes of theological development must be kept open-ended, both on principle and in fact.

No single creed or doctrinal summary can adequately serve the needs and intentions of United Methodists in confessing their faith or in celebrating their Christian experience. We accept the historic creeds and confessions as cherished landmarks of Christian self-consciousness and affirmation, even as we favor serious and informed theological experimentation. We believe that theologizing can be filled with excitement, in the composition of affirmations and liturgical confessions using new forms and language, whether produced by individuals or groups. We encourage the writing of hymns and poems, productions in the visual and performing arts, and multimedia presentations that seek to capture and communicate authentic Christian truth, along with sermons, articles, and scholarly books proclaiming the faith with freshness and enthusiasm. Such a stance supports the

principle of local initiative in the Church's theological task. But once again, all such productions, if they are to be taken seriously, should meet the two conditions: careful regard for our heritage and fourfold guidelines, and the double test of acceptability and edification in corporate worship and common life.

The United Methodist Church has firmly and repeatedly committed itself to the cause of Christian unity and the processes of dialogue and negotiation that lead toward that goal. The function of doctrinal standards in such dialogue is to encourage United Methodist representatives to be knowledgeable and faithful in their representations of our heritage and its meeting points with other Christian traditions. Even so, any objection to possible agreement must root in a clear conviction that something truly essential is in jeopardy, something belonging not only to our own heritage but to the Christian tradition at large.

At the same time, we recognize that the ecumenical process has expanded across the boundaries of Christian unity to include serious interfaith encounters and explorations between Christianity and other living religions of the world—including modern secular religions of humanism, communism, and utopian democracy. While we are increasingly aware of the larger whole of the Christian movement, without which we would never have had any meaningful existence, we must also be conscious that God has been and is now working among all people. There is a new sense in which we now must realize that we are given to one another on this fragile small planet, to work out with God the salvation, health, healing, and peace he intends for all his people. In these less familiar encounters, our aims are not to reduce doctrinal differences to some lowest common denominator of religious agreement, but to raise all such relationships to the highest possible level of human fellowship and understanding. To this end, a self-conscious and self-critical understanding of our own traditions is necessary.

Doctrinal statements are not the special province of any single body, board, or agency in The United Methodist Church, nor is there any single doctrinal statement to be repeated or cited by all official pronouncements. As all members and groups are responsible for clarifying the theological premises on which they operate, they are

likewise under the same rule of reference: loyalty to our heritage and guidelines, relevance to current needs and opportunities.

Doctrine arises in the ongoing life of the Church—its worship, its crises of faith, its conflicts within, its challenges from the world which it seeks to serve. The processes of evangelism, nurture, and mission require a constant effort in translating authentic experience into rational thought, and rational thought into effective action. But the process works both ways: our efforts in Christian action and its consequences provide us with new dimensions of Christian experience and, therefore, with new data for theological reflection and doctrinal statement.

#### Conclusion

*Serious concern for our "doctrine and doctrinal standards" should inform, evaluate, and strengthen all the forms of ministry by which we fulfill our calling. Occasionally, they have been considered impediments rather than motivations to new and creative ministries. Doctrine and doctrinal standards are never an end in themselves, nor even a resting place along the way. They must be a springboard from which we are propelled into creative living and our tasks as agents of reconciliation in the name of the loving God. Our shared tradition with all other Christians, as well as the distinctive United Methodist emphases, is the context in which we work. Our sources and guidelines of theology—Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason—mark out the broad boundaries of our endeavor.*

*As United Methodists see more clearly who we have been, as we understand more concretely what are the needs of the world, as we learn more effectively how to use our heritage and guidelines, we will become more and more able to fulfill our calling as a pilgrim people and discern who we may become. It is in this spirit that we seek to engage in the theological task with a confidence born of obedience, and we invite all our people to a continuing enterprise: to understand our faith in God's love, known in Jesus Christ, more and more profoundly, and to give this love more and more effective witness in word, work, mission, and life.*

## Part III SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

### PREFACE

The United Methodist Church has a long history of concern for social justice. Its members have often taken forthright positions on controversial issues involving Christian principles. Early Methodists expressed their opposition to the slave trade, to smuggling, and to the cruel treatment of prisoners.

A social creed was adopted by The Methodist Episcopal Church (North) in 1908. Within the next decade similar statements were adopted by The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and by The Methodist Protestant Church. The Evangelical United Brethren Church adopted a statement of social principles in 1946 at the time of the uniting of the United Brethren in Christ and The Evangelical Church. In 1972, four years after the uniting in 1968 of The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the General Conference of The United Methodist Church adopted the new Statement of Social Principles which follows.

### PREAMBLE

We, the people called United Methodists, affirm our faith in God our Father, in Jesus Christ our Saviour, and in the Holy Spirit, our Guide and Guard.

We acknowledge our complete dependence upon God in birth, in life, in death, and in life eternal. Secure in his love, we affirm the goodness of life and confess our many sins against his will for us as we find it in Jesus Christ. We have not always been faithful

stewards of all that has been committed to us by God the Creator. We have been reluctant followers of Jesus Christ in his mission to bring all persons into a fellowship of love. Though called by the Holy Spirit to become new creatures in Christ, we have resisted the further call to become the people of God in our dealings with each other and the earth on which we live.

Grateful to God for his forgiving love, in which we live and by which we are judged, and affirming our belief in the inestimable worth of each individual, we renew our commitment to become faithful witnesses to the gospel, not alone to the ends of earth, but also to the depths of our common life and work.

## ¶ 71.

## I. THE NATURAL WORLD

All creation is the Lord's, and we are stewards of it. Air, water, soil, minerals, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. Therefore, we repent of our devastation of the physical and nonhuman world.

*A) Water, Air, Soil, Minerals, Plants.*—We support and encourage social policies designed to rejuvenate polluted water, air, and soil, as well as those that would prevent further desecration of these natural elements. We urge policies that retard the indiscriminate use of chemicals, including pesticides, and encourage adequate research into their effects upon God's creation prior to utilization. We urge development of the ocean's resources for human benefit so long as the integrity of the seas is maintained. We support regulations designed to protect plant life, including those that provide for reforestation and for conservation of grasslands. Moreover, we support policies on the part of governments and industries that conserve fossil and other fuels, and that eliminate methods of securing minerals that destroy plants, animals, and soil. We encourage creation of new sources for food and power, while maintaining the goodness of the earth.

*B) Animal Life.*—We support regulations that protect the life and health of animals, including those ensuring the humane treat-

ment of pets and other domestic animals, and the painless slaughtering of meat animals, fish, and fowl. Furthermore, we encourage the preservation of animal species now threatened with extinction.

*C) Space.*—The moon, planets, stars, and the space between and among them are the creation of God and are due the respect man is called to give the earth. We support the extension of man's knowledge through space exploration, but only when that knowledge is used for the welfare of humanity.

## ¶ 72.

## II. THE NURTURING COMMUNITY

The community provides the potential for nurturing human beings into the fullness of their humanity. We believe we have a responsibility to innovate, sponsor, and evaluate new forms of community that will encourage development of the fullest potential in individuals. Primary for us is the gospel understanding that all persons are important—because they are human beings and not because they have merited significance. We therefore support social climates in which human communities are maintained and strengthened for the sake of every man, woman, and child.

*A) The Family.*—We believe the family to be the basic human community through which persons are nurtured and sustained in mutual love, responsibility, respect, and fidelity. We urge social, economic, and religious efforts to maintain and strengthen families in order that every member may be assisted toward complete personhood.

*B) Marriage.*—We assert the sanctity of the marriage covenant. Marriage between a man and woman has long been blessed by God and recognized by society. We do not recommend marriage between two persons of the same sex. The blessing of God is upon marriage whether or not the persons have children. At the same time, we respect the integrity of those who live in society as single persons; and we reject social practices that discriminate against persons because they are unmarried. We reject social norms that assume different standards for women than for men. In marriages where the partners are, even after thoughtful consideration and counsel, estranged be-

yond reconciliation, we recognize divorce and the right of divorced persons to remarry, and express our concern for the needs of the children of such unions.

C) *Human Sexuality*.—We recognize that sexuality is a good gift of God, and we believe persons may be fully human only when that gift is acknowledged and affirmed by themselves, the church, and society. We call all persons to disciplines that lead to the fulfillment of themselves, others, and society in the stewardship of this gift. Medical, theological, and humanistic disciplines should combine in a determined effort to understand human sexuality more completely.

Although men and women are sexual beings whether or not they are married, sex between a man and a woman is to be clearly affirmed only in the marriage bond. Sex may become exploitive within as well as outside marriage. We reject all sexual expressions which damage or destroy the humanity God has given us as birthright, and we affirm only that sexual expression which enhances that same humanity, in the midst of diverse opinion as to what constitutes that enhancement. Homosexuals no less than heterosexuals are persons of sacred worth, who need the ministry and guidance of the church in their struggles for human fulfillment, as well as the spiritual and emotional care of a fellowship which enables reconciling relationships with God, with others, and with self. Further we insist that all persons are entitled to have their human and civil rights ensured, though we do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching.

D) *Birth and Death*.—The beginning of life and the ending of life are the God-given boundaries of human existence. While individuals have always had some degree of control over when they would die, they now have the awesome power to determine when and even whether new individuals will be born. Our belief in the sanctity of unborn human life makes us reluctant to approve abortion. But we are equally bound to respect the sacredness of the life and well-being of the mother, for whom devastating damage may result from an unacceptable pregnancy. In continuity with past Christian teaching, we recognize tragic conflicts of life with life that may justify abortion. We call all Christians to a searching and prayerful inquiry into the sorts of conditions that may warrant abortion.

We support the removal of abortion from the criminal code, placing it instead under laws relating to other procedures of standard medical practice. A decision concerning abortion should be made only after thorough and thoughtful consideration by the parties involved, with medical and pastoral counsel.

We applaud medical science for efforts to prevent disease and illness and for advances in treatment that extend the meaningful life of human beings. At the same time, we assert the right of every person to die in dignity, with loving personal care and without efforts to prolong terminal illnesses merely because the technology is available to do so.

### III. THE SOCIAL COMMUNITY

The rights and privileges a society bestows upon or withholds from those who comprise it indicate the relative esteem in which that society holds particular persons and groups of persons. We affirm all persons as equally valuable in the sight of God. We therefore work toward societies in which each person's value is recognized, maintained, and strengthened.

A) *Rights of Ethnic Minorities*.—Racism plagues and cripples our growth in Christ, inasmuch as it is antithetical to the gospel itself. Therefore, we reject racism in every form, and affirm the ultimate and temporal worth of all persons. We rejoice in the gifts which particular ethnic histories and cultures bring to our total life. We commend and encourage the self-awareness of all ethnic minorities and oppressed peoples which leads them to demand their just and equal rights as members of society. We assert the obligation of society, and groups within the society, to implement compensatory programs that redress long-standing systematic social deprivation of ethnic minorities. We further assert the right of members of ethnic minorities to equal opportunities in employment and promotion; to education and training of the highest quality; to nondiscrimination in voting, in access to public accommodations, and in housing purchase or rental; and to positions of leadership and power in all elements of our life together.

B) *Rights of Religious Minorities.*—Religious persecution has been common in the history of civilization. We urge policies and practices that ensure the right of every religious group to exercise its faith free from legal, political, or economic restrictions. In particular, we condemn anti-Semitism in both its overt and covert forms, and assert the right of all religions and their adherents to freedom from legal, economic, and social discrimination.

C) *Rights of Children.*—Once considered the property of their parents, children are now acknowledged to be full human beings in their own right, but human beings to whom adults and society in general have special obligations. Thus, we support the development of school systems and innovative methods of education designed to assist each child toward full humanity. Moreover, children have the rights to food, shelter, clothing, and health care as do adults, and these rights we affirm as theirs regardless of actions or inactions of their parents or guardians. All children have the right to a full sexual education, appropriate to their stage of development, that utilizes the best educational techniques and insights.

D) *Rights of Youth.*—Our society is characterized by a large population of youth, who are maturing at an accelerating rate. Therefore, we urge development of policies that encourage inclusion of youth in decision-making processes and that eliminate discrimination against and exploitation of youth.

E) *Rights of the Aging.*—In a society that places primary emphasis upon youth, those growing old in years are frequently isolated from the mainstream of social existence. We support social policies that integrate the aging into the life of the total community, including sufficient incomes, increased and nondiscriminatory employment opportunities, and adequate medical care and housing within existing communities. We urge social policies and programs that ensure to the aging the respect and dignity that are their right as senior members of the human community.

F) *Rights of Women.*—Both church and society have long assumed that men hold power as a matter of right. We affirm women and men to be equal in every aspect of our common life. We therefore urge that every effort be made to eliminate sex-role stereotypes, to enlist women for decision-making positions, and we assert the right

of women to equal treatment with men in employment, compensation, and promotion; on public and private boards, agencies, and commissions; on all church bodies; and in all other positions affecting the general society.

G) *Retarded or Handicapped Persons.*—We recognize the responsibility of the Church to serve, and to receive the services of, retarded or handicapped persons. Realizing that many of these persons are unable to articulate their own needs and aspirations, we commit ourselves to work with them to articulate and realize these needs and aspirations. We further urge support of programs, services, and legislation that will enable them to enjoy their human rights, especially in matters of education, employment, and place of residence.

H) *Population.*—Since the present population of the world in the developed and in the developing nations is already taxing the world's supply of food, minerals, and water, we urge an emphasis upon quality of life rather than number of children. We commend those private foundations and international and national agencies that have underwritten research and programs designed to produce a stable population and a balanced ecology. Further, we support the worldwide distribution of reliable contraceptive information and devices and support those who elect for voluntary sterilization.

I) *Drugs.*—Millions of living human beings are testimony to the beneficial consequences of therapeutic drug use, and millions of others are testimony to the detrimental consequences of drug misuse. As other elements of the created order, drugs are given to persons for their stewardship; they may help or hinder their God-given humanity. We encourage wise policies relating to the availability of powerful and potentially beneficial prescription and over-the-counter drugs; we urge that complete information about their use and misuse be readily available to both doctor and patient. We support the strict administration of laws regulating the sale and distribution of narcotics such as opium and its derivatives. We realize that the use of such drugs as alcohol and marijuana can lead to a loss of effectiveness in human life and may result in drug dependency. We assert our long-standing conviction that the choice to abstain from alcohol, and now marijuana, is a faithful witness

to God's liberating and redeeming love for persons. Since the use of tobacco is a major factor in both disease and death, we support educational programs directed toward prevention of such use. We support regulations that protect society from users of drugs of any kind where it can be shown that a clear and present social danger exists. Drug misuse should be viewed as a symptom of underlying disorders for which remedies should be sought.

J) *Medical Experimentation*.—Physical and mental health has been greatly enhanced through discoveries by medical science. It is imperative, however, that governments and the medical profession carefully enforce the requirements of the prevailing medical research standard, maintaining rigid controls in testing new technologies and drugs utilizing human beings. The standard requires that those engaged in research shall use human beings as research subjects only after obtaining full rational and uncoerced consent.

K) *Rural Life*.—We support the right of persons and families to live and prosper as farmers, farm workers, merchants, professionals, and others outside of the cities and metropolitan centers. We believe our culture is impoverished and our people deprived of a meaningful way of life when rural and small-town living becomes difficult or impossible. Therefore, we support governmental and private programs designed to benefit the resident farmer rather than the factory farm, and programs that encourage industry to locate in nonurban areas.

L) *Urban-Suburban Life*.—Urban-suburban living has become a dominant style of life for more and more persons. For many it furnishes economic, educational, social, and cultural opportunities. For others, it has brought alienation, poverty, and depersonalization. We in the church have an opportunity and responsibility to help shape the future of urban-suburban life. Massive programs of renewal and social planning are needed to bring a greater degree of humanization into urban-suburban life-styles. Christians must judge all programs, including economic and community development, new towns, and urban renewal by the extent to which they protect and enhance human values, permit personal and political involvement and make possible neighborhoods open to persons of all races, ages, and income levels. We affirm the efforts of all

developers who place human values at the heart of their planning. We must help shape urban-suburban development so it provides for the human need to identify with and find meaning in smaller social communities. At the same time such smaller communities must be encouraged to assume responsibilities for the total urban-suburban community instead of isolating themselves from it.

#### ¶ 74. IV. THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

We claim all economic systems to be under the judgment of God no less than other facets of the created order. Therefore, we recognize the responsibility of governments to develop and implement sound fiscal and monetary policies that provide for the economic life of individuals and corporate entities, and that ensure full employment and adequate incomes with a minimum of inflation. We believe private and public economic enterprises are responsible for the social costs of doing business, such as unemployment and environmental pollution, and that they should be held accountable for these costs. We support measures that would reduce the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few. We further support efforts to revise tax structures and to eliminate governmental support programs that now benefit the wealthy at the expense of other persons.

A) *Property*.—We believe property is a trusteeship under God and is limited by the overriding needs of society. We believe access to the use of property enhances both individual and social well-being and is a moral right underlying the legal right to hold and use property for socially permissible purposes, making efforts to ensure that all property is put to its best use. We believe property rights exist to fulfill human needs, that human beings are stewards of property, never its absolute owners. We believe governments have the responsibility, in the pursuit of justice and order under law, to provide procedures that protect the rights of the whole society, as well as those of private ownership.

B) *Collective Bargaining*.—We support the right of public and private (including farm, government, institutional, and domestic) employees and employers to organize for collective bargaining.

Further, we support their right to protection in so doing, and their responsibility to bargain in good faith within the framework of the public interest. In order that the rights of all members of the society may be maintained and promoted, we support innovative bargaining procedures that include representatives of the public interest in negotiation and settlement of labor-management contracts including some that may lead to forms of judicial resolutions of issues.

C) *Work and Leisure*.—Every person has the right and responsibility to work for the benefit of himself and others. We support social measures that ensure the physical and mental safety of workers, that provide for the equitable division of products of industry, and that encourage an increasing freedom in the way individuals may use their leisure time. We recognize the opportunity leisure provides for creative contributions to society and encourage methods that allow workers additional blocks of discretionary time. We support educational, cultural, and recreational outlets that enhance the use of such time.

D) *Consumption*.—We support efforts to ensure truth in pricing, packaging, lending, and advertising. We assert that the primary responsibility of consumers is to provide themselves with needed goods and services of high quality at the lowest cost consistent with fair economic practices. They should exercise their economic power to encourage the manufacture of goods that are necessary and beneficial to mankind, while avoiding the desecration of the environment in either production or consumption. Those who manufacture goods and offer services serve society best when they aid consumers in fulfilling these responsibilities. Consumers should evaluate their consumption of goods and services in the light of the need for enhanced quality of life rather than unlimited production of material goods. We call upon consumers to organize to achieve these goals.

E) *Poverty*.—In spite of general affluence in the industrialized nations, the majority of persons in the world live in poverty. In order to provide basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, education, health care, and other necessities, ways must be found to share more equitably the wealth of the world. Increasing technology and exploitive economic practices impoverish many persons and make

poverty self-perpetuating. Therefore, we do not hold all poor people responsible for their economic state. To begin to alleviate poverty, we support such policies as: adequate income maintenance, quality education, decent housing, job training, meaningful employment opportunities, medical and hospital care, and humanization and radical revisions of welfare programs.

F) *Migrant Workers*.—Migratory and other farm workers, who have long been a special concern of the Church's ministry, are by the nature of their way of life excluded from many of the economic and social benefits enjoyed by other workers. We advocate their right to, and applaud their efforts toward, responsible self-organization and self-determination. We call upon governments and all employers to ensure for migratory workers the same economic, educational, and social benefits enjoyed by other citizens. We call upon our churches to seek to develop programs of service to such migrant people as come within their parish.

G) *Gambling*.—Organized gambling is a menace to society, deadly to the best interests of moral, social, economic, and spiritual life, and destructive of good government. As an act of faith and love, Christians should abstain from gambling, and should strive to minister to those victimized by the practice. Community standards and personal life-styles should be such as would make unnecessary and undesirable the resort to commercial gambling, including public lotteries, as a recreation, as an escape, or as a means of producing public revenue or funds for support of charities or governments.

## ¶ 75. V. THE POLITICAL COMMUNITY

While our allegiance to God takes precedence over our allegiance to any state, we acknowledge the vital function of government as a principal vehicle for the ordering of society. Because we know ourselves to be responsible to God for social and political life, we declare the following relative to governments:

A) *Basic Freedoms*.—We hold governments responsible for the protection of the rights of the people to the freedoms of speech, religion, assembly, and communications media; to privacy; and for

the guarantee of the rights to adequate food, clothing, shelter, education, and health care. In specific, we believe responsibility for education of the young rests with the family, the church, and the government. In our society, this function can best be fulfilled through access for all persons to free public schools, including higher education. We endorse the right of privately supported educational institutions to exist and make their contribution to the educational enterprise within the principles of an open society. We commit ourselves to encouragement of responsible use of all these rights and to resist encroachment upon them from any source, provided that the principle of separation of church and state shall remain inviolate.

*B) Civil Obedience and Civil Disobedience.*—Governments and laws should be servants of God and of human beings. Citizens have a duty to abide by laws duly adopted by orderly and just process of government. But governments, no less than individuals, are subject to the judgment of God. Therefore, we recognize the right of individuals to dissent when acting under the constraint of conscience and, after exhausting all legal recourse, to disobey laws deemed to be unjust. Even then, respect for law should be shown by refraining from violence and by accepting the costs of disobedience. We offer our prayers for those in rightful authority who serve the public and we support their efforts to afford justice and equal opportunity for all people. We assert the duty of churches to support everyone who suffers for cause of conscience, and urge governments seriously to consider restoration of rights to such persons while also maintaining respect for those who obey.

*C) Crime and Rehabilitation.*—To protect all citizens from those who would encroach upon personal and property rights, it is the duty of governments to establish police forces, courts, and facilities for rehabilitation of offenders. We support governmental measures designed to reduce and eliminate crime, consistent with respect for the basic freedom of persons. We reject all misuse of these necessary mechanisms, including their use for the purpose of persecuting or intimidating those whose race, appearance, life-style, economic conditions, or beliefs differ from those in authority, and we reject all careless, callous, or discriminatory enforcement of law. We further support measures designed to remove the social conditions that lead

to crime, and we encourage continued positive interaction between law enforcement officials and members of the community at large. In the love of Christ who came to save those who are lost and vulnerable, we urge the creation of genuinely new systems of rehabilitation that will restore, preserve, and nurture the humanity of the imprisoned. For the same reason, we oppose capital punishment and urge its elimination from all criminal codes.

*D) Military Service.*—Though coercion, violence, and war are presently the ultimate sanctions in international relations, we reject them as incompatible with the gospel and spirit of Christ. We therefore urge the establishment of the rule of law in international affairs as a means of elimination of war, violence, and coercion in those affairs. We therefore reject national policies of enforced military service in peacetime as incompatible with the gospel. We acknowledge the agonizing tension created by the demand for military service by national governments. Thus, we support those individuals who conscientiously oppose all war, or any particular war, and who therefore refuse to serve in the armed forces. We also support those persons who conscientiously choose to serve in the armed forces or to accept alternate service. Pastors are called upon to be available for counseling with all youth who face conscription including those who conscientiously refuse to cooperate with a selective service system.

## ¶ 76. VI. THE WORLD COMMUNITY

God's world is one world. The unity now being thrust upon us by technological revolution has far outrun our moral and spiritual capacity to achieve a stable world. The enforced unity of humanity, increasingly evident on all levels of life, presents the church as well as all people with problems that will not wait for answer: injustice, war, exploitation, privilege. This generation must find viable answers to these and related questions if humanity is to continue on this earth. We commit ourselves, as a church, to the achievement of a world community that is a fellowship of persons who honestly try to love one another. We pledge ourselves to seek the meaning of the gospel in all issues that divide people and threaten the growth of world community.

A) *Nations and Cultures.*—As individuals are affirmed by God in their diversity, so are nations and cultures. We recognize that no nation or culture is absolutely just and right in its treatment of its own people, nor is any nation totally without regard for the welfare of its citizens. The church must regard nations as accountable for unjust treatment of their citizens and others living within their borders. While recognizing valid differences in culture and political philosophy, we stand for justice and peace in every nation.

B) *National Power and Responsibility.*—Some nations possess more military and economic power than do others. Upon the powerful rests responsibility to exercise their wealth and influence with restraint. We affirm the right and duty of the people of developing nations to determine their own destiny. We urge the major powers to use their power to maximize the political, social, and economic self-determination of developing nations, rather than to further their own special interests. Toward that end, we support increased amounts of unrestricted international aid, as well as favorable trade arrangements, from the more developed nations to those in the process of development.

C) *War and Peace.*—We believe war is incompatible with the teachings and example of Christ. We therefore reject war as an instrument of national foreign policy and insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them; that human values must outweigh military claims as governments determine their priorities; that the militarization of society must be challenged and stopped; and that the manufacture, sale, and deployment of armaments must be reduced and controlled.

D) *Justice and Law.*—Persons and groups must feel secure in their life and right to live within a society if order is to be achieved and maintained by law. We denounce as immoral an ordering of life that perpetuates injustice. Nations, too, must feel secure in the world if world community is to become a fact.

Believing that international justice requires the participation of all peoples, we endorse the United Nations and its related bodies as the best instrument now in existence to achieve a world of justice and law. We commend the efforts of all people in all countries who

pursue world peace through law. We endorse international aid and cooperation on all matters of need and conflict. We urge acceptance for membership in the United Nations of all nations who wish such membership and who accept United Nations responsibility. We urge the United Nations to take a more aggressive role in the development of international arbitration of disputes and actual conflicts among nations by developing binding third-party arbitration. We reaffirm our historic concern for the world as our parish and seek for all persons and peoples full and equal membership in a truly world community.

## VII. OUR SOCIAL CREED

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive, for ourselves and others, the blessings of community, marriage, sexuality, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, and the aging; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of ethnic and religious minorities.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the good of themselves and others, and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world and to the rule of justice and law among nations.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept his commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.

*Part IV*  
**ORGANIZATION  
AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Chapter One  
THE LOCAL CHURCH**

**Section I. The Pastoral Charge.**

¶ 101. A local church is a community of true believers under the Lordship of Christ. It is the redemptive fellowship in which the Word of God is preached by persons divinely called, and the Sacraments are duly administered according to Christ's own appointment. Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit the Church exists for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world.

¶ 102. The Church of Jesus Christ exists in and for the world. It is primarily at the level of the local church that the Church encounters the world. The local church is a strategic base from which Christians move out to the structures of society. It is the function of the local church to minister to the needs of persons in the communities where the church is located, to provide appropriate training and nurture to all age groups, cultural groups, and ethnic groups as minimal expectations of an authentic church.

¶ 103. The local church is a connectional society of persons who have professed their faith in Christ, have been baptized, have assumed the vows of membership in The United Methodist Church, and are associated in fellowship as a local United Methodist church "in order that they may hear the word of God, receive the Sacraments, and carry forward the work which Christ has committed to his Church."

Such a society of believers, being within The United Methodist Church and subject to its Discipline, is also an inherent part of the Church Universal, which is composed of all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and which in the Apostles' Creed we declare to be the holy catholic Church.

¶ 104. In order that each local church may be an effective connectional unit in The United Methodist Church, it shall be the duty of all district superintendents and pastors to organize and administer the charges and churches committed to their care in accordance with the plan hereinafter set forth.

Where size, circumstances, and specific mission responsibilities demand, a local church may in consultation with and approval by the district superintendent modify the organizational plans hereinafter set forth; *provided* that adequate provisions shall be made in such an organizational plan for relating the local church structures to appropriate district, Annual Conference, jurisdictional, and general church agencies and structures.

¶ 105. Each local church shall have a definite membership and evangelistic responsibility. It shall be responsible for ministering to all its members, wherever they live, and for persons who choose it as their church.

¶ 106. 1. A pastoral charge shall consist of one or more churches which are organized under and subject to, the Discipline of The United Methodist Church, with a Charge Conference, and to which a minister is or may be duly appointed or appointable as pastor in charge.<sup>1</sup>

2. A pastoral charge of two or more churches may be designated a circuit.

3. A parish may be identified as one or more local churches who, because of geographic location or particular needs, coordinate program and organization to fulfill a ministry directed to all the people in the general geographic area. It may include local churches of other denominations. However, those United Methodist churches involved in the composition of the parish shall be amenable to a Charge Conference, organized according to the Discipline of The

<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 113, 319.

United Methodist Church to which minister (s) may be duly appointed or appointable as pastor in charge and associate pastor (s). Some forms of parish structure include: parish/staff type, extended ministry, enlarged charge, group ministry, yoked field, and federated church. (See ¶¶ 145.11, 153.)

### Section II. Church Membership.

¶ 107. The United Methodist Church, a fellowship of believers, is a part of the Church Universal. Therefore all persons, without regard to race, color, national origin, or economic condition, shall be eligible to attend its worship services, to participate in its programs, and, when they take the appropriate vows, to be admitted into its membership in any local church in the connection.

¶ 108. The membership of a local United Methodist church shall include all baptized persons who have come into membership by confession of faith or transfer and whose names have not been removed from the membership rolls by reason of death, transfer, withdrawal, or removal for cause. (See ¶¶ 129, 131, 135-41.)

¶ 109. A member of any local United Methodist church is a member of the total United Methodist connection.

### Section III. The Meaning of Membership.

¶ 110. When persons unite with a local United Methodist church, they profess their faith in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, and in the Holy Spirit. They covenant together with God and with the members of the local church to keep the vows which are a part of the order of confirmation and reception into the Church:

1. To confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and pledge their allegiance to his kingdom,
2. To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments,
3. To promise according to the grace given them to live a Christian life and always remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church,
4. And to be loyal to The United Methodist Church and uphold it by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, and their service.

¶ 111. Faithful membership in the local church is essential for personal growth and for developing an increasing sensitivity to the will and grace of God. As members involve themselves in private and public prayer, worship, the Sacraments, study, Christian action, systematic giving, and holy discipline, they grow in their appreciation of Christ, understanding of God at work in history and the natural order, and an understanding of themselves.

¶ 112. Faithful participation in the corporate life of the congregation is an obligation of the Christian to fellow members of the Body of Christ. A member is bound in sacred covenant to shoulder the burdens, share the risks, and celebrate the joys of fellow members. A Christian is called to speak the truth in love, always ready to confront conflict in the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.

¶ 113. A member of The United Methodist Church is to be a servant of Christ on mission in the local and worldwide community. This servanthood is performed in family life, daily work, recreation and social activities, responsible citizenship, the issues of corporate life, and all attitudes toward other persons. Participation in disciplined groups is an expected part of personal mission involvement. Each member is called upon to be a witness for Christ in the world, a light and leaven in society, and a reconciler in a culture of conflict. Each member is to identify with the agony and suffering of the world and to radiate and exemplify the Christ of hope. The standards of attitude and conduct set forth in the social principles (Part III) should be considered as an essential resource for guiding each member of the Church in being a servant of Christ on mission.

¶ 114. Should any member give evidence of a lack of commitment to the faith, it shall be the responsibility of the local church, working through its Council on Ministries, to minister to that person to the end that that person may reaffirm faith and commitment to the Church and its ministry of loving service.

### Section IV. Admission into the Church.

¶ 115. 1. All persons seeking to be saved from their sins and sincerely desiring to be Christian in faith and practice are proper candidates for full membership in The United Methodist Church. When

such persons offer themselves for membership, it shall be the duty of the pastor, or of proper persons appointed by the pastor, to instruct them in the meaning of the Christian faith and the history, organization, and teaching of The United Methodist Church, using materials approved by The United Methodist Church to explain to them the baptismal and membership vows, and to lead them to commit themselves to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. When they shall have confessed their faith in Christ and have made known their desire to assume the obligations and become faithful members of The United Methodist Church, after the completion of a reasonable period of training, and after the Sacrament of Baptism has been administered to those who have not been previously baptized, the pastor shall bring them before the congregation, administer the vows, receive them into the fellowship of the Church, and duly enroll them as full members.

2. Membership training is a lifelong process and is carried on through all the activities which may have educational value. The instruction for which the pastor is specifically responsible is confirmation preparation and is a part of the fuller work of membership training. Confirmation preparation focuses attention upon the meaning of full membership and the need for church members to be in mission in all of life's relationships.

3. Preparation for the experience of confirmation shall be provided for all candidates for full membership, including adults, but youth who are completing the sixth grade shall normally be the youngest persons recruited for confirmation preparation and full membership. When younger persons, of their own volition, seek enrollment in confirmation preparation, such preparation shall be at the discretion of the pastor.

4. Persons in preparation for full membership make up the preparatory roll of the church. All baptized children shall be listed on the preparatory membership roll, and other persons who have declared their interest in church membership and have been enrolled in confirmation preparation may be listed as preparatory members pending completion of the confirmation preparation and actual reception into full membership of the Church. (See also ¶¶ 122, 131.2.)

¶ 116. A duly authorized minister of The United Methodist

Church while serving as chaplain of any organization, institution, or military unit, or as a campus pastor, or while otherwise present where a local church is not available, may receive a person into the membership of The United Methodist Church when such person shall have confessed faith in Christ and expressed a desire to assume the obligations and become a faithful member of the Church. After the vows of membership have been administered, such minister shall issue a statement of membership to the local church of the choice of the person concerned, and the pastor thereof on receiving such statement shall duly enroll that person as a member.

¶ 117. When a person in military service or a member of the family of such person is baptized and/or received into the Church by a chaplain and has no local church to which the membership and records may be sent, the chaplain shall send the name, address, and related facts to the Board of Discipleship for recording on the general roll of military service personnel and families. It is desirable that as soon as possible these persons be transferred to a local United Methodist church of their choice.

¶ 118. Any candidate for church membership who for good reason is unable to appear before the congregation may, at the discretion of the pastor, be received elsewhere in accordance with the Ritual of The United Methodist Church. In any such case lay members should be present to represent the congregation. Names of such persons shall be placed on the church roll, and announcement of their reception shall be made to the congregation.

¶ 119. A member in good standing in any Christian denomination who has been baptized and who desires to unite with The United Methodist Church may be received into membership by a proper certificate of transfer from that person's former church, or by a declaration of Christian faith, and upon affirming willingness to be loyal to The United Methodist Church. The pastor will report to the sending church the date of reception of such a member. It is recommended that instruction in the faith and work of the Church be provided for all such persons. Persons received from churches which do not issue certificates of transfer or letters of recommendation shall be listed as "Received from other denominations."

## Section V. Children and the Church.

¶ 120. Because the redeeming love of God, revealed in Jesus Christ, extends to all persons and because Jesus explicitly included the children in his kingdom, the pastor of each charge shall earnestly exhort all Christian parents or guardians to present their children to the Lord in Baptism at an early age. Before Baptism is administered, the pastor shall diligently instruct the parents or guardians regarding the meaning of this Sacrament and the vows which they assume. It is expected of parents or guardians who present their children for Baptism that they shall use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the Word of God and in the fellowship of the Church. It is desired that one or both parents or guardians shall be members of a Christian church or that sponsors who are members shall assume the baptismal vows. They shall be admonished of this obligation and be earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein. At the time of Baptism they shall be informed that the Church, with its church school program, will aid them in the Christian nurture of their children.

¶ 121. The pastor of the church shall, at the time of administering the Sacrament of Baptism, furnish the parents or guardians of the child who is baptized with a **certificate of Baptism**, which shall also clearly state that the child is now enrolled as a preparatory member in The United Methodist Church. The pastor shall also admonish members of the congregation of their responsibility for the Christian nurture of the child. The pastor shall add the full name of the baptized child to the preparatory membership roll of the church.

¶ 122. The pastor shall keep and transmit to the succeeding pastor an accurate register of the names of all baptized children in the charge, including both those who have been baptized there and those who have been baptized elsewhere. This register of baptized or dedicated children, along with a list of other preparatory members (¶ 115.4), shall constitute the preparatory membership roll of the church. It shall give the full name of the child, the date of birth, the date and place of Baptism, and the names of the parents or guardians and their place of residence.

¶ 123. All baptized children under the care of a United Methodist church shall be retained as preparatory members in the church until

this status is terminated by: confirmation and reception into full membership after a proper course of training both in the church school and in the pastor's class, transfer with their families to another United Methodist church, transfer with their families to a church of another Christian denomination, death, withdrawal, or transfer to the constituency roll of the church at the age of sixteen. The preparatory membership roll shall be corrected each year by adding and subtracting the names received and removed during the year, using the forms provided for this purpose.

¶ 124. It shall be the duty of the pastor, the parents or guardians, and the officers and teachers of the church school to provide training for the children of the church throughout their childhood that will lead to an understanding of the Christian faith, to an appreciation of the privileges and obligations of church membership, and to a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The pastor shall, at least annually, building on the preparation which boys and girls have received throughout their childhood, organize into classes for confirmation the youth who, preferably, are completing the sixth grade. This instruction shall be based on materials which the boys and girls have already used and on other resources produced by The United Methodist Church for the purpose of confirmation preparation. Wherever boys and girls so prepared shall give evidence of their own Christian faith and purpose and understanding of the privileges and obligations of church membership, they may be received into full membership.

## Section VI. Youth.

¶ 125. It is strongly recommended that each local church offer for senior high youth who are members of the Church an advanced class of instruction in the meaning of the Christian life and church membership. It is further recommended that this course, taught by the pastor, emphasize the doctrines of The United Methodist Church and the nature and mission of the Church, leading to continued growth in the knowledge, grace, and service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Section VII. Affiliate and Associate Membership.

¶ 126. A member of The United Methodist Church, residing for

an extended period in a city or community at a distance from the member's home church, may on request be enrolled as an affiliate member of a United Methodist church located in the vicinity of the temporary residence. The home pastor shall be notified of this affiliate membership. Such membership shall entitle the person to the fellowship of that church, to its pastoral care and oversight, and to participation in its activities, including the holding of office, but that person shall be counted and reported only as a member of the home church. A member of another denomination may become an associate member under the same conditions.

### Section VIII. Care of Members.

¶ 127. The local church shall endeavor to enlist each member in activities for spiritual growth and in participation in the services and ministries of the Church and its organizations. It shall be the duty of the pastor and of the Council on Ministries by regular visitation, care, and spiritual oversight, to provide necessary activities and opportunities for spiritual growth through individual and family worship and individual and group study, and to aid continually the members to keep their vows to uphold the Church by attendance, prayers, gifts, and service. The Church has a moral and spiritual obligation to nurture its nonparticipating and indifferent members and to lead them into a full and active church relationship.

¶ 128. The pastor in cooperation with the Council on Ministries may arrange the membership in groups—with a leader for each group—designed to involve the membership of the church in its ministry to the community. These groups shall be of such size, usually not larger than eight or ten families, as to be convenient and effective for service. Such groups may be especially helpful in evangelistic outreach by contacting newcomers and unreached persons, by visitation, by holding prayer meetings in the homes, by distributing Christian literature, and by other means. Nonresident members should constitute a special group to be served by correspondence. The groups shall be formed and the leaders appointed by the Council on Ministries upon recommendation of the minister.

¶ 129. While primary responsibility and initiative rests with each

individual member faithfully to perform the vows of membership which have been solemnly assumed, if the member should be neglectful of that responsibility, these procedures shall be followed:

1. If a member residing in the community is negligent of the vows, or is regularly absent from the worship of the church without valid reason, the pastor and the membership secretary shall report that member's name to the Council on Ministries which shall do all in its power to reenlist the member in the active fellowship of the Church. It shall visit the member and make clear that, while the member's name is on the roll of a particular local church, one is a member of The United Methodist Church as a whole, and that, since the member is not attending the church where enrolled, the member is requested to do one of three things: (a) renew the vows and become a regular worshiper in the church where the member's name is recorded, (b) request transfer to another United Methodist church where the member will be a regular worshiper, or (c) arrange transfer to a particular church of another denomination. If the member does not comply with any of the available alternatives over a period of three years, the member's name may be removed. (See § 4.)

2. If a member whose address is known is residing outside the community and is not participating in the worship or activity of the church, the directives to encourage a transfer of membership shall be followed each year until that member joins another church or requests in writing that the name be removed from the membership roll; *provided*, however, that if after three years the committee has not been able to relate that member to the church at the new place of residence, the name may be removed by the procedure of § 4 below.

3. If the address of a member is no longer known to the pastor, the membership secretary and the evangelism work area chairperson or the Commission on Evangelism shall make every effort to locate the member, including listing the name in the church bulletin, circularizing it throughout the parish, and reading it from the pulpit. If the member can be located, the directives of either § 1 or § 2 above shall be followed, but if after three years of such efforts the address is still unknown, the member's name may be removed from the membership roll by the procedure of § 4 below.

4. If the directives of §§ 1, 2, or 3 above have been followed for

the specified number of years without success, the member's name may be removed from the membership roll by vote of the Charge Conference on recommendation of the pastor and the evangelism work area chairperson of the Commission on Evangelism, each name being considered individually. On the roll there shall be entered after the name: "Removed by order of the Charge Conference"; and if the action is on the basis of § 3, there shall be added: "Reason: address unknown." The membership of the person shall thereby be terminated, and the record thereof shall be retained.<sup>2</sup>

5. Recognizing that the Church has a continuing moral and spiritual obligation to nurture all persons, even those whose names have been removed from the membership roll, it is recommended that a roll of persons thus removed shall be maintained. It shall then become the responsibility of the Council on Ministries to provide for the review of this roll at least once a year. (See also ¶ 134.) After the review has been made, it is recommended that the pastor and/or the commission contact those whose names appear on this roll, either in person or by other means, in the most effective and practical manner. The names and addresses of those who have moved outside the local church's area should be sent to local churches in their new communities, that those churches may visit and minister to them.

¶ 130. If a local church is discontinued, the district superintendent shall select another United Methodist church and transfer its members thereto, or to such other churches as the members may select.

### Section IX. Membership Records and Reports.

¶ 131. Each local church shall accurately maintain the following membership rolls:

1. **Full Membership Roll** (¶ 108).
2. **Preparatory Membership Roll** (¶ 115.4), containing the names and pertinent information of baptized or dedicated children and youth of the church sixteen years of age and under who are not full members.
3. **Members Removed by Charge Conference Action** (¶ 129.4).
4. **Constituency Roll**, containing the names and addresses of such

<sup>2</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 207.

persons as are not members of the church concerned, including unbaptized children, dedicated children, church school members not yet members of the church, preparatory members who have reached the age of sixteen who have not been received into full membership, and other nonmembers for whom the local church has pastoral responsibility.

5. **Affiliate Membership Roll** (¶ 126).

6. **Associate Membership Roll** (¶ 126).

¶ 132. The pastor shall report to each Charge Conference the names of persons received into the membership of the church or churches of the pastoral charge since the Charge Conference preceding and the names of persons whose membership in the church or churches of the pastoral charge has been terminated during the same period, indicating how each was received or how the membership was terminated. The Council on Ministries shall appoint a committee to audit the membership rolls, submitting the report annually to the Charge Conference.

¶ 133. The basic membership records in each local church shall consist of: a permanent church register and a card index or loose-leaf book.

1. The **permanent church register** shall be a bound volume of durable material prepared by The United Methodist Publishing House in the form approved by the Council on Finance and Administration. The names shall be recorded chronologically as each person is received into the fellowship of that church, and without reference to alphabetical order. The names shall be numbered in regular numerical order, and the number of each shall appear on the corresponding card or page in the card index or loose-leaf membership roll.

2. The **card index or loose-leaf membership record** shall be kept on a form approved by the Council on Finance and Administration. This record of membership shall be filed in alphabetical order and shall show the number appearing opposite each name on the permanent register. The pastor shall report annually to the Annual Conference the total membership of the charge as shown on the membership records.

¶ 134. The **membership secretary** shall, under the direction of

the pastor, keep accurate records of all membership rolls and report regularly to the Council on Ministries.

### Section X. Transfer and Termination of Membership.

¶ 135. Membership in a local church may be terminated by death, transfer, withdrawal, expulsion, or action of the Charge Conference. It shall be the duty of the pastor of the charge or of the membership secretary to keep an accurate record of all terminations of membership and to report to each Charge Conference the names of all persons whose membership has been terminated since the conference preceding, in each instance indicating the reason for such termination.

¶ 136. If a member of a United Methodist church shall move to another community so far removed from the home church that the member cannot participate regularly in its worship and activity, this member shall be encouraged to transfer membership to a United Methodist church in the community of the newly established residence. As soon as the pastor is reliably informed of this change of residence, actual or contemplated, it shall be the pastor's duty and obligation to assist the member to become established in the fellowship of a church in the community of the future home and to send to a United Methodist pastor in such community, or to the district superintendent, or (if neither is known) to the Board of Discipleship, a letter of notification, giving the latest known address of the person or persons concerned and requesting local pastoral oversight.

¶ 137. When a pastor discovers a member of The United Methodist Church residing in the community whose membership is in a church so far removed from the place of residence that the member cannot participate regularly in its worship and activity, it shall be the duty and obligation of the pastor to give pastoral oversight to such person and to encourage transfer of membership to a United Methodist church in the community where the member resides.

¶ 138. When a pastor receives a request for a transfer of membership from the pastor of another United Methodist church, that pastor shall send the proper certificate directly to the pastor of the United Methodist church to which the member is transferring, or if there is no pastor, to the district superintendent. On receipt of such a certificate of transfer, the pastor or district superintendent shall enroll the name

of the person so transferring after public reception in a regular service of worship, or if circumstances demand, public announcement in such a service. The pastor of the church issuing the certificate shall then be notified, whereupon said pastor shall remove the member from the roll.

Certificates of transfer shall be accompanied by two blanks, one to be sent to the member by the pastor who transfers the membership, the other to be sent to the former pastor by the pastor who receives the transferred member.

In case the transfer is not made effective, the pastor shall return the certificate to the pastor of the sending church.

¶ 139. A pastor upon receiving a request from a member to transfer to a church of another denomination, or upon receiving such request from a pastor or duly authorized official of another denomination, shall (with the approval of the member) issue a certificate of transfer and, upon receiving confirmation of said member's reception into another congregation, shall properly record the transfer of such person on the membership roll of the local church; and the membership shall thereby be terminated. For the transfer of a member of The United Methodist Church to a church of another denomination, forms shall be used, with the substitution of the name of the other denomination, for the words "United Methodist."

¶ 140. If a pastor is informed that a member has without notice united with a church of another denomination, the pastor shall make diligent inquiry and, if the report is confirmed, shall enter "Withdrawn" after the person's name on the membership roll and shall report the same to the next Charge Conference.

¶ 141. If a member proposes to withdraw from The United Methodist Church, that member shall communicate the purpose in writing to the pastor of the local church in which membership is held. On receiving such notice of withdrawal, the pastor shall properly record the fact of withdrawal on the membership roll. If requested, the pastor shall give a statement of withdrawal to such member.

### Section XI. The Method of Organizing a New Local Church.

¶ 142. 1. A new local church or mission shall be established only with the consent of the bishop in charge and his Cabinet, and with

due consideration of the conference Board of Global Ministries' programs of home missions and church extension (if any; see ¶ 1172). The bishop shall designate the district within whose bounds the church shall be organized. The district superintendent of that district shall be the agent in charge of the project, and shall recommend to the district Board of Church Location and Building (¶ 1414) the site for the proposed new congregation. If there is a city or district missionary society, that body shall also be asked to approve this site (¶ 1128.3c).

2. The district superintendent shall call the persons interested in the proposed church to meet at an appointed time and place, or may by written authorization designate any pastor in the district to call such a meeting.

3. The district superintendent or the pastor to whom authority is designated shall preside and shall appoint a secretary to keep a record of the meeting. Following a period of worship, opportunity shall be given those in attendance to present themselves for membership by proper certificates of transfer. Pastors issuing such certificates to a church not yet organized shall describe therein the proposed new church to which it is issued, as, for instance, "the proposed new church on Boston Avenue."

4. Persons desiring to become members on profession of their faith in Christ shall also be given opportunity to present themselves for membership. When the presiding minister is satisfied as to the genuineness of their faith and purpose, they shall be received into the membership of the Church.

5. A list shall be made of all the persons received into the membership of the proposed church, by transfer and on profession. Those persons shall be members of the **Constituting Church Conference**, and each shall be entitled to vote.

6. The Constituting Church Conference shall then be called to order, and it shall proceed to choose the members at large of the church on nomination of a committee on nominations. Such committee shall be appointed by the presiding minister or elected on nomination from the floor, as the conference may determine. In either case the presiding minister shall be chairperson. When the members

at large have been chosen in proper number, the presiding minister shall declare the church properly constituted.

7. The presiding minister shall then adjourn the Constituting Church Conference and call to order the Charge Conference of the pastoral charge. The membership of the Charge Conference shall be those newly elected and any others entitled to membership. The Charge Conference shall then elect such officers of the church as the Discipline requires, including trustees of church property, and shall set up commissions and committees as provided in the Discipline. When such officers have been duly elected and the proper commissions and committees constituted, the church is duly organized, and from this point its work shall proceed as described in the Discipline; *provided* that when a newly organized church is attached to a circuit, the Charge Conference shall not be held until such time as representatives from all the churches of the charge can be properly assembled for that purpose.

8. The Charge Conference may take action at its discretion, authorizing and directing the newly elected trustees to incorporate the newly organized church in accordance with local laws and the provisions of the Discipline.

#### Section XII. Protection of Rights of Congregations.

¶ 143. Nothing in the Plan and Basis of Union at any time after the union is to be construed so as to require any local church of the former Church of the United Brethren in Christ, or of the former The Evangelical Church, or of the former The Evangelical United Brethren Church, or of the former The Methodist Church to alienate or in any way to change the title to property contained in its deed or deeds at the time of union; and lapse of time or usage shall not affect said title or control.

#### Section XIII. The Charge Conference.

¶ 144. *General Provisions.*—1. Within the pastoral charge the **Charge Conference** is the basic unit in the connectional system of The United Methodist Church. The Charge Conference shall therefore be organized from the church or churches in every pastoral charge as set forth in the Constitution (¶ 48). It shall meet annually for the pur-

poses set forth in ¶ 145. It may meet at other times as indicated in § 6 below.

2. The membership of the Charge Conference shall be all members of the Administrative Board (or Administrative Boards, if more than one church is on the pastoral charge) named in ¶ 149 together with retired ministers who elect to hold their membership in said Charge Conference and any others as may be designated in the Discipline.

3. The district superintendent shall fix the time of meetings of the Charge Conference. The Charge Conference shall determine the place of meeting.

4. The district superintendent shall preside at the meetings of the Charge Conference, or may designate an elder to preside.

5. The members present at any duly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.

6. Special sessions may be called by the district superintendent after consultation with the pastor of the charge or by the pastor with the written consent of the district superintendent. The purpose of such special session shall be stated in the call, and only such business shall be transacted as is in harmony with the purposes stated in such call. Any such special session may be convened as a Church Conference in accordance with ¶ 147.

7. Notice of the time and place of a regular or special session of the Charge Conference shall be given at least ten days in advance.

8. A **Joint Charge Conference** for two or more pastoral charges may be held at the same time and place, as the district superintendent may determine.

¶ 145. *Powers and Duties.*—1. The Charge Conference shall be the connecting link between the local church and the general Church and shall have general oversight of the Administrative Board (s).

2. Its primary responsibility in the annual meeting shall be to evaluate the effectiveness of the program of the charge toward achieving its mission in the community and world, to establish goals for the ensuing year which are in keeping with the objectives of The United Methodist Church, and to develop specific proposals to be implemented by the Administrative Board (s).

3. The Charge Conference shall elect, upon nomination of the

Committee on Nominations and Personnel (¶ 162.1) of each local church on the pastoral charge or by nomination from the floor and by vote of each such local church, the following:

a) Lay leader (s), lay member (s) of the Annual Conference, chairperson of the Council on Ministries, chairpersons of work areas (ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, worship), age-level coordinators (family, children, youth, adult), recording secretary, secretary of enlistment, superintendent of study program (optional), district steward (optional), and (if not paid employees of the local church) the church treasurer (s), financial secretary, and membership secretary.

b) Members at large of the Administrative Board as provided in ¶ 146.3, one of whom shall be selected as the Health and Welfare Ministries representative.

c) The Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations and chairperson (¶ 162.2).

d) The Committee on Finance (¶ 162.3) and chairperson.

e) The Committee on Nominations and Personnel (¶ 161.1).

f) The trustees as provided in ¶¶ 1420, 1422, unless otherwise required by state law.

g) Such other personnel and committees as may elsewhere be ordered by the Discipline.

4. It shall examine and recommend to the district Committee on the Ministry, faithfully adhering to the provisions of ¶ 318.3, candidates for the ministry who have been members in good standing of the local church for at least one year; whose gifts, graces, and call to the ministry clearly establish them as candidates; and who have met the educational requirements.

5. It shall examine and recommend, faithfully adhering to the provisions of ¶ 320, candidates for the renewal of the lay pastor's license.

6. It shall examine and recommend to the responsible church agency any candidates for church-related vocations.

7. It shall affirm the good standing in the congregation of the persons seeking the lay worker relationship in the Annual Conference and transmit this information to the conference Committee on the Lay Worker.

8. It shall recommend to the district Committee on Lay Speaking for certification as lay speakers those persons who have met the standards set forth by the agency to which they are related and shall inquire annually into the gifts, labors, and usefulness of lay speakers (¶ 1069).

9. It shall in consultation with the district superintendent set the salary and other remuneration of the pastor and other staff appointed by the bishop.<sup>3</sup>

10. It shall determine the amount accepted annually by the Charge Conference for world service and conference benevolences by the following procedure:

As soon as practicable after the session of Annual Conference, each district superintendent shall notify each local church in the district what amounts have been apportioned to it for world service and conference benevolences. Following the Annual Conference, it shall be the responsibility of the pastor and the lay member of the Annual Conference and/or the church lay leader to present to a meeting of each Charge Conference a statement of the apportionments for world service and conference benevolences, explaining the causes supported by each of these funds and their place in the total program of the Church. The Charge Conference shall determine annually the amount of its acceptance for world service and conference benevolences. The district superintendent shall also notify each Charge Conference of all other amounts properly apportioned to it. (See ¶ 889.)

11. In those instances where there is more than one church on a charge, the Charge Conference may provide for a **Charge or Parish Administrative Board** if deemed advisable. Such a Charge Administrative Board shall operate in accordance with ¶¶ 150-52.

12. In those instances where there is more than one church on a charge, the Charge Conference may elect a **charge treasurer(s)** to receive and disburse funds and contributions for local expense and benevolence causes for the charge.

13. Where there is more than one church on a charge, there shall be a **charge Committee on Nominations and Personnel** composed of at least one representative from each Administrative Board Committee

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 213, 252.

on Nominations and Personnel which shall nominate such officers and committees as are necessary for the Charge Conference to carry on its work.

14. In instances of multiple church charges, the Charge Conference shall provide for an equitable distribution of parsonage maintenance and upkeep expense among the several churches.

15. Such other duties and responsibilities as the General, Jurisdictional, or Annual Conference may duly commit to it.

¶ 146. 1. The lay member(s) of the Annual Conference and one or more alternates shall be elected annually or quadrennially as the Annual Conference directs. If the charge's lay representative to the Annual Conference shall cease to be a member of the charge or shall for any reason fail to serve, an alternate member in the order of election shall serve in place.

Both the lay members and the alternates shall have been members in good standing of The United Methodist Church or one of the churches forming the union for at least four years, and of the local church from which they are elected for at least one year, except in a newly organized church, which shall have the privilege of representation at the Annual Conference session. (See ¶ 36.) No lay pastor shall be eligible as a lay member or alternate.<sup>4</sup> United Methodist Churches which become part of an ecumenical ministry of which the United Methodist Church is a sponsor shall not be deprived of their right of representation by a lay member in the Annual Conference.

2. The **recording secretary** shall keep an accurate and permanent record of the proceedings and shall be the custodian of all records and reports, and with the presiding officer shall sign the minutes. A copy of the minutes shall be provided for the district superintendent. When there is only one local church on a charge, the secretary of the Administrative Board shall be the secretary of the Charge Conference. When there is more than one church on a charge, one of the secretaries of the Administrative Boards shall be elected to serve as secretary of the Charge Conference.

3. The Charge Conference shall determine the number of **members at large** to serve on the Administrative Board in keeping with the

<sup>4</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 170, 305, 328, 342.

following provisions: Churches of five hundred members or less shall include at least four members at large and may include a total not to exceed thirty-five in number exclusive of ex officio and honorary members. In churches of more than five hundred members there may be elected additional members at large not to exceed the ratio of one for each thirty additional members. The members at large shall include at least two young adults between the ages of eighteen and thirty and at least two youth nominated by the youth coordinator or the Youth Council.

4. The health and welfare representative shall be selected from among the members at large.

5. The **secretary of enlistment** for church-related occupations may be one of the coordinators or work area chairperson of the Council on Ministries.

6. The Charge Conference may establish a limit to the consecutive terms of office for any or all of the elected or appointed officers of the local church except where otherwise mandated. It is recommended that no officer serve more than three consecutive years in office.

7. The Charge Conference may make provision for the recognition of the faithful service of those members of the Administrative Board who have reached the age of seventy-two or who have become physically incapacitated by electing them honorary members. An honorary member shall be entitled to all the privileges of a member, except the right to vote.

¶ 147. *The Church Conference.*—To encourage broader participation by members of the Church, the Charge Conference may be convened as the **Church Conference**, extending the vote to all local church members present at such meetings. The Church Conference may be authorized by the district superintendent on written request of the pastor or the Administrative Board or ten percent of the membership of the local church to the district superintendent, with a copy to the pastor, or at the discretion of the district superintendent. Additional regulations governing the call and conduct of the Charge Conference as set forth in ¶¶ 144-45 shall apply also to the Church Conference. A **joint Church Conference** for two or more churches may be held at the same time and place, as the district superintendent may determine. (For Church Local Conference see ¶ 1421.)

#### Section XIV. The Administrative Board.

¶ 148. In every local church there shall be an administrative body known as the **Administrative Board**, to which the members, organizations, and agencies of the local church are amenable. It functions under and is amenable to the Charge Conference. (See ¶¶ 144-47.)

1. *Purpose.*—The purpose of the Administrative Board shall be to initiate planning, receive reports, set goals, authorize action, determine policy, evaluate the church's ministries, and review the state of the church.

2. *Meetings.*—The Administrative Board shall meet at least quarterly. Special meetings may be ordered by the Administrative Board or called by the chairperson or the pastor.

3. *Quorum.*—The members present at any duly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 149. *Membership.*—The membership of the Administrative Board shall consist of the following insofar as the offices and relationships exist within the local church:

The pastor and the associate pastor or pastors; deaconesses appointed to serve therein; church and community workers under appointment by and certified by the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries, providing their memberships are in said local church, with an advisory relationship in all other churches to which they are assigned; the lay leader (s); the lay member (s) of the Annual Conference; chairperson of the trustees; the church administrator (business manager); the chairperson of the Committee on Finance; the chairperson of the Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations; the secretary of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel; the church treasurer (s); the financial secretary, if not a member of the employed staff; the director or the associate of Christian education or the educational assistant; the director or the associate of evangelism; the director or the associate of music or the music assistant; the chairperson of the Council on Ministries; the work area chairpersons; the age-level and family coordinators; the secretary of enlistment; the superintendent of the study program of the church; the membership secretary, if not a member of the employed staff; the president of United Methodist Women; the president of United Methodist Men;

the president of the United Methodist Youth Ministry; members at large (¶ 146.3); and a health and welfare representative. The employed professional staff who are members of the Administrative Board shall not vote on matters pertaining to their employee relationship.

Members of the Administrative Board shall be persons of genuine Christian character who love the Church, are morally disciplined, are loyal to the ethical standards of The United Methodist Church set forth in Part III (the Social Principles), and are competent to administer its affairs. It shall include youth members chosen according to the same standards as adults. All shall be members of the local church, except where Central Conference legislation provides otherwise.

¶ 150. *Organization.*—The Administrative Board shall be organized annually by the election of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a recording secretary. These officers shall be lay persons elected by the members of the Administrative Board on the nomination of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

¶ 151. *Responsibilities.*—As the executive agency of the Charge Conference, the Administrative Board shall have general oversight of the administration and program of the local church (¶ 148). The pastor shall be the administrative officer and as such shall be an ex officio member of all conferences, boards, councils, commissions, committees, and task groups.

1. The Administrative Board shall be responsible for administering the organization of the local church which shall include: the Council on Ministries (¶ 153), the Committee on Nominations and Personnel (¶ 162.1), the Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations (¶ 162.2), the Committee on Finance (¶ 162.3), and the trustees (¶ 1419). The Administrative Board may co-opt additional persons from time to time to assist the local church in fulfilling its mission. (See ¶¶ 162.4, 153-61.)

2. The Administrative Board may adjust the local church's program year to correspond with the Annual Conference fiscal year. The Administrative Board shall determine the date when all elected personnel shall take office and establish their tenure except when the General Conference or the Annual Conference orders otherwise.

3. The Administrative Board shall annually:

a) Establish the goals for the ministries of the local church.

b) Elect such lay officers and members of the Administrative Board as are authorized by the Discipline. To fulfill this responsibility the Administrative Board shall receive and act upon the reports of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel.

c) Receive reports and review the state of the church. To fulfill this responsibility the Administrative Board shall receive and act upon the reports of all boards and committees amenable to it and the recommendations of the Council on Ministries, and shall provide the necessary personnel and budget to implement the approved program.

d) After consultation with the Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations and the Committee on Finance, recommend to the Charge Conference the salary and other remuneration for the pastor and staff.

e) Establish the budget.

4. The Administrative Board shall cultivate interest in all the benevolent causes authorized by the General, Jurisdictional, Annual, and District Conferences, and encourage the support of world service, conference, and other benevolences, coordinating the same with the activities and study/action groups of the church.

5. It shall make proper and adequate provision for the financial needs of the church, including ministerial support (i.e., for the pastor or pastors, district superintendent, conference claimants, and bishops); approved items of local expense; world service, conference, and other benevolences; other items apportioned to the church by the proper authorities; and all obligations assumed by the local church.

6. It shall discharge faithfully any and all duties and responsibilities committed to it by the Charge Conference or by law of the Church.

7. It shall develop in the members of the congregation a concern for and responsibility in the establishment of new churches, new church schools, and other forms of ministry, and when specifically authorized by the district superintendent and the district Board of Church Location and Building (¶ 1414), it shall organize and sponsor new churches, church schools, and other forms of ministry needed in the community.

8. It shall foster understanding of the unity of the Church and

shall initiate responsible participation in the ministries of the ecumenical community.

¶ 152. *Lay Officers.*—The membership list of the Administrative Board includes the following lay officers whose roles are not defined elsewhere:

1. The **lay leader** is the person elected by the Charge Conference for the following responsibilities: (a) membership in the Charge Conference, the Administrative Board, and the Council on Ministries where, along with the pastor, the lay leader shall serve as an interpreter of the actions of the Annual Conference and its boards and agencies; (b) continuing involvement in study and training opportunities to develop a growing understanding of the Church's reason for existence and the types of ministry that will most effectively fulfill the Church's mission; (c) assisting in the interpretation of the role of the local church in the community; and (d) alerting the Administrative Board and its Council on Ministries to the opportunities available for more effective ministry of the Church through its laity. The lay leader shall be expected to take advantage of the training opportunities provided by the Annual Conference and shall serve as a member of the district Committee on Lay Life and Work (if any; see ¶ 1056). In instances where more than one church is on a charge, the Charge Conference shall elect additional lay leaders so that there will be one lay leader for each church.

2. The **secretary of enlistment** shall coordinate and guide, with the pastor and various interests and agencies of the local church, a program of interpretation and enlistment for church-related occupations and an understanding of vocation in Christian terms. This person shall serve as liaison with vocational resources and resource persons beyond the local church, and when desired shall select a representative committee of persons from age-group and program interests of the congregation in this area and shall serve as its chairperson.

3. The Charge Conference may elect a **superintendent of the study program of the church** who shall be responsible, under the guidance of the education work area chairperson or commission and the minister or representative of the employed staff, for the supervision of the total program of education in the church. The particular responsibilities shall be those of (a) educational consultant to age-

group and family coordinators and (b) coordinator of study activities involving more than one age group.

4. The **financial secretary** shall receive the contributions to the local church, keeping records of the contributors and their payments, and transfer them promptly to the treasurer (s).

5. The **church treasurer(s)** shall disburse all money contributed to causes represented in the local church budget, and such other funds and contributions as the Administrative Board may determine. (See ¶ 145.12.) The treasurer (s) shall remit each month to the conference treasurer all world service and conference benevolence funds then on hand. Contributions to benevolences shall not be used for any cause other than that to which they have been given.<sup>5</sup>

6. The **health and welfare representative** shall serve as the chairperson of the Committee on Health and Welfare Ministries if it is organized (¶ 162.4). When no committee is organized, this representative shall interpret the opportunities for the local church to minister through this area.

#### Section XV. The Local Church and Parish Councils on Ministries.

¶ 153. There shall be a local church **Council on Ministries**, which shall consider, initiate, develop, and coordinate proposals for the church's strategy for mission. It shall receive and, where possible, utilize resources for missions provided by the District, Annual, Jurisdictional, and General Conference Councils on Ministries, boards, and agencies, and shall coordinate these resources with the Church's plan for ministries in the local and other settings. The council shall be amenable to the Administrative Board to which it shall submit its plans for revision and appropriate action. Upon adoption of the program by the Administrative Board, the council shall implement the plans which are assigned to it.

The Council on Ministries shall elect teachers, counselors, and officers for the church school other than those subject to election by the Charge Conference. They shall be nominated by the work area chairperson of education after consultation with the age-level coordinators and pastor or such other groups or persons as the Council

<sup>5</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 63, 320.

on Ministries may designate. It is recommended that the Committee on Nominations and Personnel be a resource in this process (¶ 162.1).

The Council on Ministries shall make recommendations to the Committee on Finance requesting the financial resources needed to undergird the ministries which it has developed, using local and connectional program suggestions, and which the council recommends to the Administrative Board.

Since local churches vary greatly in needs and size, the structure and organization required will differ. The Council on Ministries with its several elected representatives is the minimum structure for the development and administration of the local church program. The Council on Ministries, in order to implement the Church's mission, may request expansion of the structure to include councils, commissions, task groups, committees, and other groups as needed. Where the committees, councils, task groups, commissions, etc., are not organized, the duties assigned to each become the responsibility of the Council on Ministries.

¶ 154. A parish charge conference may authorize a parish Council on Ministries which, when organized, shall perform the functions for the parish which are enumerated in ¶ 153. Membership of the parish Council on Ministries shall be consistent with the pattern of representation enumerated in ¶ 155.

¶ 155. The basic membership of the local church Council on Ministries shall include: the minister and other staff persons who are engaged in program work; the chairperson of the Administrative Board; the lay leader; the president of United Methodist Women; the coordinators of age levels: children, youth, and adult; a coordinator of family ministry; the chairperson of each work area: ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, and worship; and two youth members (12-18) and two young adult members (19-30) of the congregation if not otherwise provided for.

The Charge Conference may elect to the Council on Ministries upon nomination of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel: the superintendent of the study program of the church, a representative of United Methodist Men, the local church health and welfare representative, a representative of United Methodist Youth Ministry,

and other persons on the basis of their competency in program planning.

The officers of the Council on Ministries shall be a chairperson, who shall be a lay person or a minister who is not a member of the local staff, a vice-chairperson, and a secretary. The chairperson shall be elected by the Charge Conference upon nomination of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel; the vice-chairperson and secretary shall be elected by the council from its own membership.

¶ 156. *Age-Level and Family Coordinators.*—1. The Charge Conference shall elect annually upon nomination by the Committee on Nominations and Personnel a **coordinator of children's ministries**, a **coordinator of youth ministries**, a **coordinator of adult ministries**, and a **coordinator of family ministries**. Each of the coordinators shall, under the guidance of the minister or a representative from the employed professional staff and the chairperson of the Council on Ministries, study the needs of the age group and the goals of the congregation's ministry and coordinate the planning and implementation of a unified and comprehensive ministry with the age group. Each coordinator shall serve as liaison with organizations, persons, and resources in and beyond the local church which relate to the particular age level. The coordinator shall represent on the Council on Ministries the concerns of age-level organizations when they are not otherwise represented.

2. The coordinator of family ministries shall work with the age-level coordinators and the Council on Ministries to develop a family ministry for the local church, taking into consideration the suggestions of the general church agency and the Annual Conference agency responsible for family life. This coordinator shall keep the Council on Ministries aware of resources and activities to be used in planning family activities in the church and home, in the guidance of families in Christian living in the home, in the preparation of youth for marriage, and in helping families find opportunities for service in the community and the world.

¶ 157. *Age-Level and Family Councils.*—Where the size of the church and the extent of the program indicate the need, the work of the Council on Ministries may be facilitated by one or more **age-level councils** and/or a **family council**, or such other means as fit the needs

of the congregation. The age-level councils shall work under the leadership of the age-level coordinators to expedite the work of the Council on Ministries in adapting the program to the age level.

The membership of these councils, except for ex officio members, shall be elected by the Council on Ministries and may include the following:

1. *Children's Council*.—Representative teachers and leaders of children's activities of the church (including its activities in music and the other arts), representative parents, and representatives of work areas (ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, and worship) related to the Church's ministry with children. The council may also include the director of the week-day nursery school or day care center (if such is provided), when the nursery school or day care center is sponsored by the local church.

2. *Youth Council*.—Representatives of adult leaders and counselors of youth, representative parents, representatives of work areas (ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, and worship) related to the Church's ministry with youth, representatives of the Church's activities in music and the other arts, a youth and an adult from each youth-serving organization sponsored by the Church, and in a number that is at least one youth for each adult on the council.

3. *Adult Council*.—Representatives of adult study/action groups; fellowship groups, administrative groups, and service organizations such as United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, and Young Adult Ministry; and representatives of work areas (ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, and worship) related to the Church's ministry with adults. Where the young adult ministries would be enhanced, a **Young Adult Council** may be organized.

4. *Family Council*.—When the size of the church and the extent of the program indicate the need, the Council on Ministries may designate a group including representatives of the age-group councils and work areas to work with the coordinator in planning program suggestions to be submitted to the Council on Ministries.

The minister or a member of the professional staff of the church appointed by the minister shall be an ex officio member of each coun-

cil. Additional members, such as representatives of community agencies, may be elected to each council on the basis of their interest and competency.

The coordinators shall serve as the chairpersons of their respective councils except that the Council on Ministries may authorize the youth council to elect its own chairperson.

¶ 158. *Work Area Chairpersons*.—Major concerns of the Church Universal and local church include ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, and worship. Therefore the Charge Conference shall elect annually upon nomination of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel the **chairperson of ecumenical affairs**, the **chairperson of education**, the **chairperson of evangelism**, the **chairperson of missions**, the **chairperson of social concerns**, the **chairperson of stewardship**, and the **chairperson of worship**. Where desirable, the Charge Conference may combine coordinators' and work area chairpersons' assignments.

Each work area chairperson, under the guidance of the minister or a representative from the employed staff and the chairperson of the Council on Ministries, shall contact the program agencies, obtain guidance material, and study the implications for the work area in the total mission of the Church; shall interpret and recommend to the Council on Ministries ways of implementing the mission of the Church represented by the area; shall make specific recommendations of the work area for different age groups; shall serve as liaison within and beyond the local church. When an activity in the area of work is planned by the Council on Ministries to include two or more age levels, the chairperson of the work area may serve, when designated by the Council on Ministries, as chairperson of a group from the age levels to carry out the activity.

¶ 159. *Work Area Commissions*.—When the size of the church and the extent of the program indicate the need, the Council on Ministries may choose one or more **work area commissions** (ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, and worship). The commission shall work under the leadership of the work area chairperson to expedite the concerns of the Council on Ministries in the area. The representative of the work area serving on each age-level council shall be a member of the commission. At least

two youths shall be included in the membership of all commissions. The council may elect other persons to the commission because of unusual interest and competency in the area. The minister or a representative of the employed professional staff appointed by the minister shall serve as an ex officio member of the commission. When commissions are not organized, primary responsibility for the concerns of each work area rests with the work area chairperson, and the duties assigned to the commissions become the responsibility of the work area chairperson.

1. The **Commission on Education** shall keep the Council on Ministries aware of sound educational procedure, and encourage and facilitate the use of curriculum resources based on curriculum plans developed by the Section on Curriculum Resources and approved by the Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church to be used in the achievement of the goals for the Church's educational ministry. The commission shall recommend activities and structure for study and interpretation of the Christian faith and life at each age level. It shall work with the age-group councils to coordinate the study program of the church, particularly when activities involve more than one age group.

The Commission on Education shall recommend to the Council on Ministries an organization of the study program of the church in keeping with the standards and policies of the Board of Discipleship, Section on Local Church Education, and the Annual Conference Board of Discipleship (if any; *see* ¶ 1029).

The Commission on Education shall provide locally for the promotion and support of the interests of higher education and campus ministry, in accordance with the Annual Conference and the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Higher Education. It shall plan for the ministry to students related to the local church and shall observe United Methodist Student Day and receive an offering for the support of The United Methodist Scholarships and for The United Methodist Student Loan Fund.

The Commission on Education shall provide locally for the observance of Christian Education Sunday to emphasize the importance of Christian education and to receive an offering for the confer-

ence Committee on Education (if any; *see* ¶ 1031), for the program of its local church division.

2. The **Commission on Evangelism** shall keep the Council on Ministries aware of the aim and means of evangelism in the goals for the Church's ministry. In keeping with the standards and guidance material supplied by the Board of Discipleship, Division of Evangelism, Worship and Stewardship and the Annual Conference Board of Discipleship (if any; *see* ¶ 1029), it shall recommend activities and structure to respond to the evangelistic mission of the local church. In cooperation with the pastor and the Council on Ministries it shall develop and implement ministries for membership care. It shall assist the age-group councils to respond to evangelistic opportunities in the community so that every person is included in the responsibility of a local church.

3. The **Commission on Missions** shall keep the Council on Ministries aware of the purpose and needs of programs and institutions supported by the Church in the nation and around the world. In keeping with the standards and guidance material supplied by the Board of Global Ministries, and the Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries (if any; *see* ¶ 1172), it shall provide resources to be used in the study program of the church. Through the council it shall cooperate with other commissions in surveying the needs of the local community, and recommend to the Council on Ministries plans for local mission and service projects and for participation in enterprises sponsored by the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries in the geographic area of the local church. It shall recommend means of keeping the church informed of the qualifications and current needs for personnel to serve through the Church around the world. (*See* ¶ 152.2.) It shall develop a benevolence budget and submit it to the Council on Ministries for their recommendation to the finance committee.

4. The **Commission on Social Concerns** shall keep the Council on Ministries aware of the need for study and action in the areas of peace and world order, human relations, political and economic affairs, and health and general welfare. In keeping with standards and guidance materials supplied by the Board of Church and Society and the Annual Conference Board of Church and Society (if any; *see* ¶ 978), it

shall recommend to the Council on Ministries study/action projects in the field of social concerns. The commission shall cooperate with other commissions in surveying the needs of the local community and in recommendations for local social-action projects.

5. The **Commission on Stewardship** shall keep the Council on Ministries aware of the meaning of the stewardship of life, time, talent, and material means as one of the evidences of the fruits of the Spirit. In keeping with the standards and guidance material supplied by the Board of Discipleship and the Annual Conference Committee on Lay Life and Work (if any; see ¶¶ 1048-1053), it shall recommend to the Council on Ministries or the age-group councils, materials and methods for keeping the people involved in service and mission. In churches where the Commission on Stewardship is organized, the Council on Ministries shall elect representatives of the Committee on Finance to serve on the commission. (See ¶ 162.3.)

6. The **Commission on Worship** shall aid the congregation to become increasingly aware of the meaning, purpose, and practice of worship. In keeping with the standards and guidance material supplied by the Board of Discipleship, the commission shall recommend plans for the study by individuals and groups of the art of worship; shall cooperate with the pastor in caring for music, ushering, furnishings, appointments, and sacramental elements for congregational worship; and shall recommend standards for the placement in the church of memorial gifts as aids to worship.

7. The **Commission on Ecumenical Affairs** shall encourage awareness and understanding of ecumenism at all levels (dialogue, councils, and unions). It shall stimulate studies, plan programs, cooperate in specific ecumenical endeavors, and encourage conversation and fellowship with members of other Christian churches.

¶ 160. *Program Agencies.*—The ministries of the local church are implemented through the encounter of persons with God's redeeming love for the world and with his action in the world. To achieve this ministry persons are involved in age-level or family groupings. Usually a variety of settings is essential. Some will be formed by the Council on Ministries. Others will emerge with the approval of the Council on Ministries. Another type is historical, expressing itself in organizational structures that are related to counterparts in Annual Confer-

ences and the general Church. These are referred to as **program agencies** and are related to the Council on Ministries through its age-level and family coordinators, work area chairpersons, and councils or commissions of the Council on Ministries.

1. *The Church School.*—In each local church there shall be a **church school** for the purpose of accomplishing the church's educational ministry. It provides a variety of settings and resources for all persons—children, youth, and adults—to explore the meanings of the Christian faith in all its dimensions, to discover and appropriate to themselves those meanings which are relevant for their lives and for society, and to assume responsibility for expressing these meanings in all their relationships. The content of the curriculum of the church school will include the meanings and experiences of the Christian faith as found in the Bible, in history, and in man's encounter with the natural world and contemporary society. All the concerns of the Church will be present in the church school's educational ministry: ecumenical affairs, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, and worship. It will provide opportunity for persons to commit themselves to Christ and encourage them to unite with the Christian community through membership in a local church. The superintendent of the study program of the church, if elected, or the education work area chairperson, shall be responsible for relating the educational ministry of the church school to the total ministry of the local church through the Council on Ministries. Leadership and organizational resources for the church school are prepared by the Section on Local Church Education, Board of Discipleship; curriculum resources are prepared by the Section on Curriculum Resources of the board.

2. *Youth Ministry.*—Youth who have been confirmed shall be recognized as full laity and participants in all the activities of the church. The term "youth ministry" is an inclusive title, encompassing all of the interest of the church and all activities by, with, and to youth, including The United Methodist Youth Fellowship. The Youth Council shall be responsible for developing the comprehensive ministry. The Youth Ministry of the United Methodist Church shall include all persons from the seventh grade through senior high school (approximately twelve through eighteen years of age, taking into

account the grouping of youth in the public schools), who are currently or potentially associated with the church or any of its activities. The coordinator of youth ministries and the Youth Council, when organized, shall be responsible for recommending to the Council on Ministries activities, program emphases, and settings for youth. The local church may designate one of its settings as the United Methodist Youth Fellowship. The coordinator and Council shall use available resources and means to inform youth concerning the Youth Service Fund and shall cultivate its support; *provided* that prior to this cultivation or as a part of it, the youth shall have been challenged to assume their financial responsibilities in connection with the total program and budget of the local church.

3. *United Methodist Women.*—In every local church there shall be an organized unit of **United Methodist Women**. The following is the authorized constitution;

*Article 1. Name.*—The name of this organization shall be **United Methodist Women**.

*Article 2. Relationships.*—The unit of United Methodist Women in the local church is directly related to the district and conference organizations of United Methodist Women and to the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church.

*Article 3. Purpose.*—The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

*Article 4. Membership.*—Membership shall be open to any woman who indicates her desire to belong and to participate in the global mission of the church through United Methodist Women. The pastor (s) shall be an ex officio member.

*Article 5. Officers and Committees.*—The local unit shall elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a Committee on Nominations. Additional officers and committees shall be elected or appointed as needed, in accordance with the plans of the Women's Division as set forth in the bylaws for the local unit of United Methodist Women.

*Article 6. Funds.*—a) The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose.

b) All funds, from whatever source secured by the unit of United Methodist Women, belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and by its order.

c) The total budget secured and administered by the organized unit in the local church shall include (1) pledges and other monies for the programs and responsibilities of the Women's Division to be directed through regular channels of finance of United Methodist Women; and (2) funds to be used in mission locally, which shall include amounts for administration and membership development.

d) The organized unit in the local church shall make an annual pledge to the total budget of the district or conference organization of United Methodist Women.

e) All undesignated funds channeled to the Women's Division shall be appropriated by the division.

*Article 7. Meetings.*—The organized unit in the local church shall hold such meetings for implementing The Purpose and transacting its business as the unit itself shall decide.

*Article 8. Relationships in the Local Church.*—The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall encourage all women to participate in the total life and work of the church and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.

*Article 9. Amendments.*—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries before the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium.

**Note:** For a description of the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries and its subsidiary organizations see ¶¶ 1145-56.

4. *United Methodist Men.*—The ministry of the local church to and through its men shall be concerned with all the men who are a part of its constituency. It shall take into account the search of men for a meaningful faith and the witness of men to that faith in all their relationships. It shall be aware that men's work is achieved in all the groups where men are involved in the life and work of the local church and in special groups and/or organizations of **United Methodist Men**. These groups and/or organizations shall be formed when men in the

congregation see the need for them and request their formation or when the Council on Ministries determines that there is need for their formation. Resources for the organization and implementation of men's ministry are available from the General Board of Discipleship (§ 1027.3).

¶ 161. Task groups may be formed by the Council on Ministries, its councils or commissions, for the purpose of accomplishing specific and particular goals of the Church's mission to the world. These groups shall be oriented to immediate tasks. They shall prepare for their mission by the study of the Scriptures' mandates in the light of the community's immediate needs. They shall meet regularly for study and for planning their strategy in mission. They shall be disciplined to individual and corporate action and shall be amenable to the Council on Ministries and report to it.

#### Section XVI. Committees.

¶ 162. 1. There shall be elected annually by the Charge Conference a **Committee on Nominations and Personnel** composed of not more than nine persons—excluding the pastor, who shall be chairperson—which shall nominate to the Charge Conference or Annual Church Conference in its annual session such officers and members of the Administrative Board and Charge Conference and committees as the law of the Church requires or as the conference may determine as necessary to its work; *provided* that to secure experience and stability the membership shall be divided into three classes, one of which shall be elected each year for a three-year term; *provided* further, that to begin the process of rotation on the first year one class be elected for one year, one class for two years, and one for three years; *provided* further, that each year the new class of members to serve on the Committee on Nominations and Personnel, and vacancies as they occur, shall be elected from nominees from the floor. At least one youth, elected by the Charge Conference or Annual Church Conference, shall serve as a member of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel. Churches are encouraged to establish a policy that retiring members of the Committee on Nominations and Personnel not succeed themselves. (See also § 146.6.)

The Committee on Nominations and Personnel shall serve

throughout the year to guide the Administrative Board on personnel matters (other than employed staff) so as to coordinate the leadership and service needs with personnel of the congregation, working in relationship to the Council on Ministries and the committees of the Administrative Board in both its nominations and personnel guidance.

2. There shall be a **Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations** of not fewer than five nor more than nine lay persons, including at least one young adult. One of the committee shall be a lay member of the Annual Conference. The members, including the chairperson, shall be elected annually by the Charge Conference upon nomination by the Committee on Nominations and Personnel. Where there is more than one church on a charge, there shall be a pastor-parish relations committee with at least one representative from each congregation (§ 145.3c). In those charges where there is a multiple staff, the committee shall relate to the entire staff. It shall elect its own secretary. It shall meet at least twice each year. It shall meet at the request of the bishop, the district superintendent, the pastor, or the chairperson of the committee.

The committee shall meet only with the knowledge of the minister and/or the district superintendent. It may meet with the district superintendent without the minister being present; however, when the minister is not present, the minister shall be informed prior to such meeting and immediately thereafter be brought into consultation either by the committee or by the district superintendent. In the event that only one congregation on a charge containing more than one church has concerns which it wishes to share, its member(s) in the Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations may meet separately with the minister or the district superintendent or all together as required. It shall be a conferring and counseling committee.

The primary function of the committee is to aid the pastor (staff) in making an effective ministry by being available for counsel, keeping the pastor advised concerning conditions within the congregation as they affect relations between pastor and people, and continually interpreting to the people the nature and function of the pastoral office.

Since a responsibility of the committee is to be at all times sensi-

tive to the relationship between the pastor and people, should it become evident to the committee that the best interests of the charge and pastor will be served by a change of pastors, it shall confer with the pastor and furnish this information. It shall cooperate with the pastor, the district superintendent, and the bishop in securing pastoral leadership, and its relationship to the district superintendent and the bishop shall be advisory only.

The committee shall cultivate the pastor-parish relationship, provide opportunities for counseling on matters pertaining to the minister's relationship with the congregation including priorities for the use of time and skills, pulpit supply, proposals for salary, travel expense, vacation, continuing education, housing, and other matters relating to the effectiveness and well-being of the minister and the minister's family. It may arrange with the Administrative Board for the necessary time and financial assistance for the minister's attendance at such schools or institutions as may serve intellectual and spiritual growth.

After consultation with the pastor, this committee shall recommend to the Administrative Board personnel for other professional and lay staff positions created by the board but not subject to episcopal appointment. In making recommendations for these positions, consideration shall be given to the training qualifications as set forth by the general church agency to which they may be related. When the size of the local church makes it desirable, there may also be a **Lay Personnel Committee** composed of the pastor-parish relations committee and such additional members as the Charge Conference may designate.

3. There shall be a **Committee on Finance** composed of the pastor; a lay member of the Annual Conference; the chairperson of the Administrative Board; the chairperson of the Council on Ministries; the stewardship work area chairperson; a representative of the trustees to be selected by the trustees; the lay leader; the financial secretary, if not a member of the employed staff; the church business manager; the church treasurer(s); and such other persons as the Charge Conference may determine. In churches where the Commission on Stewardship is not organized, the stewardship work area chairperson shall serve as the chairperson of the Committee on Finance. In churches

where the Commission on Stewardship is organized, it is recommended that the chairperson of the Committee on Finance shall be a member of the Council on Ministries.

All financial askings to be included in the annual budget of the local church shall be submitted to the Committee on Finance. The Committee on Finance shall compile annually a complete budget for the local church and submit it to the Administrative Board for review and adoption. After approval of the budget by the Administrative Board, the Committee on Finance shall be charged with responsibility for developing and implementing plans which will raise sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the Administrative Board. It shall administer the funds received according to instructions from the Administrative Board.

The committee shall make provision for an annual audit of the records of the financial officers of the local church and all its organizations and shall report to the Charge Conference.

4. The Administrative Board may appoint such other committees as it deems advisable including: **Committee on Public Relations, Committee on Good Literature, Committee on Estate Planning, Committee on Records and History and Committee on Health and Welfare.**

#### Section XVII. Special Days.

¶ 163. There shall be six special days to be observed with offerings and five special days to be observed without offerings in The United Methodist Church.

1. The special days *with offering* are as follows:

a) *One Great Hour of Sharing.*—There shall be an annual observance of the **One Great Hour of Sharing** as a special offering for overseas relief. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the Council on Ministries, in accordance with the following directives. The One Great Hour of Sharing shall be observed annually on or about the fourth Sunday in Lent. All local churches shall be fully informed and encouraged to receive a freewill offering in behalf of the overseas relief program.

Insofar as possible the planning and promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing shall be done cooperatively with other denomi-

nations through the National Council of Churches, it being understood, however, that receipts of the offerings shall be administered by The United Methodist Church. In the promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing there shall be an emphasis on the spiritual implications of Christian stewardship. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering shall be promptly remitted by the local church treasurer to the conference treasurer, who shall remit monthly to the general treasurer. Receipts from the offering, after payment of the expenses of promotion, shall be remitted by the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (¶¶ 1141-44) to be administered by the committee.

b) *World Communion*.—There shall be a **World Communion** (formerly Fellowship of Suffering and Service) offering in accord with the following directives:

(1) There shall be a churchwide appeal conducted by the Council on Ministries in support of the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries (¶¶ 1234-38), the program of Crusade Scholarships, and the Scholarship Fund for Minority Groups.

(2) Local churches are directed to receive, on or about the first Sunday in October each year, a World Communion offering for this purpose.

(3) Planning and promotion shall be done by the Council on Ministries in consultation with the administering agencies. Receipts shall be remitted by local church treasurers to the Annual Conference treasurer, who shall remit monthly to the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration. The net receipts, after payment of promotional costs, shall be divided as follows: 50 percent to the Crusade Scholarship Committee, 25 percent to the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries, and 25 percent to the Scholarship Fund for Minority Groups, administered by the Council of Presidents of the twelve black colleges with the Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

(4) A World Communion offering gift voucher shall be issued by the Council on Finance and Administration for all receipts for this fund, and a space for reporting the amount shall be included in the form for the Local Church Report to the Annual Conference.

(5) The expense budget for promoting the World Communion

offering shall be a World Communion and shall be a prior charge against receipts from these offerings.

c) *Christian Education Sunday*.—The offering on **Christian Education Sunday** is an annual offering taken in the church school for the Annual Conference Committee on Education (if any; see ¶¶ 1031-40), and goes entirely to the support of that committee. This offering may be held any Sunday or as the Annual Conference directs. A special Christian Education Sunday voucher will be issued. Pastors will report the amount of the offering to the Annual Conference.

d) *Human Relations Day*.—A **Human Relations Day** shall be observed on or about the last Sunday in January with an offering goal of \$1,000,000, receipts of which shall be divided with two-thirds for the Commission on Religion and Race (¶¶ 1278-80) for Self-Determination Projects selected by the Commission, and one-third for distribution to three former Quadrennial Emphasis projects, namely the Voluntary Service Program, the Black Community Developers, and the Police-Community Relations Program. Funds for these three projects shall be allocated on the ratio as presently, with the funds administered by the general boards under which these projects are presently lodged; further, the promoting agency shall be the Council on Ministries under the direction of the Commission on Religion and Race. A special Human Relations Day voucher will be issued. Pastors will report the amount of the offering to the Annual Conference.

e) *United Methodist Student Day*.—The **United Methodist Student Day** offering, taken annually, preferably on the second Sunday in June, or as designated by the Annual Conference or the Commission on Education of the local church, shall be received for the support of The United Methodist Scholarships and The United Methodist Student Loan Fund. A special United Methodist Student Day voucher will be issued. Pastors will report the amount of the offering to the Annual Conference.

f) *Golden Cross Sunday*.—The **Golden Cross** offering is an annual offering taken for the support of the work of health and welfare ministries for which the Annual Conference has responsibility. This offering shall be held on a Sunday to be determined upon recommendation of the Annual Conference Board of Health and Welfare Ministries (if any; see ¶ 1117; see also ¶¶ 1118-22). A special Gold-

en Cross Sunday voucher will be issued. Pastors will report the amount of the offering to the Annual Conference.

2. The special days *without offering* are as follows:

- a) *Rural Life Sunday*.—Fifth Sunday after Easter.
- b) *Ministry Sunday*.—Third Sunday in September.
- c) *Laity Sunday*.—Second Sunday in October. The Annual Conference Board of Discipleship (if any; see ¶ 1029) may suggest an offering.
- d) *Drug and Alcohol Concerns Sunday*.—Second Sunday in November.
- e) *National Bible Sunday*.—The Sunday prior to Thanksgiving Day.

## Chapter Two THE MINISTRY

### Section I. The Nature of Ministry.

¶ 301. Ministry in the Christian church is derived from the ministry of Christ, the ministry of the Father through the Incarnate Son by the Holy Spirit. It is a ministry bestowed upon and required of the entire Church. All Christians are called to ministry, and theirs is a ministry of the people of God within the community of faith and in the world. Members of The United Methodist Church receive this gift of ministry in company with all Christians and sincerely hope to continue and extend it in the world for which Christ lived, died, and lives again. The United Methodist Church believes that Baptism, confirmation, and responsible membership in the Church are visible signs of acceptance of this ministry.

### Section II. The Ordained Ministry.

¶ 302. There are persons within the ministry of the baptized who are called of God and set apart by the Church for the specialized ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Order (¶ 309).

¶ 303. It is the conviction of The United Methodist Church that God calls persons to this ministry and bestows upon them the gifts, graces, and fruits necessary to fulfill this calling.

¶ 304. The ordained ministry of The United Methodist Church cherishes its origins in the Christian tradition and in the Wesleyan tradition, from which it has come. It seeks obedience to the Holy Spirit through cooperative efforts to perfect a ministry for the whole Church. It faces the future eager to share new understandings and forms of the ministry which may be revealed.

¶ 305. In order that The United Methodist Church may be assured that those persons who present themselves as candidates for ministry are truly called of God to this office, let those who consider recommending such persons for license as ministers in The United Methodist Church prayerfully and earnestly ask themselves these questions:

1. Do they know God as a pardoning God? Have they the love of God abiding in them? Do they desire nothing but God? Are they holy in all manner of conversation?

2. Have they gifts, as well as grace, for the work? Have they a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the things of God; a just conception of salvation by faith? Do they speak justly, readily, clearly?

3. Have they fruit? Have any been truly convinced of sin and converted to God, and are believers edified by their preaching?

As long as these marks concur in them, we believe they are called of God to preach. These we receive as sufficient proof that they are moved by the Holy Spirit.<sup>1</sup>

¶ 306. The United Methodist Church seeks assurance in these matters, for only persons of genuine Christian experience and character whose conduct is above reproach and who are free from harmful practices that would mar their influence or compromise their witness can receive the approval of The United Methodist Church as ministers of the Word, Sacrament, and Order.

### Section III. Classifications.

¶ 307. The ordained ministry of The United Methodist Church consists of elders and deacons. Where there is need, qualified lay persons may be authorized to exercise certain pastoral functions and shall be known as lay pastors. These designations are not to be applied so as to deprive any person of any right or privilege permanently granted by either The Methodist Church or The Evangelical United Brethren Church.<sup>2</sup>

1. Elders are ministers who have completed their formal preparation for the ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Order; have been elected itinerant members in full connection with an Annual Con-

<sup>1</sup> These questions were first asked by John Wesley at the third conference of Methodist preachers in 1746. They have been retained ever since, in substantially the same words, as the standards by which prospective Methodist preachers have been judged.

<sup>2</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 337.

ference; and have been ordained elders in accordance with the Order and Discipline of The United Methodist Church (¶ 313).

2. Deacons are ministers who have progressed sufficiently in their preparation for the ministry to be received by an Annual Conference as either probationary members or associate members and who have been ordained deacons in accordance with the Order and Discipline of The United Methodist Church (¶ 311).

3. Lay pastors are lay persons duly licensed to preach who, upon recommendation of the Board of the Ministry, are approved each year by the Annual Conference for appointment as pastors of charges (¶ 338).

### Section IV. General Provisions.

¶ 308. 1. Members of The United Methodist Church authorized to preach shall possess a valid license to preach (¶¶ 318-20).

2. Both men and women are included in all provisions of the Discipline which refer to the ministry.<sup>3</sup>

3. The itinerant system is the accepted method of The United Methodist Church by which ministers are appointed by the bishop to fields of labor (¶¶ 390, 161.2). All ministers shall accept and abide by these appointments.

4. Ministerial students in The United Methodist Church, for the purpose of classification, are persons who have formally declared their purpose to enter the Christian ministry, have been officially recognized as such by the Annual Conference, and are in the process of pursuing collegiate or theological education but are not yet probationary members of the Annual Conference. Persons so committed and classified shall immediately seek, with the assistance of their pastor, the guidance of the Board of the Ministry with reference to subsequent procedures and their continuing educational program.

### Section V. Ordination and Orders.

¶ 309. God in Christ, by the Holy Spirit, has called and still calls his whole Church to minister in his name and under his authority and

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 155, 317.

grace. In exercising this ministry the Church is required to perform certain ministries which the whole Church can perform only through ordained ministers. **Ordination** is the rite of the Church by which some are entrusted with the authority to be ministers of Word, Sacrament, and Order:

1. To be ordained to the ministry of Word is to be authorized to preach and teach the Word of God.
2. To be ordained to the ministry of Sacrament is to be authorized to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.
3. To be ordained to the ministry of Order is to be authorized to equip the laity for ministry, to exercise pastoral oversight, and to administer the Discipline of the Church.

¶ 310. The act of ordination, by which persons are publicly recognized and authorized as ministers, includes prayers and the laying on of hands. The prayers call upon God to supply ministers with the continuing gifts and grace needful to their responsibility. The laying on of hands symbolizes general authorization from the ordained ministry of the Annual Conference and, through them, the ordained ministry of the whole Church.

1. A deacon shall be ordained by a bishop, employing the Order of Service for the Ordination of Deacons.
2. An elder shall be ordained by a bishop, employing the Order of Service for the Ordination of Elders. The bishop shall be assisted by other elders in the laying on of hands.

¶ 311. *The Order of Deacon.*—A deacon is a minister who has been received by an Annual Conference either as a probationary member or as an associate member or is a lay pastor who qualifies in accordance with ¶ 312.1, and has been ordained deacon. Deacons have authority to conduct divine worship, to preach the Word, to perform the marriage ceremony where the laws of the state or province permit, and to bury the dead. When invited to do so by an elder, they may assist in the administration of the Sacraments. When serving as regularly appointed pastors of charges, they shall be granted authority to administer the Sacraments on the charges to which they are appointed.

¶ 312. Persons of the following classes are eligible for the order of deacon:

1. Lay pastors who have served at least one year under appoint-

ment and have completed the first two years of the ministerial course of study.

2. Theological students who have been received into probationary membership after having met the requirements of ¶ 327 or ¶ 328.

¶ 313. *The Order of Elder.*—An elder is a minister who has met the requirements of ¶ 314 and therefore has full authority for the ministry of Word, Sacrament, and Order; who has been received as a minister in full connection with an Annual Conference; and who has been ordained elder (¶¶ 331-32).

¶ 314. Ministers of the following classes are eligible for the order of elder:

1. Deacons who have been probationary members of an Annual Conference, are graduates of theological schools accredited or approved by the University Senate, and have been elected to membership in full connection with an Annual Conference after having met the requirements of ¶ 333.

2. Deacons who have been probationary members of an Annual Conference for at least two years since being received from associate membership and who have been elected to membership in full connection with an Annual Conference after having met the requirements of ¶ 335.

#### Section VI. Relationship to the Annual Conference.

¶ 315. The Annual Conference is the basic body of The United Methodist Church. The ministerial membership of an Annual Conference shall consist of members in full connection (¶ 331), probationary members (¶ 325), and associate members (¶ 322). All ministers are amenable to the Annual Conference in the performance of their duties in the positions to which they are appointed.<sup>4</sup>

¶ 316. All ministerial members who are in good standing in an Annual Conference shall receive an annual appointment by the bishop unless they are granted a sabbatical leave or a disability leave or are in the supernumerary or superannuate relation.

¶ 317. In addition to the ministerial members, persons who have been granted the license to preach and those who have been approved

<sup>4</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 327.

by vote of the Annual Conference as lay pastors may be appointed as pastors in charge under certain conditions which are hereinafter specified.

¶ 318. *License to Preach.*—Candidates for the ministry of The United Methodist Church, upon hearing and heeding the call to preach, shall take the first formal step toward the ministry by qualifying for a license to preach. A license to preach may be issued by the district Committee on the Ministry (¶ 665.18) or the Board of the Ministry (¶ 665.4) after the candidates have met the following conditions. They shall have (1) been members in good standing of The United Methodist Church, or of one of the churches forming the union, for one year immediately preceding application for license; (2) been graduated from an accredited high school or its equivalent; (3) secured the recommendation of the Charge Conference in the following way: a meeting for the purpose of recommending a candidate for the ministry must be preceded by at least two public announcements and must be held in the presence of the bishop, district superintendent, or an authorized elder, who shall counsel with those present regarding the ability and qualifications of the applicant and make plain the importance of such recommendation to the ministry; to be valid such a recommendation must be voted by written ballot by two thirds of the members of the Charge Conference present at this meeting; (4) applied to the district superintendent in writing; (5) appeared before the district Committee on the Ministry, or the Board of the Ministry where no district committee exists, made themselves available for any psychological and aptitude tests it may require and provide, and supplied such other information as it may require for determining their gifts, graces, and fruits; (6) completed one fourth of the work required for the Bachelor of Divinity or equivalent first professional degree in a school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate (¶ 1211) or passed the course of study prescribed for a license to preach (¶ 1226), including Parts I, II, III, and Chapters One and Two of IV of the Discipline. This course shall be taken under the direction of the Division of the Ordained Ministry (¶¶ 1224-26); (7) agreed for the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness to the Christian gospel, and in consideration of their influence as ministers, to make

a complete dedication of themselves to the highest ideals of the Christian life as set forth in ¶¶ 69-77 and to this end agreed to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God;<sup>5</sup> (8) prepared a written statement dealing with their age, health, Christian experience with emphasis upon experience in the Church, call to the ministry, purpose in seeking a license to preach, educational record and plans, which together with the certificate of recommendation from the Charge Conference shall be presented to the district Committee on the Ministry or the Board of the Ministry; (9) been examined as indicated in ¶ 319.<sup>6</sup>

¶ 319. *Examination for License to Preach.*—Candidates for a license to preach shall be examined by the district Committee on the Ministry (¶ 665.18) or the Board of the Ministry (¶ 665.4). They shall be asked the following questions:

1. Do you believe yourself to be divinely called to preach the gospel?
2. Have you obtained the pardon of your sins and found peace with God through faith in Jesus Christ, and is the Spirit of God bearing witness with your spirit that you are a child of God?
3. Is it your sincere purpose to seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness?

<sup>5</sup> In adopting the statements in ¶¶ 318.7 and 326.3e on the moral and social responsibility of ministers, the General Conference seeks to elevate the standards by calling for a more thoroughgoing moral commitment by the candidate and for a more careful and thorough examination of candidates by district committees and Boards of the Ministry.

The legislation in no way implies that the use of tobacco is a morally indifferent question. In the light of the developing evidence against the use of tobacco, the burden of proof would be upon all users to show that their use of it is consistent with the highest ideals of the Christian life. Similarly, regarding beverage alcohol, the burden of proof would be upon users to show that their action is consistent with the ideals of excellence of mind, purity of body, and responsible social behavior.

Therefore, the changes here do not relax the traditional view concerning the use of tobacco and beverage alcohol by ministers in The United Methodist Church. Rather they call for higher standards of self-discipline and habit formation in all personal and social relationships. They call for dimensions of moral commitment that go far beyond any specific practices which might be listed.

<sup>6</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 318.

4. Do you understand the doctrines and the Discipline of the United Methodist Church, and will you follow and defend them?

¶ 320. *Renewal of License to Preach.*—A license to preach shall be valid for one year. It may be renewed by the district Committee on the Ministry (¶ 665.18) or the Board of the Ministry (¶ 665.4) on recommendation of the Charge Conference and on evidence that the candidate's gifts, graces, and fruits continue to be satisfactory and that the candidate is making satisfactory progress in the required studies.

1. A person licensed to preach and preparing to become a deacon who is enrolled as a pre-theological or theological student in a school, college, university, or school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate or by a regional or state accrediting agency shall present annually to the district Committee on the Ministry or the Board of the Ministry a statement of academic progress from the school the person is attending. This statement shall take the place of any formal examination, providing academic progress and character are satisfactory.

2. A person licensed to preach who is not a student as defined in § 1 above shall pursue the five-year course of study under the Division of the Ordained Ministry. (See ¶ 1226.) This course must be completed within eight years after the issuance of the first license to preach, except as provided in ¶ 348.2.

3. When a license to preach has lapsed, it may be reinstated only at the discretion of the district Committee on the Ministry or the Board of the Ministry when the candidate has completed satisfactorily the current studies for the license to preach.

¶ 321. Persons licensed to preach shall have authority to preach and to conduct divine worship only in the charge in which their membership is held under the supervision of the pastor in charge or to perform pastoral duties in a charge to which they may be temporarily appointed under the supervision of the district superintendent and the guidance of a duly authorized counseling elder. (See ¶¶ 350, 353-54.)

¶ 322. *Associate Member.*—Associate members of an Annual Conference are in the itinerant ministry of the Church and are available on a continuing basis for appointment by the bishop. They offer themselves without reserve to be appointed and to serve as their superiors in office shall direct. They shall be amenable to the Annual

Conference in the performance of their ministry and shall be granted the same security of appointment as probationary members and members in full connection.

1. Associate members are eligible for ordination as deacons but may not be ordained elders unless they qualify through probationary membership for membership in full connection in the Annual Conference (¶ 314.2).

2. Associate members shall have the right to vote in the Annual Conference on all matters except the following: (a) constitutional amendments; (b) election of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences; (c) all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers.

3. Associate members may serve on any board, commission, or committee of an Annual Conference except the Board of the Ministry. They shall not be eligible for election as delegates to the General or Jurisdictional Conferences.

4. Associate members shall be subject to the provisions governing sabbatical leave, supernumerary relations, location, retirement, minimum salary, and pension.

¶ 323. Candidates may be elected to associate membership by vote of the ministerial members in full connection, upon recommendation of the Board of the Ministry, when they have met the following conditions. They shall have (1) served four years as full-time lay pastors; (2) completed the five-year ministerial course of study in addition to the license to preach studies, no more than one year of which may be taken by correspondence; (3) completed a minimum of sixty semester hours toward the Bachelor of Arts or an equivalent degree in a college or university accredited or approved by the University Senate (¶ 1211); (4) been recommended by the district Committee on the Ministry (¶ 665.18) and the Board of the Ministry (¶ 665.4); (5) declared their willingness to accept continuing full-time appointment; (6) satisfied the Board regarding their physical, mental and emotional health; (the Annual Conference may require psychological tests to provide additional information on the candidate's fitness for the ministry); and (7) prepared at least one written sermon on a specified biblical passage and given satisfactory answers in a written doctrinal examination administered by the Board of the

Ministry. (Consideration shall be given to the questions listed in ¶ 333.)<sup>7</sup>

¶ 324. Associate members who exhibit exceptional promise for the ministry may qualify for probationary membership in the Annual Conference under special conditions as set forth hereinafter upon receiving a three-fourths majority vote of the ministerial members of the conference in full connection, present and voting. They shall have (1) reached thirty-five years of age; (2) served as associate members for a minimum of two full years under full-time appointment; (3) completed a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree in a college or university accredited or approved by the University Senate; (4) completed two years of advanced study prescribed by the Division of the Ordained Ministry beyond the five-year ministerial course of study required for admission to associate membership in cooperation with the United Methodist theological schools; (5) been recommended by a three-fourths vote of the Cabinet and a three-fourths vote of the Board of the Ministry, written statements of such recommendations having been read to the conference before the vote is taken, setting forth the particular ways their ministry is exceptional and the special reasons they should be received into probationary membership.

¶ 325. *Probationary Member.*—Probationary members are on trial in preparation for membership in full connection with the Annual Conference. They are on probation as to character, preaching, and effectiveness as pastors. The Annual Conference has jurisdiction over probationary members. Annually the Board of the Ministry shall review and evaluate their relationship and make recommendation to the Annual Conference regarding their continuance. Their continuance as probationary members shall be equivalent to the renewal of their license to preach. Probationary members may request discontinuance of this relationship or may be discontinued by the Annual Conference, upon recommendation of the Board of the Ministry (¶ 665.4), without reflection upon their character.

1. Probationary members are eligible for ordination as deacons but may not be ordained elders until they qualify for membership in full connection in the Annual Conference.

<sup>7</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 343

2. Probationary members shall have the right to vote in the Annual Conference on all matters except the following: (a) constitutional amendments; (b) election of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences; (c) all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers.

3. Probationary members may serve on any board, commission, or committee of the Annual Conference except the Board of the Ministry. They shall not be eligible for election as delegates to the General or Jurisdictional Conferences.

¶ 326. Candidates may be elected to probationary membership by vote of the ministerial members in full connection on recommendation of its Board of the Ministry after meeting the following conditions:

1. Each candidate must have a currently valid license to preach.
2. Each must have met the educational requirements (¶¶ 327-29).
3. Each must have been examined and approved by the Board of the Ministry with respect to the following questions:
  - a) How do you conceive your calling or vocation as a minister? Are you presently convinced that the ordained ministry is the best way to fulfill your response to God?
  - b) What is your understanding of the sacrifices of the United Methodist minister? Are you willing to face any sacrifices that may be involved?
  - c) Discuss your understanding of the relationship between your management of money and your effectiveness as a minister. Are you in debt so as to interfere with your work, or have you obligations to others which will make it difficult for you to live on the salary you are to receive?
  - d) If you are married, indicate in some detail how you feel about your spouse's relationship to your ministry and the sacrifices you may face together.<sup>8</sup>
  - e) What is your understanding of the Christian life as set forth in ¶¶ 69-77? For the sake of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world and the most effective witness to the Christian gospel and in consideration of your influence as a minister, are you willing to make a

<sup>8</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 317.

complete dedication of yourself to the highest ideals of the Christian life as set forth in ¶¶ 69-77; and to this end will you agree to exercise responsible self-control by personal habits conducive to bodily health, mental and emotional maturity, social responsibility, and growth in grace and the knowledge and love of God?

f) Will you regard all pastoral conversations of a confessional nature as a trust between the person concerned and God?

g) Are you willing to relate yourself in ministry to all persons without regard to color, national origin, or social status, including receiving them into the membership and fellowship of the Church?

h) Will you keep before you as the one great objective of your life the advancement of God's Kingdom?

i) Indicate how you understand the theological tasks of a United Methodist minister, with special reference to the Discipline, Part II.

4. Each candidate must have been recommended in writing on the basis of a three-fourths majority vote of the district Committee on the Ministry.

5. Each must present a satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the board. The conference may require psychological tests to provide additional information on the candidate's fitness for the ministry.

6. Each must file with the Board, in duplicate on the prescribed form, satisfactory written answers to such questions as the board may ask concerning age, health, family, Christian experience, call to the ministry, educational record, and plans for service in the Church.

7. Each must present a written theological statement covering personal basic beliefs and at least one written sermon on a specified biblical passage.<sup>9</sup>

¶ 327. A candidate for probationary membership must (1) have been graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in liberal education or equivalent degree in a college or university accredited or approved by the University Senate, and (2) have completed at least one fourth of the work required for a Bachelor of Divinity or equivalent first professional degree in a school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate except under the special conditions of ¶ 328.

<sup>9</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 318.

¶ 328. Under special conditions an Annual Conference may, by a three-fourths majority vote of the ministerial members in full connection, present and voting, admit to probationary membership a candidate who exhibits exceptional promise for the ministry in the following cases:

1. If the candidate is a graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in liberal education or an equivalent degree from a college not accredited by the University Senate, who has completed one fourth of the work required for the Bachelor of Divinity or equivalent first professional degree in a school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate.

2. If the candidate has (a) reached thirty-five years of age; (b) served as an associate member for a minimum of two years under full-time appointment; (c) completed a Bachelor of Arts or its equivalent degree in a college or university accredited or approved by the University Senate (¶ 1211); (d) completed two years of advanced study prescribed by the Division of the Ordained Ministry beyond the five-year ministerial course of study required for admission to associate membership, in cooperation with the United Methodist theological schools; and (e) been recommended by a three-fourths vote of the Cabinet and a three-fourths vote of the Board of the Ministry, written statements of such recommendations having been read to the conference before the vote is taken, setting forth the particular ways the candidate's ministry is exceptional and the special reasons this person should be received into probationary membership.

¶ 329. To be continued as probationary members candidates shall make regular progress in their ministerial studies. In case of failure or delay, the Board of the Ministry shall investigate the circumstances and judge whether to extend the time within the following limits: (1) for completing the theological course for the Bachelor of Divinity or equivalent first professional degree, a total of eight years; (2) for completing the advanced studies in the ministerial course of study, a total of four years. In a case clearly recognized as exceptional the board, by a three-fourths vote, may recommend an extension beyond these limits, which may be approved by a three-fourths vote of the ministerial members in full connection, present and voting; *provided*,

however, that no candidates shall be continued on probation beyond the eighth regular conference session following their admission to probationary membership.

¶ 330. *General Provisions.*—1. An Annual Conference may designate a Bachelor of Divinity or equivalent first professional degree from a school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate as the minimum educational requirement for probationary membership.

2. The Board of the Ministry 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 Division of the Ordained Ministry for evaluation.

3. When probationary members find it necessary to discontinue their theological education, the Board of the Ministry shall review their relation to the Annual Conference. If they desire to continue in the ministry, they shall receive credit in the course of study for their theological work as the Division of the Ordained Ministry shall determine.

4. Probationary members who are regularly appointed to a pastoral charge are subject to the provisions of the Discipline in the performance of their pastoral duties.

5. Probationary members in a special appointment shall relate themselves to the district superintendent in the area where their work is done. The district superintendent shall give them supervision and report annually to their Board of the Ministry.

6. Probationary members received under the provisions of ¶ 328.2 who are pursuing advanced studies in the course of study shall do so in a school for courses of study; *provided*, however, that in a case of emergency or unusual circumstances, on approval by the Board of the Ministry, they may be authorized to pursue no more than one year of the course by correspondence.

7. The educational standards and other requirements for admission and ordination shall be set by the Jurisdictional Conferences for the bilingual Annual and Provisional Annual Conferences and Indian Mission within their territories, by the Central and Provisional Central Conferences for the Annual and Provisional Annual Conferences with-

in their territories, and outside such territories by the Annual or Provisional Annual Conference itself.<sup>10</sup>

¶ 331. *Member in Full Connection.*—Members in full connection with an Annual Conference by virtue of their election and ordination are bound in special covenant with all the ordained ministers of the Annual Conference. In the keeping of this covenant they perform the ministerial duties and maintain the ministerial standards established by those in the covenant. They offer themselves without reserve to be appointed and to serve as their superiors in office may direct. They live with their fellow ministers in mutual trust and concern and seek with them the sanctification of the fellowship. Only those shall be elected to full membership who are of unquestionable moral character and genuine piety, sound in the fundamental doctrines of Christianity and faithful in the discharge of their duties.

¶ 332. Members in full connection shall have the right to vote on all matters in the Annual Conference except in the election of lay delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences (¶¶ 601.3, 613.3) and shall have sole responsibility for all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers. They shall be eligible to hold office in the Annual Conference and to be elected delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences under the provision of the Constitution (¶ 39, Art. IV). Every effective member in full connection who is in good standing in an Annual Conference shall receive an annual appointment by the bishop.

¶ 333. Candidates who have been probationary members for at least two years may be admitted into membership in full connection in an Annual Conference by vote of the ministerial members in full connection, on recommendation of the Board of the Ministry,<sup>11</sup> after they have qualified as follows. They shall have (1) served full-time under episcopal appointment under the supervision of a district superintendent satisfactorily to the Board of the Ministry in one of the positions specified in ¶ 391.1-6 for one year following the completions of the educational requirements specified in § 3 below; (2) been previously ordained deacons; (3) met educational requirements (including a minimum of two semester or quarter hours in each of the

<sup>10</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 187.

<sup>11</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 157, 344.

fields of United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity; *provided* that a candidate may meet the requirement by undertaking a special course of study and/or examination in these fields provided and administered by the Division of the Ordained Ministry; see ¶¶ 376.2, 1226.2, 1227, 1232) in either of the following ways: (a) graduation with a Bachelor of Divinity or equivalent degree from a school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate or (b) graduation with a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from a college or university approved by the University Senate and completion of two years of advanced study beyond the requirements for probationary membership (¶ 328.2d) under the supervision of the Division of the Ordained Ministry in an approved course of study school; (4) satisfied the board regarding physical, mental, and emotional health; (5) prepared at least one written sermon on a specified biblical passage and responded to a written or oral doctrinal examination administered by the Board of the Ministry. The candidate's reflections and the board's response should be informed by the insights and guidelines of Part II of the Discipline of The United Methodist Church. The following questions are guidelines for the preparation of the examination:

- a) What biblical, theological, historical, and experiential evidence would you advance for the belief in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker and Sustainer of all creation?
- b) Discuss the Bible as the primary source and norm for belief and practice and indicate how you would relate this to tradition, Christian experience, and reason.
- c) Define the Christian understanding of man and of his need for divine grace.
- d) How would you interpret the statement: "Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord"?
- e) What is your conception of the mission of the Holy Spirit in personal salvation, in the community of faith, and in responsible living in the world?
- f) How do you understand the following: (1) repentance, (2) justification, (3) faith, (4) regeneration, (5) sanctification?
- g) Describe the nature and function of the Church.
- h) What is the significance of the Sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper?

- i) What is your basis for the belief in the life after death and what is your understanding of it?
- j) What do you understand by "evangelism"?
- k) In the light of the Judeo-Christian heritage and the contemporary situation, discuss the place of social action in the program of the Church.

l) How do you understand yourself, your motives, your role, and your commitment as a minister?

m) From the perspectives of Scripture, reason, and tradition, give your understanding of the meaning of ordination.

¶ 334. *Examination for Admission into Full Connection and Associate Membership.*—The bishop as chief pastor shall engage those seeking to be admitted in serious self-searching and prayer to prepare them for their examination before the conference. At the time of the examination the bishop shall also explain to the conference the historic nature of the following questions and seek to interpret their spirit and intent. The questions are these and any others which may be thought necessary:

1. Have you faith in Christ?
2. Are you going on to perfection?
3. Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life?
4. Are you earnestly striving after it?
5. Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and his work?
6. Do you know the General Rules of our Church?
7. Will you keep them?
8. Have you studied the doctrines of The United Methodist Church?
9. After full examination do you believe that our doctrines are in harmony with the Holy Scriptures?
10. Will you preach and maintain them?
11. Have you studied our form of church discipline and polity?
12. Do you approve our church government and policy?
13. Will you support and maintain them?
14. Will you diligently instruct the children in every place?
15. Will you visit from house to house?
16. Will you recommend fasting or abstinence, both by precept and example?

17. Are you determined to employ all your time in the work of God?

18. Are you in debt so as to embarrass you in your work?

19. Will you observe the following directions?

a) Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away time; neither spend any more time at any one place than is strictly necessary.

b) Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend our rules, but keep them; not for wrath, but for conscience' sake.<sup>12</sup>

¶ 335. Under conditions regarded as exceptional candidates who were admitted to probationary membership by a three-fourths vote (¶ 328), upon recommendation by the Board of the Ministry when they have completed advanced studies specified by and under the direction of the Division of the Ordained Ministry and have met all the other requirements, may be received into full membership by a three-fourths vote of the ministerial members in full connection, present and voting.

¶ 336. A full member of an Annual Conference shall be eligible for ordination as elder by a bishop and such other elders as the ordaining bishop may determine.

¶ 337. The bishop and the secretary of the Annual Conference shall provide credentials to all members in full connection, certifying their ministerial standing and their ordination as elders.

¶ 338. *Lay Pastor.*—Lay pastors are lay persons duly licensed to preach who, upon recommendation of the Board of the Ministry (¶ 665.4), have been approved by the ministerial members in full connection as eligible for appointment as pastors of charges. They shall have authority within the bounds of the churches to which they are appointed to perform the duties of a pastor as specified in ¶¶ 349-50.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup> These are the questions which every Methodist preacher from the beginning has been required to answer upon becoming a full member of an Annual Conference. These questions were formulated by John Wesley and have been little changed throughout the years.

<sup>13</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 112.

¶ 339. A lay pastor may qualify for probationary membership and follow the specified procedure into full ministerial membership in an Annual Conference. A lay pastor may qualify for associate membership.

¶ 340. A lay pastor, upon completing each year the educational and other qualifications and upon recommendation of the Board of the Ministry, shall be approved each year by the Annual Conference for appointment.

¶ 341. Lay pastors not serving a pastoral charge may assist their pastors in the charge where they reside, as requested by the pastor and under the pastor's supervision, subject to the laws of the Church. They shall be members of and amenable to the Charge Conference where they reside. When they change their residence, in order to retain their status they shall procure from the pastor or district superintendent a letter of the official standing and dismissal and shall present it to the pastor of the charge to which they have moved.

¶ 342. Lay pastors, other than students as defined in ¶ 343, who are appointed to serve under a district superintendent shall procure from the pastor or district superintendent a letter of dismissal and shall present it to the Charge Conference of the charge to which they are appointed at its next session. Their church membership shall be in the charge to which they are appointed, and they shall be members of the Charge Conference, subject to the authorization of the Annual Conference.

¶ 343. Lay pastors who are serving as student pastors while attending a college or school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate may retain their membership in their home church and Charge Conference, but in the discharge of their ministerial functions they shall be amenable to the district superintendent under whom they serve.

¶ 344. 1. *Termination of Lay Pastor Status.*—Whenever a lay pastor is no longer approved for appointment by the Annual Conference as required in ¶ 340, or whenever any lay pastor severs relationship with The United Methodist Church, license and credentials shall be surrendered to the district superintendent for deposit with the secretary of the Conference. This does not apply to persons who were licensed to preach prior to 1950. After consultation with the pastor,

the former lay pastor shall designate the local church in which membership shall be held. The Board of the Ministry shall file with the resident bishop a permanent record of the circumstances relating to the termination of lay pastor status as required in ¶ 664.10.

When a lay pastor is accused of an offense under ¶ 1521 and desires to withdraw from the Church, the procedures described in ¶¶ 1543-51 shall apply.

2. *Reinstatement of Lay Pastor Status.*—Lay pastors whose approved status has been terminated from an Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may be reinstated by the Annual Conference which previously approved them, or its legal successor, or the Annual Conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, only upon recommendation by the district Committee on the Ministry, the Board of the Ministry, and the Cabinet. When approved by the ministerial members in full connection as provided in ¶ 338, their license and credentials shall be restored, and they shall be eligible for appointment as pastors of a charge. They shall complete ministerial studies and meet requirements as provided in ¶ 348.

Whenever persons whose approval as lay pastors have been terminated by an Annual Conference are being considered for appointment or temporary employment in another Annual Conference, the Board of the Ministry where these persons are being considered shall obtain from the Board of the Ministry of the conference where approval has been terminated certification of their qualifications and information about the circumstances relating to the termination of their approval as lay pastors. Before such persons shall be appointed, they shall be recommended by the Board and approved by the Annual Conference. A district superintendent may arrange for them to serve temporarily when the Board and the Cabinet agree and when the Board certifies that they are enrolled for those studies which they have not completed previously.

¶ 345. Lay pastors not serving a pastoral charge shall make to the Charge Conference and the district Committee on the Ministry a report of their labors, as follows: (1) number of sermons preached; (2) number of funerals conducted, with the names of the deceased; (3) evangelistic, educational, and missionary work done in coopera-

tion with and under the direction of the pastor; (4) progress made in academic work or in the prescribed course of study; (5) other activities as requested.

¶ 346. 1. Persons licensed to preach and desiring to become or to continue as lay pastors must have their character, fitness, training, and effectiveness approved annually by a three-fourths vote of the district Committee on the Ministry and by the ministerial members in full connection with the Annual Conference after reference to and recommendation by its Board of the Ministry.

2. Between conference sessions persons licensed to preach but not on the approved list or serving as ministers of another church may be appointed as pastors of a charge. If they fail to be approved at the following conference session, they cannot thereafter serve as lay pastors, either in the same or another appointment, until they are approved.

¶ 347. On recommendation of the Board of the Ministry, the ministerial members in full connection may approve annually students of other denominations enrolled in a school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate to serve as lay pastors for the ensuing year under the direction of a district superintendent; *provided* that they shall agree in writing to support and maintain the doctrine and polity of The United Methodist Church while under appointment.

¶ 348. In recommending to the Annual Conference those who have met the requirements to serve as lay pastors for the ensuing year, the Board of the Ministry shall classify them in three categories with educational requirements as hereinafter specified. All lay pastors shall meet the educational requirements of their category. Any person who fails to meet these requirements shall not be appointed by a district superintendent. The categories shall be as follows:

1. Those eligible to be appointed as full-time lay pastors. Full-time lay pastors are lay persons (a) who meet the provisions of ¶ 338; (b) who, unless they have completed the course of study, have met the educational requirements by completing in the preceding year a full year's work in the ministerial course of study under the Division of the Ordained Ministry in a school for courses of study (¶ 1226.4); *provided*, however, that in a case of emergency or unusual circumstances, on approval by the board, they may be authorized to pursue the course

for the current year by correspondence, and further *provided* that for candidates beginning the course after the Uniting Conference not more than one year may be taken by correspondence; (c) who devote their entire time to the church in the charge to which they are appointed; and (d) whose cash support per annum from all church sources is a sum equivalent to not less than the minimum salary established by the Annual Conference for full-time lay pastors.

2. Those eligible to be appointed as part-time lay pastors. Part-time lay pastors are lay persons (a) who meet the provisions of ¶ 338; (b) who have completed in the preceding year a minimum of one half a year's work in the course of study; *provided* that the entire five-year course shall be completed in a maximum of ten years from the time of first enrollment; (c) who do not devote their entire time to the charge to which they are appointed; and (d) who do not receive in cash support per annum from all church sources a sum equivalent to the minimum salary established by the Annual Conference for full-time lay pastors. A person who has met the qualifications for approval as lay pastor may request to be classified as eligible to be appointed as a part-time lay pastor for the ensuing year.

3. Those eligible to be appointed as student lay pastors. These shall be enrolled as pre-theological or theological students under the definitions and requirements of the Discipline and shall be making appropriate progress as determined by the Board of the Ministry.

¶ 349. 1. Lay pastors, while serving under appointment as pastors of charges, shall perform all the duties of pastors, except that if unordained they shall not be authorized to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Their continuing eligibility to be appointed shall be contingent upon the annual fulfillment of the appropriate requirements of ¶ 348. Their authority to perform pastoral duties shall be limited to the charge to which they are appointed. In the performance of these duties, they shall be under the supervision and pastoral authority of the district superintendent and the guidance of a duly assigned counseling elder.

2. Lay pastors in charge of a pastoral appointment shall attend the sessions of the Annual Conference.

3. Lay pastors shall be amenable to the Annual Conference in

the performance of their pastoral duties. Continuance in this relationship shall be equivalent to renewal of their license to preach.

4. Lay pastors not under appointment shall be required to make progress in the ministerial course of study under the provisions of ¶ 320.2. Where the district superintendent and the Board of the Ministry determine that a lay pastor's secular employment does not make it feasible to take the ministerial course of study in residence, progress may be made by correspondence.

5. On recommendation of the Board of the Ministry and by vote of the Annual Conference a lay pastor who has served not less than four years as a lay pastor (formerly an approved supply pastor) and has attained age sixty-five may be recognized as a retired lay pastor and so listed in answer to the Disciplinary question: "Who are recognized as retired lay pastors?"

#### Section VII. Pastor.

¶ 350. *Duties of a Pastor.*—Pastors are responsible for ministering to the needs of the whole community as well as to the needs of the people of their charge, equipping them to fulfill their ministry to each other and to the world to which they are sent as servants under the Lordship of Christ. Among the pastor's duties are the following:

1. To read and teach the Holy Scriptures and preach the gospel.

2. To administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, if qualified, or to arrange for these sacramental services.

3. To hold or appoint prayer meetings, love feasts, and watch night meetings wherever possible.

4. To administer the provisions of the Discipline and to supervise the work and program of the local church.

a) Pastors shall give an account of their pastoral ministry to the Charge and Annual Conferences, according to the prescribed form. The care of all church records and local church financial obligations shall be included.

b) Pastors shall participate in denominational and conference programs and training opportunities.

c) Pastors shall encourage the distribution and use of United Methodist literature and promotional materials in each local church.

5. To perform the marriage ceremony after due counsel with the parties involved. The decision to perform a ceremony shall be the right and responsibility of the pastor. Qualification for performing marriages shall be in accordance with the laws of the state and The United Methodist Church.

a) Pastors shall hold premarital conferences, using the official manual of the Church. These conferences shall be held as early as possible before the date of the wedding.

b) In view of the seriousness with which the Scriptures and the Church regard divorce, pastors may solemnize the marriage of a divorced person only when they are satisfied by careful counseling that (1) the divorced person is sufficiently aware of the factors leading to the failure of the previous marriage, (2) the divorced person is sincerely preparing to make the proposed marriage truly Christian, and (3) sufficient time has elapsed between the divorce and the contemplated marriage for adequate preparation and counseling.

c) Pastors shall counsel those who are under the threat of marriage breakdown in order to explore every possibility for reconciliation.

6. To counsel bereaved families and conduct appropriate memorial services for the dead.

7. To visit in the homes of the parish and community, especially among the sick, aged, and others in need.

8. To instruct candidates for membership and to receive them into the Church.

9. To preside over the Charge Conference at the request of the district superintendent.

10. To search out from among their membership and constituency men and women for the pastoral ministry and other church-related occupations, to help them interpret the meaning of the call of God, to challenge them with the opportunities of the Christian ministry, to advise and assist them when they commit themselves thereto, to counsel with them and over them as their pastor through the course of their preparation, and to keep a careful record of all such decisions, reporting to the appropriate Annual Conference agencies the number of such students enrolled in colleges, universities, and schools of theology.

11. To participate in the life and work of the community and in ecumenical affairs and to lead the congregation to become so involved.

¶ 351. *Special Provisions.*—1. Pastors shall first obtain the written consent of the district superintendent before engaging for an evangelist any person who is not a conference evangelist, a regular member of an Annual Conference, a lay pastor, or a certified lay speaker in good standing in The United Methodist Church.

2. No pastor shall discontinue services in a local church between sessions of the Annual Conference without the consent of the Charge Conference and the district superintendent.

3. No pastor shall arbitrarily organize a pastoral charge. (See ¶ 142 for the method of organizing a local church.)

### Section VIII. Special Appointments.

¶ 352. A conference member may be appointed by the bishop, after consultations with the district superintendents, to a position in a school, college, university, seminary, hospital, home, or agency or to the military or institutional chaplaincy or similar specialized ministry under the following conditions:<sup>14</sup>

1. The institution or agency desiring to employ a conference member shall first, through its appropriate official, consult the member's bishop and secure approval before completing any agreement to employ the member. If the institution or agency is located in another area, the bishop of that area shall also be consulted.<sup>15</sup>

2. When bishops appoint a conference member to an institution or agency in another area, they shall notify the resident bishop of the area in which the special appointment is located and shall include any pertinent information about the ministers and their work.

3. The bishops in whose areas ministers under special appointment reside shall become the ministers' pastor and superior to represent them, when necessary, to the bishop who appointed them.

4. Conference members under special appointment are amenable to the Annual Conference of which they are members and in so far as possible should maintain close working relationships with and

<sup>14</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 321, 325.

<sup>15</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 328.

effective participation in the work of their Annual Conference, assuming whatever responsibilities they are qualified and requested to assume.

5. A conference member serving under special appointment shall be available and on call to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as requested by the district superintendent of the district in which the special appointment is held.

6. A conference member, on recommendation of the conference Board of Discipleship (if any; see ¶¶ 1029-30), confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference, may be appointed a conference evangelist; *provided* that the appointee shall meet the standards set by the General Board of Discipleship and conference Board of Discipleship for conference evangelists.

7. At their request, conference members on recommendation of the Cabinet, confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference, may be appointed for ministry in and to society beyond the ministries usually extended through the local church and other institutions of, or directly related to the church; *provided* that in no such case shall The United Methodist Church incur any financial responsibility.

8. Ministers who are probationary or full members may, if they so desire, receive a special appointment to attend any school, college, or theological seminary accredited or approved by the University Senate.

9. All conference secretaries shall submit to the editors of the General Minutes a list of the special appointments made in their Annual Conferences, and there shall be published in the General Minutes a representative list showing the number of ministers in the Church serving in the major categories under special appointment.

10. All effective ordained ministers of The United Methodist Church on special appointment shall hold membership in a Charge Conference of their choice within their Annual Conference. They may hold an affiliate membership without vote in a Charge Conference where they reside.

#### Section IX. Counseling Elder.

¶ 353. Counseling elders are members in full connection in an Annual Conference recommended by the Board of the Ministry and

assigned by the Cabinet to provide counsel for lay pastors fulfilling the requirements of the course of study, in the development of their spiritual life and growth, in the administration of the Sacraments, and in all other matters pertaining to the fulfillment of their preaching and pastoral service. Counseling elders shall work under the direction of and in consultation with the district superintendent and shall make regular reports of their activities to the district superintendent and to the Board of the Ministry.

#### Section X. District Superintendent.

¶ 354. *Duties of a District Superintendent.*—District superintendents are to be chosen and appointed by the bishop. They shall minister to the needs of the pastors and churches in their district by meeting and counseling with pastors and officials. Among the duties of the district superintendent are the following:

1. To travel through the district in order to preach and oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church.
2. To schedule and preside, or authorize an elder to preside, in each Charge Conference and in the Annual Church Conference.
3. To administer the program of the Church within the bounds of the district in cooperation with the pastors and the Charge Conferences, to encourage adequate salaries for pastors, to promote a concern for continuing education for ministers, and to urge financial support of all conference and denominational causes.
4. To supervise the work of pastors in the district and counsel with them concerning their pastoral responsibilities, continuing education, and other matters affecting their ministry and personal life. The district superintendent shall be available for counsel with each pastor's family.
5. To appraise the needs and opportunities of churches within the district; to evaluate fields of labor; and within an ecumenically responsible perspective to initiate new forms of ministry, mergers, yoked fields, and long-range planning and the establishment and closing of churches.
6. To counsel with pastors and committees on Pastor-Parish Rela-

tions concerning assignments and to consult with the bishop regarding the appointment of persons approved by the Board of the Ministry.

7. To emphasize ministerial recruitment and education and to advise and encourage candidates for the ministry.

8. To issue and renew licenses to preach in accordance with the action of the district Committee on the Ministry or the Board of the Ministry.

9. To cooperate with the district Committee on Church Buildings and Locations and local church Boards of Trustees or building committees in arranging acquisitions, sales, transfers, and mortgages of property and in ensuring that all charters, deeds, and other legal documents conform to the Discipline and to the laws, usages, and forms of the county, state, territory, or country within which such property is situated.

10. To participate with the other district superintendents in submitting a report to the Annual Conference reflecting the state of the conference and setting forth recommendations along with other information pertinent to the operation of the Annual Conference.

11. To see that the provisions of the Discipline are observed and to interpret and decide all questions of church law and discipline raised by the churches in the district, subject to an appeal to the president of the next Annual Conference.

12. To prepare and deliver to the succeeding district superintendent: (a) a list of all abandoned church properties and cemeteries within the bounds of the district; (b) a list of all church properties being permissively used by other religious organizations, with the names of the local trustees thereof; (c) a list of all known endowments, annuities, trust funds, investments, and unpaid legacies belonging to any pastoral charge or organization connected therewith in the district.

#### Section XI. Continuing Education.

¶ 355. Ministers shall be encouraged to continue their education throughout their careers, including a carefully developed personal program of study augmented periodically by involvement in organized educational activities. In most cases the ministers' continuing education

program should allow for leaves of absence for study at least one week each year and at least one month during one year of each quadrennium. Such leaves shall not be considered as part of the ministers' vacation and shall be planned in consultation with their charges or other agencies to which they are appointed as well as the bishop, district superintendent, and Annual Conference continuing education committee.

#### Section XII. Sabbatical Leave.

¶ 356. A sabbatical leave may be allowed for an approved program of study or travel. Ministers who have been serving in a full-time appointment for six consecutive years from the time of their reception into full membership, or for eight consecutive years from the time of their reception into associate membership, may be granted a sabbatical leave for one year. Whenever possible, the salary level of the last appointment served before the leave should be maintained in the appointment made at the termination of the leave. The appointment to sabbatical leave is to be made by the bishop holding the conference upon the vote of the Annual Conference after recommendation by the Board of the Ministry. Ministers shall submit a written request for a sabbatical leave including plans for study or travel to the Board of the Ministry, with copies to the bishop and district superintendent, ordinarily ninety days before the opening session of the Annual Conference. To be eligible for an additional sabbatical leave ministers shall have served six consecutive years under full-time appointment following the previous sabbatical leave.

#### Section XIII. Disability Leave.

¶ 357. 1. When ministers who are associate members, probationary members, or members in full connection in an Annual Conference are forced to give up their ministerial work because of their physical or mental disability, upon joint recommendation of the Board of the Ministry and the conference Board of Pensions and by a majority vote of the ministerial members of the Annual Conference in full connection who are present and voting, they may be granted annual disability leave without losing their relationship to the Annual Conference; *pro-*

*vided*, however, that such leave may be granted or renewed only after a thorough investigation of the case and examination of medical evidence in accordance with § 3 or § 4 below, up to but not beyond their attainment of the age of voluntary retirement. Each disability leave granted by the Annual Conference shall be recorded in the conference minutes.

2. When ministers are forced to give up their ministerial work between sessions of the Annual Conference on account of physical or mental disability, with the approval of a majority of the district superintendents, after consultation with the officers of the Board of the Ministry and the executive committee of the conference Board of Pensions, a disability leave may be granted by the bishop for the remainder of the conference year; *provided*, however, that such leave may be granted only after examination of medical evidence in accordance with § 3 or § 4 below. Any such leave granted between sessions of the Annual Conference, with the effective date of such leave, shall be entered in the minutes of the next regular session of the conference.

3. Ministers who are currently participating members of the Ministers Reserve Pension Fund at the time a disability occurs may be granted a disability leave only after medical evidence shall have been secured and reviewed by the General Board of Pensions in accordance with the regulations of the Ministers Reserve Pension Fund pertaining to disability benefits.

4. Ministers who are not currently participating members of the Ministers Reserve Pension Fund at the time a disability occurs may be granted a disability leave only after a medical report shall have been submitted to the Joint Committee on Disability (¶ 665.25) by a medical doctor who has been approved by the joint committee. Such report shall be made on a form approved by the General Board of Pensions.

5. When ministers on disability leave recover sufficiently to resume ministerial work, with their consent they may receive an appointment from a bishop between sessions of the Annual Conference, thereby terminating the disability leave. Such appointment shall be reported immediately by the Cabinet to the conference Board of Pensions and to the General Board of Pensions. Such termination of leave, together

with the effective date, shall also be recorded in the minutes of the Annual Conference at its next regular session.

#### Section XIV. Supernumerary Ministers.

¶ 358. **Supernumerary ministers** are those who are granted this relationship because of impaired health or who for other equally sufficient reason are temporarily unwilling or unable to perform the full work of their appointment. This relation is to be requested through the Board of the Ministry and granted or renewed by the Annual Conference upon the board's recommendation.<sup>16</sup> Between sessions of the Annual Conference this relation may be granted with the approval of the bishop, district superintendents, and the Board of the Ministry. This interim action shall be subject to the approval of the Annual Conference at its next session. This relation shall not be granted for more than five years in succession except by a two-thirds vote of the conference and must be approved annually. After consultation with the pastor, supernumerary ministers shall designate the Charge Conference in which they shall hold membership. The exercise of their ministry shall be limited to the Charge Conference in which their membership is held and under the supervision of the pastor in charge, to whom they shall report all marriages performed, baptisms administered, and funerals conducted, and shall be held amenable for their conduct and the continuation of their ordination rights to the Annual Conference. Should they reside outside the bounds of the Annual Conference, they shall forward to it annually a certificate similar to that required of a retired minister, and, in case of failure to do so, the Annual Conference may locate them without their consent. They shall have no claim on the conference funds except by vote of the conference. They shall not be eligible for membership on conference committees, commissions, or boards. They shall not receive pension credit and shall not be eligible to receive pension payments while in this relation.

#### Section XV. Superannuated Ministers.

¶ 359. **Superannuated ministers** are those who, at their own re-

<sup>16</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 105.

quest or by action of the ministerial members in full connection, on recommendation of the Board of the Ministry, have been placed in the retired relation.<sup>17</sup> (See ¶¶ 1254-63 for pension information.)

¶ 360. The Annual Conference may place any ministerial members thereof in the retired relation with or without their consent and irrespective of their age if such relation is recommended by the Board of the Ministry.

¶ 361. Every ministerial member of an Annual Conference whose seventy-second birthday precedes the first day of the regular session of the Annual Conference shall automatically be retired from the active ministry at said conference session.<sup>18</sup>

¶ 362. 1. At their own request and by vote of the Annual Conference, any ministerial members who have attained age sixty-five or have completed forty years of service under appointment as a minister or full-time lay pastor prior to the date of the opening session of the conference may be placed in the retired relation with the privilege of making an annuity claim.

2. Any members of the Annual Conference who have completed twenty years or more of service under appointment as ministers or as full-time lay pastors prior to the opening date of the session of the conference, may request the Annual Conference to place them in the retired relation with the privilege of receiving their pensions for the number of approved years served in the Annual Conference or conferences, and such other benefits as the final Annual Conference may provide, payment to begin the first month after the session of the Annual Conference which follows the attainment of age sixty-five.

¶ 363. If retirement of a minister takes place prior to the attainment of age sixty-five, or the completion of forty years of service under appointment as a minister (including any service as a full-time lay pastor), from the time of retirement until the attainment of age sixty-five and eligibility for a pension under the application of divided pension responsibility (¶ 1259.9) a special grant may be made to such minister by the conference Board of Pensions from funds of that Annual Conference on recommendation of the conference Board of

<sup>17</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 87, 88.

<sup>18</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 7, 165.

Pensions when approved annually by three-fourths of those present and voting in the Annual Conference.

¶ 364. The Annual Conference, at its discretion, upon joint recommendation of the Board of the Ministry and the conference Board of Pensions, may designate any time within the ensuing conference year as the effective date of retirement of a minister who is placed in the retired relation under the provisions of ¶ 362.1.

¶ 365. All retired ministers who are not appointed as pastors of a charge shall have a seat in the Charge Conference and all the privileges of membership in the church where they elect to hold such membership except as set forth in the Discipline. They shall report to the Charge Conference and to the pastor all marriages performed and baptisms administered. If they reside outside the bounds of the conference, they shall forward annually to the conference a certificate of their Christian and ministerial conduct, together with an account of the circumstances of their families, signed by the district superintendent or the pastor of the charge within the bounds of which they reside. Without this certificate the conference, after having given thirty days' notice, may locate them without their consent.

#### Section XVI. Termination of Annual Conference Membership.

¶ 366. Termination of Annual Conference membership, either associate, probationary, or member in full connection, may be accomplished in the ways indicated in ¶¶ 367-372, upon recommendation of the Annual Conference Board of the Ministry.

¶ 367. *Location.*—1. *Voluntary.*—An Annual Conference may grant members certificates of location at their own request; *provided* that it shall first have examined their character at the conference session when the request is made and found them in good standing, and *provided* further that this relation shall be granted only to one who intends to discontinue service in the itinerant ministry.

2. *Involuntary.*—An Annual Conference may by a two-thirds vote grant a certificate of location without the minister's consent whenever the Board of the Ministry recommends it after determining with due process, in consultation with the district superintendents, that a member of the Annual Conference is ineffective or inefficient in the work

of the ministry; *provided* that it shall first have examined the character of the member at the conference session when the request is made and found the member in good standing, and *provided* further that this relation shall be granted to one who shall discontinue service in the itinerant ministry.

Location shall be certified by the presiding bishop. Ministers located according to the provisions of this paragraph shall not continue to hold membership in the Annual Conference. After consultation with the pastor, located ministers shall designate the local church in which they shall hold membership. As ministerial members of the Charge Conference, they shall be permitted to exercise ministerial functions under supervision of the pastor in charge. The exercise of their ministry shall be limited to the Charge Conference in which their membership is held. They shall report to the Charge Conference and the pastor all marriages performed, baptisms administered, and funerals conducted; and shall be held amenable for their conduct and the continuation of their ordination rights to the Annual Conference within which the Charge Conference membership is held. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to persons granted involuntary location prior to the General Conference of 1972.

¶ 368. *Termination by Action of the Annual Conference.*—An Annual Conference by a two-thirds vote may terminate the membership of a minister whenever the Board of the Ministry recommends it, after determining, in consultation with the district superintendents and the minister under consideration, in a joint hearing, that this member of the Annual Conference is indifferent in the work of the ministry, or that the member's conduct is such as to seriously impair usefulness as a minister, or that engagement in secular business except as required by the ill-health of the minister or of the minister's family, disqualifies the minister for pastoral work. The Board shall notify said minister in writing of its judgment at least ninety (90) days before the opening of the next session of the Annual Conference. In this letter the minister shall be informed that the Board of the Ministry will recommend the termination of membership at the next session of the Annual Conference. As an alternative to this action such persons may elect trial as provided in ¶ 1540 or withdraw under complaints, provided they notify the Board in writing within sixty days after the

notification has been received. When their membership is terminated by action of the Annual Conference, their right to exercise the functions of the ministry shall be terminated and the district superintendent shall require their credentials to be deposited with the secretary of the conference. After consultation with the pastor, they shall designate the local church in which they shall hold membership. The provisions of this paragraph shall apply also to persons granted involuntary location prior to the General Conference of 1972.

¶ 369. *Discontinuance from Probationary Membership.*—Probationary members may request discontinuance of this relationship or may be discontinued by the Annual Conference, upon recommendation of the Board of the Ministry, without reflection upon their character. When this relationship is terminated, they shall no longer be permitted to exercise ministerial functions and shall surrender their credentials to the district superintendent for deposit with the secretary of the conference. After consultation with the pastor they shall designate the local church in which they shall hold membership. The Board of the Ministry shall file with the resident bishop a permanent record of the circumstances relating to discontinuance as a probationary member as required in ¶ 664.10. If after discontinuance, probationary members are classified and approved as lay pastors in accordance with the provision of ¶ 348 and under the conditions outlined in ¶ 349, they may be permitted to retain their credentials of ordination.

¶ 370. *Withdrawal.*—1. *By Surrender of the Ministerial Office.*—Associate or full members of an Annual Conference in good standing who desire to surrender their ministerial office and withdraw from the conference may be allowed to do so by the Annual Conference at its session, or may deposit their credentials with the bishop between sessions of the Annual Conference. When this action is taken between sessions of the Annual Conference, it shall be reported by the Board of the Ministry for confirmation by the Annual Conference at its next session. The ministers' credentials shall be surrendered to the district superintendent for deposit with the secretary of the conference, and their membership may be transferred to a church which they designate, after consultation with the pastor, as the local church in which they will hold membership.

2. *To Unite with Another Church.*—When ministers in good standing withdraw to unite with another Church or to terminate their membership in the Church, their credentials should be surrendered to the conference, and if they shall desire it and the conference authorize it, the credentials may be returned with the following inscription written plainly across their face:

*A. B. has this day been honorably dismissed by the \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference from the ministry of The United Methodist Church.*

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, President  
\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary

3. *Under Complaints or Charges.*—When ministerial members are accused of an offense under ¶ 1521 and desire to withdraw from the membership of the Annual Conference, it may permit them to withdraw under the provisions of ¶ 1541. The ministers' credentials shall be surrendered to the district superintendent for deposit with the secretary of the conference, and their membership may be transferred to a local church which they designate, after consultation with the pastor.

4. *Between Conferences.*—When in the interval between sessions of an Annual Conference a member thereof shall deposit with the bishop or with the district superintendent a letter of withdrawal from the ministry, or the member's credentials, or both, the same shall be presented to the Annual Conference at its next session for its action thereon.

¶ 371. *Trials.*—If a bishop, ministerial member of an Annual Conference or lay pastor shall be liable to accusation and trial as an expedient of last resort, the procedures for charges and trials are provided for in ¶¶ 1520-52.

#### Section XVII. Readmission to Conference Relationships.

¶ 372. *Readmission after Location.*—Ministers who have located under the provisions of ¶ 367 from an Annual Conference of The

United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may be readmitted by the Annual Conference in which they held previously such membership and from which they located, or its legal successor, or the Annual Conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, upon presentation of their certificate of location and recommendation by the District Committee on the Ministry, the Board of the Ministry, and the Cabinet, after review of their qualifications and the circumstances relating to their location. When reinstated by vote of the Annual Conference, their membership in the conference shall be restored, and they shall be authorized to perform all ministerial functions.

¶ 373. *Readmission to Probationary Membership.*—Ministers who have been discontinued as probationary members under the provisions of ¶ 369 from an Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors may be readmitted by the Annual Conference in which they held previously such membership and from which they requested discontinuance or were discontinued, or its legal successor, or the Annual Conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, upon their request and recommendation by the district Committee on the Ministry, the Board of the Ministry, and the Cabinet, after review of their qualifications and the circumstances relating to their discontinuance. When reinstated by vote of the Annual Conference, their probationary membership in the conference and their credentials shall be restored, and they shall be authorized to perform those ministerial functions for which they are qualified. They shall resume ministerial studies as required by ¶ 329.

¶ 374. *Readmission After Withdrawal by Surrender of the Ministerial Office.*—Ministers who have surrendered the ministerial office under the provisions of ¶ 370 to an Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors, may be readmitted by the Annual Conference in which they held previously such membership and to which they surrendered the ministerial office, or its legal successor, or the Annual Conference of which the major portion of the former conference is a part, upon their request and recommendation by the district Committee on the Ministry, the Board of the Ministry, and the Cabinet after review of their qualifications and the circumstances relating to the surrender of their ministerial office. When

reinstated by vote of the Annual Conference, their membership in the conference and their credentials shall be restored, and they shall be authorized to perform all ministerial functions.

### Section XVIII. Mission Elders.

¶ 375. A mission deacon or elder is one who is a member of a Mission without being a member of an Annual Conference. In the election of mission deacons and elders the Mission shall require of all applicants the conditions and qualifications demanded of deacons and elders by an Annual Conference. The duties, responsibilities, rights, and privileges of mission-traveling deacons and elders shall be the same as those of traveling deacons and elders who are members of an Annual Conference, and such ministers may be transferred to an Annual Conference when they meet the qualifications for membership in the Annual Conference to which they desire to transfer.<sup>19</sup>

### Section XIX. Ministers from Other Churches.

¶ 376. Ministers coming from other Christian churches, *provided* they present suitable testimonials of good standing through the Board of the Ministry, give assurance of their faith, Christian experience, and other qualifications, give evidence of their agreement with us in doctrine and discipline, present a satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the Board of the Ministry, and meet the educational requirements, may be received into our ministry in the following manner:

1. The District Conference or district Committee on the Ministry may receive them as lay pastors not entitled to administer the Sacraments, pending the recognition of their orders by the Annual Conference.

2. On recommendation of the Board of the Ministry the Annual Conference may recognize their orders and admit them into the membership of the conference; *provided* that their qualifications meet the educational and other requirements of the Discipline, including the requirements in United Methodist history, polity, and doctrine.

<sup>19</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 341.

3. Ministers from other churches who can meet the educational standards required of United Methodist ministers may apply through the Board of the Ministry to the Annual Conference, which may recognize their credentials and receive them into probationary membership, associate membership, or membership in full connection in the conference.<sup>20</sup>

4. The Annual Conference, on recommendation of the Board of the Ministry, may also receive in equal standing preachers who are on probation in the ministry of another Methodist church, using, however, special care that before they are admitted to membership in full connection, they shall meet all the educational and other requirements.

5. On recommendation of the Board of the Ministry the ministerial members in full connection may approve annually ministers in good standing in other Christian denominations to serve as pastors in charge while retaining their denomination affiliation; such ministers may be granted voice and vote in the Annual Conference on all matters except the following: (a) constitutional amendments; (b) election of delegates to the General or Jurisdictional or Central Conferences; (c) all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers; *provided* that they shall agree in writing to support and maintain the doctrine and polity of The United Methodist Church while under appointment. Their ordination credentials shall be examined by the Board of the Ministry and upon their recommendation may be recognized as valid in The United Methodist Church while they are under appointment.

6. Ministerial members of other denominations in good standing with their denominations who serve in an ecumenical ministry in which a United Methodist Church is involved, or who serve in an administrative position in an ecumenical program where The United Methodist Church is a sponsor, shall not thereby be required to surrender their rights and privileges as ministerial members of their denominations, and they shall, when the Board of Ministry certifies that their credentials are at least equal to those of Associate members, be accorded all the duties and privileges of Associate members of the

<sup>20</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 16, 316.

Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, except security of appointment.

¶ 377. The Board of the Ministry of an Annual Conference is required to ascertain from a minister seeking admission into its membership on credentials from another denomination whether or not membership in the effective relation was previously held in an Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors and if so when and under what circumstances the minister's connection with such Annual Conferences was severed.

¶ 378. Ministers seeking admission into an Annual Conference on credentials from another denomination who have previously withdrawn from membership in the effective relation in an Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church or one of its legal predecessors shall not be admitted or readmitted without the consent of the Annual Conference from which they withdrew or its legal successor, or the Annual Conference of which the major portion of their former conference is a part, such consent to be granted upon recommendation of its Board of the Ministry.

¶ 379. Whenever the orders of a minister are recognized according to the foregoing provisions, that minister shall be furnished with a certificate signed by the bishop.

¶ 380. When the orders of a minister of another church shall have been duly recognized, the certificate of ordination by said church shall be returned to the minister with the following inscription written plainly across its face:

*Accredited by the \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_, as the basis of new credentials.*

\_\_\_\_\_, *President*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Secretary*

¶ 381. With the consent of the bishop in charge, ministers from other Methodist churches may be received by transfer, if they meet United Methodist educational requirements, without going through the process required for ministers coming from other denominations. Similarly, ministers of The United Methodist Church may be trans-

ferred by a bishop to other Methodist churches with the consent of the proper authorities in said churches.

#### Section XX. Episcopacy.

¶ 382. *General Provisions.*—The general plan of episcopal supervision, including the Council of Bishops, is set forth in the Constitution.

¶ 383. The Jurisdictional and Central Conferences are authorized to fix the percentage of votes necessary to elect a bishop. It is recommended that at least three fifths of those present and voting be necessary to elect.

¶ 384. The bishop or bishops elected by a Jurisdictional or Central Conference shall be consecrated at the session of the conference at which the election or elections take place, or at an adjourned session thereof, or at a time and place designated by the conference. At the consecration service the other Jurisdictional and Central Conferences and the Church at large may be represented by one or more bishops appointed by the president of the Council of Bishops.

¶ 385. In the case of an emergency in a Central Conference through the death, expiration of term of service, or any other disability of a bishop, the Council of Bishops may assign one of its members to furnish the necessary episcopal supervision for that field.<sup>21</sup>

¶ 386. The Council of Bishops may, with the consent of the bishop and with the concurrence of the standing Committee on Episcopacy of the jurisdiction involved, assign one of its members to some specific churchwide responsibility, deemed of sufficient importance to the welfare of the total Church, for a period of a year. In this event the bishop shall be released from the presidential responsibilities within the episcopal area for that term, and another bishop or bishops, active or retired and not necessarily from the same jurisdiction, shall be designated by the Council of Bishops, on recommendation of the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction involved, to assume the presidential responsibilities during the interim. This assignment may be renewed for a second year by a two-thirds action of the Council of Bishops, a majority of the Committee on Episcopacy, and consent of the bishop

<sup>21</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 248.

and the College of Bishops involved. The bishop shall continue to receive the regular stipend.

¶ 387. A bishop who has served for not less than two quadrenniums may be granted a sabbatical leave for not more than one year for a justifiable reason other than health if the request is made and if that bishop's College of Bishops, the Committee on Episcopacy of that jurisdiction, and the Council of Bishops or its executive committee approve. In this event the bishop shall, for the period for which the leave is granted, be released from the presidential responsibilities within the episcopal area, and another bishop or bishops, active or retired and not necessarily from the same jurisdiction, shall be designated by the Council of Bishops, on recommendation of the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction involved, to assume the presidential duties during the interim. The bishop shall continue to receive housing allowance and one-half salary for the period of the leave.

¶ 388. The Council of Bishops shall promote the evangelistic activities of the Church and shall furnish such inspirational leadership as the need and opportunity may demand.

¶ 389. The Council of Bishops, with the cooperation of the Division of the Ordained Ministry, may plan for annual regional seminars for the orientation and instruction of ministers newly appointed to the district superintendency.

¶ 390. *Duties, Powers, and Limitations of Bishops.*—The duties of a bishop are:

1. To oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Church.
2. To preside in the General, Jurisdictional, Central, and Annual Conferences.
3. To form the districts after consultation with the district superintendents and after the number of the same has been determined by vote of the Annual Conference.
4. To fix the appointments of the preachers in the Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, and Missions, as the Discipline may direct. The bishop may appoint an associate pastor for a charge when such an appointment is judged necessary.
5. To read the appointments of deaconesses.
6. To fix, either within their own conference or within the con-

ference where they attend school, the Charge Conference membership of all ministers who are appointed to attend school.

7. To transfer, with the consent of the bishop or bishops involved, ministerial members of one Annual Conference to another, *provided* the ministerial members and the Annual Conferences agree to said transfer; and to send immediately to the secretaries of both conferences involved, to the conference Boards of the Ministry, and to the clearinghouse of the General Board of Pensions, written notices of the transfer of members and of their standing in the course of study if they are undergraduates.<sup>22</sup>

8. To organize such Missions as shall have been authorized by the General Conference.

9. To consecrate bishops, to ordain elders and deacons, to consecrate deaconesses, and to see that the names of the persons ordained and consecrated be entered on the journals of the conference and that proper credentials be furnished to these persons.

10. To travel through the connection at large. (*See* ¶ 861.)

¶ 391. The following provisions and limitations shall be observed by the bishop when fixing the appointments:

1. The bishop shall appoint preachers to pastoral charges annually after consultation with the district superintendents; the bishop shall provide for consultation with the Pastor-Parish Relations committee or its representative; *provided* that, before the official declaration of the assignments of the preachers, the appointments shall be announced openly to the Cabinet, and *provided* further that before any announcement of appointments is made, the district superintendents shall consult with the pastors and the local Pastor-Parish Relations committees or their chairpersons concerning their specific appointments except when the pastors involved have left the seat of the Annual Conference without the permission of the Annual Conference.<sup>23</sup> Bearing in mind the stated goals of an inclusive Church, the bishop shall seek the cooperation of the Cabinet and congregations in the appointment of pastors without regard to race or color.

2. The bishop may make or change the appointments of preachers in the interval between sessions of the Annual Conference as necessity

<sup>22</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 114, 254.

<sup>23</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 101.

may require, after consultation with the district superintendents and they in turn consulting both the pastor and the Pastor-Parish Relations committee.

3. The bishop shall choose and appoint the district superintendents annually, but within the Jurisdictional Conferences of the United States no minister shall be appointed a district superintendent for more than six years in any consecutive nine years.

4. The years served by a district superintendent in a Methodist Annual Conference or by a conference superintendent in an Evangelical United Brethren Annual Conference immediately prior to union shall in the first appointment under The United Methodist Church be counted as part of the six-year maximum, except that in the case of a conference superintendent of The Evangelical United Brethren Church no more than a maximum of three years' service prior to the minister's coming to membership in an Annual Conference employing the appointive system shall be counted.

5. On the request in each case of an appropriate United Methodist official, agency, or institution, and after consultation with the district superintendents, the bishop may make appointments annually to positions in or through United Methodist and United Methodist-related agencies.<sup>24</sup>

6. On the request in each case of an appropriate official, judicatory, agency, or institution, and on the recommendation of the district superintendents, confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference, the bishop may make appointments annually to positions in non-United Methodist Churches or agencies; *provided* that in no such case shall The United Methodist Church incur any financial responsibility.<sup>25</sup>

7. On the recommendation of the conference Board of Discipleship (if any; see ¶¶ 1029-30), confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Conference, the bishop may appoint an effective member of the conference as conference evangelist; *provided* that the appointee shall meet the standards set by the General Board of Discipleship and conference Board of Discipleship for conference evangelists.

<sup>24</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 166, 167.

<sup>25</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 321, 325, 329.

8. The bishop may appoint a member of an Annual Conference who desires to attend school to any college or school of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate.

9. The bishop shall not appoint any preacher who has been rejected as an applicant or who has been discontinued or located, except at the preacher's own request, unless the conference at the time of such rejection, discontinuance, or location shall give such liberty; the bishop shall not appoint as supply pastors any preachers who have previously been expelled from the ministry or who have surrendered their credentials to an Annual Conference unless the conference to which they surrendered their credentials or from which they were expelled restores the credentials or recommends it.

10. Every traveling preacher, unless retired, supernumerary, on sabbatical leave, on disability leave, or under arrest of character, must receive an appointment.

¶ 392. Appointees to such appointments as referred to in ¶ 352.7 may neither be required to accept nor are they guaranteed appointment, and may be returned to a regular appointment only by agreement of the bishop and Cabinet.

¶ 393. When a bishop judges it necessary, a circuit, station, or mission may be divided into two or more charges and the pastors appointed thereto; and two or more circuits or stations may be united and one pastor appointed for the united congregations.

¶ 394. Bishops shall discharge such other duties as the Discipline may direct.

¶ 395. *Retired Bishops.*—1. If a bishop cease from traveling at large among the people without the consent of the Jurisdictional Conference, that bishop shall not thereafter exercise in any degree the episcopal office in The United Methodist Church.

2. A bishop may voluntarily resign from the episcopacy at any session of the Jurisdictional Conference. A bishop so resigning shall surrender consecration papers to the secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference and shall be furnished with a certificate of resignation which shall entitle the bishop to membership as a traveling elder in the Annual Conference in which membership was last held or its successor. When the bishop or surviving spouse and dependent children become conference claimants, the Episcopal Fund shall pay a pension

on account of the service as a bishop, and the Annual Conference or Conferences on account of approved service therein.

3. Bishops who by reason of impaired health are temporarily unable to perform full work may be released by the Jurisdictional Conference from the obligation to travel through the connection at large. They may choose the place of their residence, and the Council of Bishops shall be at liberty to assign them to such work as they may be able to perform. They shall receive their support as provided in the Discipline.

4. An elder who has served as a bishop up to the time of retirement shall have the status of a retired bishop, including all bishops of former or existing Central Conferences.

¶ 396. 1. A bishop shall be released from the obligation to travel through the connection at large and from residential supervision at the close of the regular session of the Jurisdictional Conference the first day of which next precedes the bishop's seventy-second birthday; *provided*, however, that a bishop retired from residential and presidential responsibilities in accordance with this rule shall receive full episcopal salary and house allowance in lieu of retirement benefits until the mandatory retirement age for all ministers is attained (¶ 361) if, during such period a bishop accepts assignment by the Council of Bishops to a church-wide responsibility without further compensation. The bishop shall be assigned to work with an agency of the Church only on specific invitation of that agency.

2. A bishop, at any age and for any reason found to be in the best interests of the bishop and the Church by the Jurisdictional Conference, may either on request or on the initiative of the jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy, be released by that body from the obligation to travel through the connection at large and from residential supervision. Upon such release the bishop shall have the status of a retired bishop, and shall receive a pension as determined by the Council on Finance and Administration.

3. Bishops who have reached the age of sixty-five years, or will reach this age during the calendar year in which the Jurisdictional Conference is held, and who for any reason deem it wise to retire shall notify in writing the president (or secretary, in case that bishop is the president) of the College of Bishops and the secretary of the

standing Committee on Episcopacy of the jurisdiction. The college and committee shall convene in a joint meeting on the call of the president (or secretary) of the college within two months after receipt of the request to retire. If both, acting separately, approve the retirement by majority vote of those present and voting, the bishop shall be accorded the retired relation as soon as possible, but not later than two months from that date. The secretary of the Council of Bishops and the treasurer of the Episcopal Fund shall be notified. The college, in cooperation with the Council of Bishops when required by the Discipline, shall make provision for the supervision of the vacated area for the remainder of the quadrennium.

4. If one third or more of the members of the College of Bishops or of the standing Committee on Episcopacy of a jurisdiction have reason to believe that because of health impairment a bishop in the jurisdiction is no longer able to perform full work or render effective service and the bishop does not wish to retire, the college and committee shall convene jointly to consider the matter. If both, acting separately, by majority vote of those present and voting, decide that it is in the best interests of the Church that the bishop retire, the bishop shall be so informed by the president (or secretary) of the college. If there is objection to this recommendation, the bishop may request an examination by a panel of three doctors, not including the bishop's own physician, selected by the president (or secretary) of the college and the chairman of the committee. If the bishop declines to take an examination, or if the doctors after such examination recommend retirement, the bishop shall be retired. The bishop involved shall not be eligible to vote on any of the above items. The secretary of the Council of Bishops and the treasurer of the Episcopal Fund shall be notified of the action. The college, in cooperation with the Council of Bishops when required by the Discipline, shall arrange for the presidential supervision of the Annual Conferences of the vacated area for the remainder of the quadrennium.

5. A bishop who has been retired under § 1, 2, or 3 may, on vote of the Council of Bishops, be appointed to take charge of an episcopal area or parts of an area in case of the death, resignation, or disability of the resident bishop or because of judicial procedure; *provided* that the request is made by a majority of the bishops in the

jurisdiction of the proposed change. This appointment shall not continue beyond the next session of the Jurisdictional Conference.

¶ 397. 1. Bishops who have been released from the obligation to travel through the connection at large in accordance with any of the foregoing provisions shall not preside thereafter over any Annual Conference, Provisional Annual Conference, or Mission, or make appointments, or preside at the Jurisdictional or Central Conference, but may take the chair temporarily in any conference if requested to do so by the bishop presiding. They may participate in the Council of Bishops, but without vote. In case, however, a retired bishop shall be appointed by the Council of Bishops to take charge of a vacant episcopal area or parts of an area under the provisions of ¶ 396.5, that bishop may preside over sessions of an Annual Conference, Provisional Annual Conference, or Mission, make appointments, and participate and vote in the meetings of the bishops.<sup>26</sup>

2. Each Central Conference shall determine the rules for retirement of its bishops; *provided* that the age of retirement shall not exceed that fixed for bishops in the jurisdictions. In the event of retirement allowances being paid from the Episcopal Fund, these rules shall be subject to the approval of the General Conference.<sup>27</sup>

¶ 398. *Bishops in Jurisdictions.*—1. Each jurisdiction having 500,000 church members or less shall be entitled to six bishops, and each jurisdiction having more than 500,000 church members shall be entitled to one additional bishop for each additional 500,000 church members or major fraction thereof; *provided*, however, that in those jurisdictions where this requirement would result in there being an average of more than 70,000 square miles per episcopal area, such jurisdiction shall be entitled to six bishops for the first 400,000 church members or less, and for each additional 400,000 church members or two thirds thereof shall be entitled to one additional bishop, and *provided* further that the General Conference may authorize any Jurisdictional Conference to elect one or more bishops beyond the quota herein specified in order to provide episcopal supervision for mission fields outside the territory of a Jurisdictional Conference.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>26</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 248.

<sup>27</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 199.

<sup>28</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 84.

2. In the event a bishop is transferred to a regional jurisdiction on the request of the Jurisdictional Conference, that conference may nevertheless elect bishops up to the limit of its regular quota whether or not the transfer becomes effective before the completion of such election.

3. Each Jurisdictional Conference may fix the episcopal residences within its jurisdiction and assign the bishops to the same. The bishops of the jurisdiction shall fix the boundaries of the episcopal area. It is recommended that in arranging the plan of episcopal supervision the bishops not assign to a newly elected bishop the Annual Conference of which that bishop was a member at the time of election.<sup>29</sup>

¶ 399. *Bishops in Central Conferences.*—The Central Conferences shall elect bishops in the number determined by the General Conference, whose episcopal supervision shall be within the territory included in the Central Conference by which they have been elected, subject to such other conditions as the General Conference shall prescribe; *provided*, however, that a bishop elected by one Central Conference may exercise episcopal supervision in another Central Conference when so requested by such other Central Conference.

1. Bishops elected by a Central Conference shall be constituted by election in a Central Conference and consecrated by the laying on of hands of three bishops or at least one bishop and two elders.

2. Bishops elected by a Central Conference shall have, within the bounds of the Central Conference by which they are elected or within which they are administering, authority similar to that exercised by bishops elected by or administering in a Jurisdictional Conference.

3. Bishops elected by a Central Conference shall have the status, rights, and duties within their territory of a bishop elected by or functioning in a Jurisdictional Conference. A bishop elected by a Central Conference shall have membership in the Council of Bishops and shall have the privilege of full participation with vote. Attendance at the annual meetings of the Council of Bishops by bishops elected by Central Conferences shall be left to the option of the bishops in each Central Conference.

4. In a Central Conference where term episcopacy prevails,

<sup>29</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 48, 57.

bishops whose term of office expires prior to the time of compulsory retirement because of age and who are not reelected by the Central Conference shall be returned to membership as traveling elders in the Annual Conference (or its successor) of which they ceased to be a member when elected bishop. Their term of office shall expire at the close of the Central Conference at which their successor is elected, and they shall therefore be entitled to participate as a bishop in the consecration of the successor. The credentials of office as bishop shall be submitted to the secretary of the Central Conference, who shall make thereon the notation that the bishop has honorably completed the term of service for which elected and has ceased to be a bishop of The United Methodist Church.<sup>30</sup>

¶ 400. *Missionary Bishops*.—1. Missionary bishops are those bishops who have been elected for a specified foreign mission field with full episcopal powers but with episcopal jurisdiction limited to the foreign mission field for which they were elected.

2. Missionary bishops shall be included in all other provisions for the episcopacy, including relation to Jurisdictional Conferences, amenability, and provisions for support and retirement.

3. Notwithstanding the above definitions, in an emergency the Council of Bishops may assign a missionary bishop for specified service in any foreign field in consultation with the authorities, where such exist, of the Central Conference or the Provisional Central Conference concerned.

<sup>30</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 61, 236.

### Chapter Three THE LAY WORKER

¶ 501. A lay worker in the Church is a person other than the clergy whose decision to make a career of work (either full-time or term) in the employed status in the Church or church-related agencies is accompanied by the meeting of standards of excellence in the chosen field of service and who has been consecrated by a bishop.<sup>1</sup>

¶ 502. A lay worker shall be eligible for consecration by vote of the Annual Conference on recommendation of its Committee on the Lay Worker (¶ 667) after meeting the following conditions:

1. The lay worker must have been affirmed by the Charge Conference as a member in good standing (¶ 145.7).

2. The lay worker must have met the standards for lay workers (¶ 667.3c).

3. The lay worker must present a satisfactory certificate of good health on the prescribed form from a physician approved by the committee. The conference may require psychological tests to provide additional information on the candidate's fitness.

4. The lay worker must have been certified by the conference agency related to the candidate's career.

¶ 503. Consecration of the lay worker may be at the Annual Conference as a part of a single service with the ordination of ministers, with an order for each. If desired, the bishop may arrange for the consecration at another time or place.

¶ 504. A lay worker shall be commissioned, *i.e.* entrusted with work in a particular task in which a consecrated lay worker is to serve. The service of commissioning and any subsequent related act of installation or covenantal relationship with the employing church or church-related body shall be arranged in consultation with the certifying agency.

¶ 505. The lay worker shall be seated in the Annual Conference session and shall be given the privileges of the floor without vote.

<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 331.

¶ 506. The lay worker will hold a Charge Conference relationship.

¶ 507. 1. The employing agency shall include the lay worker in the retirement plan of the Lay Employees Pension Fund (¶ 1257.12) or other such appropriate plan as provided by the Board of Pensions or other boards or agencies of The United Methodist Church.

2. The employing agency in which a lay worker is serving shall provide guidance in lay employees' benefits in addition to the pension fund. It shall be the aim of the agency to insure for lay workers rights and conditions at least no less than those representative of enlightened and Christian policies now commonly practiced by secular institutions.

¶ 508. 1. The lay worker may transfer relationship from one Annual Conference to another on recommendation of the Committees on Lay Workers and the approval of the Annual Conferences involved.

2. The lay worker's relationship in the Annual Conference may be terminated by the Annual Conference on recommendation of the Committee on Lay Workers or for such reasons as the Annual Conference may determine.

## Chapter Four THE CONFERENCES

The United Methodist Church is a connectional structure maintained through its chain of conferences.

### Section I. The General Conference.

¶ 601. *Composition.*—The membership of the General Conference shall consist of an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates elected by the Annual Conferences as provided in the Discipline. Except in the case of Annual Conferences specified in ¶ 602, the number of delegates to which an Annual Conference is entitled shall be computed on a two-factor basis: the number of ministerial members of the Annual Conference and the number of resident church members in the Annual Conference, as follows:<sup>1</sup>

1. One ministerial delegate for every 140 ministerial members of the Annual Conference and one additional ministerial delegate for each major fraction thereof,<sup>2</sup> and

2. One ministerial delegate for the first 44,000 resident church members of the Annual Conference and one ministerial delegate for each additional 44,000 resident church members and an additional ministerial delegate for each major fraction of 44,000 resident church members, and

3. A number of lay delegates equal to the total number of ministerial delegates authorized as above.

Delegates to the General Conference shall be elected at the session of the Annual Conference held in the calendar year preceding the session of the General Conference.

This formula is designed to comply with the Constitution, Division Two, Section II, Article I (¶ 12), which defines the minimum and maximum number of delegates to a General Conference. Should the computations provided in this paragraph result in a figure below the prescribed minimum or above the prescribed maximum for dele-

<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 333.

<sup>2</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 327.

gates, the secretary of the General Conference shall be authorized to remedy the situation by adjusting up or down the fractions necessary to entitle an Annual Conference to elect additional delegates, any such adjustment to be the same for the factors of ministerial members and resident church members. In case of any such adjustments, the secretary of the General Conference shall notify the secretaries of the several Annual Conferences as promptly as possible. The term "ministerial members" as used above shall refer to both active and retired members of the Annual Conference. Every Annual Conference shall be entitled to at least one ministerial and one lay delegate. The secretaries of the several Annual Conferences shall furnish certificates of election to the delegates severally and shall send a certificate of such election to the secretary of the preceding General Conference immediately after the adjournment of the said Annual Conferences.

¶ 602. *Representation.*—In order to carry out the intent and spirit of the constitutional provision (Division Two, Section III, Article VII, ¶ 21), the following special rules shall apply:

1. In any special session of the General Conference held during the quadrennium 1972-76 and in the General Conference of 1976, at least 6.5 percent of the delegates shall be chosen from among members coming from the Evangelical United Brethren membership and at least 43.5 percent from among members coming from the Methodist membership.<sup>3</sup>

2. In General Conferences subsequent to the General Conference of 1976 there shall be no requirements regarding representation from among the members coming from the constituent denominations.

3. For the purpose of this section the term "member coming from" a denomination shall mean a person who was a member of such denomination on the date the Plan of Union became effective.

4. It is anticipated that before 1976, through the uniting of Annual Conferences or otherwise, many Annual Conferences of the respective denominations may be materially changed as to boundaries, membership, or otherwise but that some of the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Annual Conferences existing at the time of

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 356.

union may continue to exist as such without material change. Accordingly, the secretary of the General Conference shall prepare and, subject to review and approval by the Council of Bishops, promulgate a schedule allocating to the Annual Conferences of the Church the number of delegates coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church, respectively, which each Annual Conference shall elect. Such schedule shall attempt to allocate fairly the delegates to be elected as coming from the respective denominations among those Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Annual Conferences which continue to exist as such without material change and among those Annual Conferences whose membership, because of mergers or otherwise, has been materially changed and consists of persons coming from both constituent denominations.

¶ 603. *Provisional Annual Conference.*—Each Provisional Annual Conference and Missionary Conference outside the United States may designate a member to meet with the standing committees and have the privileges of the floor of the General Conference on matters affecting the interest of the member's conference, but without vote and without expense to the General Conference except for the per diem during its sessions.

¶ 604. *Presiding Officers.*—The bishops shall be the presiding officers at the General Conference.

¶ 605. *Election of Secretary-Designate.*—The Council of Bishops shall present a nomination from the ministry or lay membership of The United Methodist Church for secretary-designate. Other nominations shall be permitted from the floor. The election, if there be two or more nominees, shall be by ballot.

¶ 606. The secretary-designate shall assume the responsibilities of the office of secretary as soon after the adjournment of the General Conference as all work in connection with the session, including the preparation, printing and mailing of the *Journal*, has been completed. The exact date of the transfer of responsibility to the secretary-designate shall be determined by the Commission on Entertainment and Program, but shall not be later than twelve months after the adjournment of the General Conference.

¶ 607. *Rules of Order.*—The Plan of Organization and Rules of Order of the General Conference shall be the Plan of Organization

and Rules of Order as published in the journal of the preceding General Conference until they have been altered or modified by the action of the General Conference.

¶ 608. *Quorum.*—When the General Conference is in session, it shall require the presence of a majority of the whole number of delegates to the General Conference to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a smaller number may take a recess or adjourn from day to day in order to secure a quorum and at the final session may approve the journal, order the record of the roll call, and adjourn sine die.

¶ 609. *Petitions to General Conference.*—Any organization, minister, or lay member of The United Methodist Church may petition the General Conference by sending to the secretary a signed petition addressed to the members of the General Conference stating the local church of which each signer is a member. It is recommended that each petition meet the following requirements: (1) three copies of it should be supplied to the secretary in time to be received not later than thirty days before the opening day of the conference session, except that the thirty-day rule shall not apply in the case of Annual Conferences outside the United States or to Annual Conferences which meet less than thirty days prior to the opening day of the conference; (2) it should deal with only one subject and should propose revisions within only one chapter of the Discipline; (3) if it is one of a series, each petition should be written on a separate sheet; (4) all petitions timely received shall be processed by the secretary in order that they may be received by the appropriate legislative committees at their first meeting.

¶ 610. *Voting by Orders.*—The ministerial and lay members shall deliberate as one body and have equal rights. They shall vote as one body, but a separate vote shall be taken on any question when requested by one third of either order of delegates present and voting. In all cases of separate voting it shall require the concurrence of a majority of each order to adopt a proposed measure. However, in the case of changes in the Constitution, a vote of two thirds of the General Conference, as provided in the Constitution, shall be required.

¶ 611. *Speaking for the Church.*—1. No person, no paper, no organization has the authority to speak officially for The United Meth-

odist Church, this right having been reserved exclusively to the General Conference under the Constitution.

2. Any individual member called to testify before a legislative body to represent The United Methodist Church shall be allowed to do so only by reading, without elaboration, the resolutions and positions adopted by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church.

## Section II. The Jurisdictional Conference.

¶ 612. 1. The persons elected by their respective delegations to serve on the several jurisdictional Committees on Episcopacy shall meet jointly at the time of the General Conference, constituting an **Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy**, 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. It shall elect an executive committee consisting of the officers named above and two ministers and two lay persons from each jurisdictional committee, elected by that committee to conduct consultations with bishops and others interested in possible episcopal transfers. The executive committee shall be responsible to the interjurisdictional committee.

2. No bishop shall be transferred across jurisdictional lines unless 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 and unless a concurrent transfer is effected into the jurisdiction from which the bishop is transferring or unless the Jurisdictional Conference which is receiving that bishop has voted to waive this right. Such a transfer shall not be concluded until the Committee on Episcopacy of each jurisdiction involved has approved the plan insofar as it affects its own jurisdiction, by majority vote of those present and voting, and the Jurisdictional Conferences, meeting concurrently, have also approved.

¶ 613. All Jurisdictional Conferences shall have the same status

and the same privileges of action within the limits fixed by the Constitution.

¶ 614. The membership of each Jurisdictional Conference shall consist of an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates elected by the Annual Conferences as provided in the Discipline. Except in the case of Annual Conferences specified in ¶ 615, the number of delegates to which an Annual Conference is entitled shall be computed on a two-factor basis: the number of ministerial members of the Annual Conference and the number of resident church members in the Annual Conference, as follows:

1. One ministerial delegate for every seventy ministerial members of the Annual Conference and one additional ministerial delegate for each major fraction thereof, and
2. One ministerial delegate for the first 22,000 resident church members of the Annual Conference and one ministerial delegate for each additional 22,000 resident church members and an additional ministerial delegate for each major fraction of 22,000 resident church members, and
3. A number of lay delegates equal to the total number of ministerial delegates authorized as above; *provided* that no Annual Conference shall be denied the privilege of four delegates, two lay and two ministerial.

¶ 615. In order to carry out the intent and spirit of the constitutional provision (Division Two, Section III, Article VII, ¶ 21), the following special rules shall apply:<sup>4</sup>

1. In any special session of a Jurisdictional Conference held during the quadrennium 1972-76 and in each Jurisdictional Conference of 1976, delegates shall be chosen from among members coming from the Evangelical United Brethren membership and the Methodist membership, respectively, using the following percentages as minimums:

Northeastern	14.6%	and	52.0%
Southeastern	1.4%	and	65.0%
North Central	16.0%	and	50.6%
South Central	3.3%	and	63.3%
Western	5.3%	and	61.3%

<sup>4</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 356.

2. In any Jurisdictional Conference held subsequent to the General Conference of 1976 there shall be no requirements regarding representation from among the members coming from the constituent denominations.

3. For the purpose of this section the term "member coming from" a denomination shall mean a person who was a member of such denomination on the date the Plan of Union became effective.

4. It is anticipated that before 1976, through the uniting of Annual Conferences or otherwise, many Annual Conferences of the respective denominations may be materially changed as to boundaries, membership, or otherwise but that some of the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Annual Conferences existing at the time of union may continue to exist as such without material change. Accordingly, the secretary of each jurisdiction shall prepare and, subject to review and approval by the College of Bishops, promulgate a schedule allocating to the Annual Conferences of the jurisdiction the number of delegates coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church, respectively, which each Annual Conference shall elect. Such schedule shall attempt to allocate fairly the delegates to be elected as coming from the respective denominations among those Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Annual Conferences which continue to exist as such without material change and among those Annual Conferences whose membership, because of merger or otherwise, has been materially changed and consists of persons coming from both constituent denominations.

¶ 616. The ministerial and lay delegates and reserves to the Jurisdictional Conferences shall be elected by ballot in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

¶ 617. The ministers and lay delegates shall deliberate in one body.

¶ 618. 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.

¶ 619. 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 transac-

tion 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 sine die.

¶ 620. The Jurisdictional Conference shall provide for the expenses of its sessions.

¶ 621. 1. The Jurisdictional Conference may order a special session in such manner as it shall determine.

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 close of the preceding Jurisdictional Conference, 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 standing Committee on Episcopacy may recommend to the conference reassignment of one or more of the previously elected bishops.

3. The delegates to a special session of the Jurisdictional Conference shall be the delegates last elected by each Annual Conference.

4. A called session of the Jurisdictional Conference cannot transact any other business than that indicated in the call.

¶ 622. The Jurisdictional Conference shall be presided over by the bishops of the jurisdiction or a bishop of another jurisdiction. In case no bishop of the jurisdiction is present, the conference may elect a president from the ministerial delegates.

¶ 623. 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.

¶ 624. 1. The Jurisdictional Conference shall recognize as its standing Committee on Episcopacy a committee consisting of one ministerial and one lay delegate elected from each Annual Conference by the Annual Conference delegation.

2. The Committee shall review the work of the bishops, pass on their character and official administration, and report to the Jurisdic-

tional Conference its findings for such action as the conference may deem appropriate within its constitutional warrant of power.

3. The committee shall recommend the boundaries of the episcopal areas, after consultation with the College of Bishops, and the assignment of the bishops to their respective residences for final action by the Jurisdictional Conference; *provided*, however, that it shall not reach any conclusion concerning residential assignments until all elections of bishops for that session are completed, except in the case of a bishop's being transferred into the jurisdiction, and *provided* further that no bishop shall be recommended for assignment to the same residence for more than twelve consecutive years not counting years served before 1960.

4. The committee shall not recommend assignment of nor shall the conference assign a newly elected bishop to a residence within the bounds of the Annual Conference of which that bishop was a member at the time of election, nor shall the conference recommend that the bishop administer the area within which membership was most recently held.

¶ 625. The Jurisdictional Conference shall have powers and duties as described in the Constitution. It shall also have such other powers and duties as may be conferred by the General Conference, and in exercise thereof it shall act in all respects in harmony with the policy of The United Methodist Church with respect to elimination of discrimination based upon race.

¶ 626. In all elections in a Jurisdictional Conference which are based on the number of church members within that jurisdiction, the number counted shall include lay members, ministerial members, and bishops assigned to that jurisdiction.

¶ 627. The Jurisdictional Conference shall have authority to examine and acknowledge the journals of the Annual Conferences within its bounds and shall make such rules for the drawing up of the journals as may seem necessary.

¶ 628. 1. The Jurisdictional Conference shall keep an official journal of its proceedings, duly signed by the secretary and president, to be sent for examination to the ensuing General Conference.

2. For the sake of convenience and uniformity the journal, when printed, should conform in page size and formation to the General

Conference journal, and the printing should be done at the expense of the jurisdiction by The United Methodist Publishing House.

### Section III. The Central Conference.

¶ 629. *Authorization.*—1. In territory outside the United States and Canada, Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, Mission Conferences, and Missions in such numbers as the General Conference by a two-thirds vote shall determine may be organized by the General Conference into Central Conferences or Provisional Central Conferences, with such duties, privileges, and powers as are hereinafter set forth and as the General Conference by a two-thirds vote shall prescribe.

2. There shall be such Central Conferences as have been authorized or shall be hereafter authorized by the General Conference; *provided* that a Central Conference shall have a total of at least thirty ministerial and thirty lay delegates on the basis of representation as set forth in this section, except as the General Conference may fix a different number. A Central Conference in existence at the time of union may be continued with a lesser number of delegates for reasons deemed sufficient by the Uniting Conference.

¶ 630. *Organization.*—1. The Central Conference shall be composed of ministerial and lay members in equal numbers, the ministerial members elected by the ministerial members of the Annual Conference and the lay members by the lay members thereof. Their qualifications and the manner of election shall be determined by the Central Conference itself, subject only to constitutional requirements. Each Annual Conference and Provisional Annual Conference shall be entitled to at least two ministerial and two lay delegates, and no other selection of delegates shall be authorized which would provide for more than one ministerial delegate for every six ministerial members of an Annual Conference, except that a majority of the number fixed by a Central Conference as the ratio of representation shall entitle an Annual Conference to an additional ministerial delegate and to an additional lay delegate. Each Missionary Conference and Mission is authorized to elect and send one of its members to the Central Conference concerned as its representative, said representative to be accorded the privilege

of sitting with the committees of the Central Conference with the right to speak in the committees and in the regular sessions of the Central Conference but without the right to vote. Representatives of Missionary Conferences or Missions shall have the same claim for payment of expenses as is allowed to members of the Central Conference.

2. The first meeting of a Central Conference shall be called by the bishop or bishops in charge at such time and place as they may elect, to which members of the Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions concerned shall be elected on the basis of representation as provided herein. The time and place of future meetings shall be determined by the Central Conference or its executive committee.

3. Each Central Conference shall meet within the year succeeding the session of the General Conference at such time and place as the Central Conference itself or its bishops may determine, with the right to hold such adjourned sessions as it may determine. The sessions of said conference shall be presided over by the bishops. In case no bishop is present, the conference shall elect a temporary president from among its own members. The bishops resident in a Central Conference or a majority of them, with the concurrence of the executive committee or other authorized committee, shall have the authority to call an extra session of the Central Conference to be held at the time and place designated by them.

4. The Council of Bishops may assign one or more of its number to visit any Central Conference or Provisional Central 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.

5. The presiding officer of the Central Conference shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Central Conference, and shall decide questions of law, subject to an appeal to the Judicial Council, but questions relating to the interpretation of the rules and regulations made by the Central Conference for the governing of its own session shall be decided by the Central Conference.

6. Each Central Conference within the bounds of which the Board of Global Ministries has work shall maintain a cooperative and consul-

tative relationship with the said board through a duly constituted executive committee, executive board, or council of cooperation; but the legal distinction between the Board of Global Ministries and the organized Church on the field shall always be kept clear.

7. The journal of the proceedings of a Central Conference, duly signed by the president and secretary, shall be sent for examination to the General Conference.

8. A Provisional Central Conference may become a Central Conference upon the fulfillment of the necessary requirements and upon the authorization of the General Conference.

9. In the case of a Central Conference the rule of proportionate representation shall be applied by each Annual Conference, and in the case of the delegates to the Central Conference of Central and Southern Europe the rule shall be applied to delegates coming from the two Annual Conferences of Switzerland, and the membership of the other Annual Conferences shall not figure in the computation.

¶ 631. *Powers.*—1. To a Central Conference shall be committed for supervision and promotion, in harmony with the Discipline and interdenominational contractual agreements, the missionary, educational, evangelistic, industrial, publishing, medical, and other connective interests of the Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions within its territory and such other matters as may be referred to it by said bodies or by order of the General Conference; and it shall provide suitable organizations for such work and elect the necessary officers for the same.

2. A Central Conference, when authorized by a specific enabling act of the General Conference, may elect one or more bishops from among the traveling elders of The United Methodist Church. The number of bishops to be elected by each Central Conference shall be determined from time to time by the General Conference.

3. When a Central Conference shall have been authorized to elect bishops, such elections shall be conducted under the same general procedure as prevails in the Jurisdictional Conferences for the election of bishops.<sup>5</sup> A Central Conference shall have power to fix the tenure of bishops elected by the said Central Conference.

<sup>5</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 311.

4. A Central Conference shall participate in the General Episcopal Fund on payment of its apportionment on the same basis as that fixed for Annual Conferences in Jurisdictional Conferences. When the total estimated support, including salaries and all allowances for the bishops elected by it, and the amount that it will be able to provide on apportionment have been determined by a Central Conference, these amounts in itemized form shall be submitted to the Council on Finance and Administration. This council, after consideration of the relative cost of living in various Central Conferences, shall determine the amount to be paid from the General Episcopal Fund in meeting the budget, after which the treasurer of the General Episcopal Fund shall pay the amount established to the bishop concerned, or as the Central Conference may determine.

5. A minister who has served a term or part of a term as a bishop in a Central Conference where term episcopacy has prevailed shall upon retirement from the effective relation in the ministry be paid an allowance from the General Episcopal Fund in such sum as the Council on Finance and Administration shall determine for the years during which the minister served as a bishop.

6. A Central Conference, in consultation with the bishops of that Central Conference, shall fix the episcopal areas and residences and make assignments to them of the bishops who are to reside in that Central Conference. The bishops of a Central Conference shall arrange the plan of episcopal visitation within its bounds.

7. The secretary of a Central Conference in which one or more bishops have been chosen shall report to the secretary of the General Conference the names of the bishop or bishops and the residences to which they have been assigned by the Central Conference.

8. A Central Conference shall have authority to elect and support general officers in all departments of the work of the Church within the boundaries of the Central Conference but may not determine the number of bishops.

9. A Central Conference shall have power to make such changes and adaptations as the peculiar conditions on the fields concerned require regarding the local church, ministry, special advices, worship, and temporal economy within its territory, including the authorizing of associate members to participate in the offices of the local church

under such rules as it may see fit; *provided* that no action shall be taken which is contrary to the Constitution and the General Rules of The United Methodist Church. Subject to this restriction, a Central Conference may delegate to an Annual Conference within its boundaries the power to make one or the other of the changes and adaptations referred to in this paragraph, upon the request of such Annual Conference.<sup>6</sup>

10. A Central Conference shall have the authority to change the provisions for the ordination of ministers in such way that the ordination of an elder may follow immediately upon ordination as a deacon; *provided* that other conditions are fully met.

11. A Central Conference shall fix the boundaries of the Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions within its bounds, proposals for changes first having been submitted to the Annual Conferences concerned as prescribed in the Discipline of The United Methodist Church; *provided*, however, that the number of Annual Conferences which may be organized within the bounds of a Central Conference shall first have been determined by the General Conference. No Annual Conference shall be organized with fewer than thirty-five ministerial members except as provided by an enabling act for the quadrennium, which shall not reduce the number below twenty-five. Nor shall an Annual Conference be continued with fewer than twenty-five ministerial members except as provided by an enabling act for the quadrennium.

12. A Central Conference may advise its Annual Conferences and Provisional Annual Conferences to set standards of character and other qualifications for admission of lay members.

13. A Central Conference shall have power to make changes and adaptations in procedure pertaining to the Annual, District, and Charge Conferences within its territory and to add to the business of the Annual Conference supplementary questions considered desirable or necessary to meet its own needs.

14. A Central Conference shall have authority to examine and acknowledge the journals of the Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions located with-

<sup>6</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 313.

in its bounds and to make rules for the drawing up of the journals as may seem necessary.

15. 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.

16. 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.

17. A Central Conference shall have authority to adopt rules of procedure governing the investigation and trial of its ministers, including bishops, and lay members of the Church and to provide the necessary means and methods of implementing the said rules; *provided*, however, that the ministers shall not be deprived of the right of trial by a ministerial committee, and lay members of the Church of the right of trial by a duly constituted committee of church members, and *provided* also that the rights of appeal shall be adequately safeguarded.<sup>7</sup>

18. A Central Conference is authorized to prepare and translate simplified or adapted forms of such parts of the Ritual as it may deem necessary, such changes to require the approval of the resident bishop or bishops of the Central Conference.

19. A Central Conference shall have the power to conform the detailed rules, rites, and ceremonies for the solemnization of marriage to the statute laws of the country or countries within its jurisdiction.

20. Subject to the approval of the bishops resident therein, a Central Conference shall have the power to prescribe courses of study, in-

<sup>7</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 310.

cluding those in the vernaculars, for its ministry, both foreign and indigenous, including local preachers, lay speakers, Bible women, deaconesses, teachers both male and female, and all other workers whatsoever, ordained or lay. It shall also make rules and regulations for examination in these courses.

21. A Central Conference shall have authority to edit and publish a Central Conference Discipline which shall contain, in addition to the Constitution of the Church, such sections from the general Discipline of The United Methodist Church as may be pertinent to the entire Church and also such revised, adapted, or new sections as shall have been enacted by the Central Conference concerned under the powers given by the General Conference, with the understanding that legislation passed by the General Conference becomes effective immediately throughout the entire Church except as provided in § 22.

22. In a Central Conference or Provisional Central Conference using a language other than English, legislation passed by a General Conference shall not take effect until six months after the close of that General Conference in order to afford the necessary time to make adaptations and to publish a translation of the legislation which has been enacted, the translation to be approved by the resident bishop or bishops of the Central Conference. This provision, however, shall not exclude the election of delegates to the General Conference by Annual Conferences within the territory of Central Conferences or Provisional Central Conferences.

23. A Central Conference is authorized to interpret Article XXIII of the Articles of Religion (*page 59*) so as to recognize the governments of the country or countries within its territory.

24. A Central Conference shall have power to authorize the congregations in a certain state or country to form special organizations in order to receive the acknowledgment of the state or country according to the laws of that state or country. These organizations shall be empowered to represent the interests of the Church to the authorities of the state or country according to the rules and principles of The United Methodist Church, and they shall be required to give regular reports of their activities to their respective Annual Conferences.

25. A Central Conference may, with the consent of the bishops resident in that conference, enter into agreements with churches or

missions of other denominations for the division of territory or of responsibility for Christian work within the territory of the Central Conference.

26. A Central Conference shall have the right to negotiate with other Protestant bodies looking toward the possibility of church union; *provided* that any proposals for church union shall be submitted to the General Conference for approval before consummation.<sup>8</sup>

27. A Central Conference, where the laws of the land permit, shall have the power to organize and incorporate one or more executive committees, executive boards, or councils of cooperation, with such membership and such powers as may have been granted by the Central Conference for the purpose of representing it in its property and legal interests and for transacting any necessary business that may arise in the interval between the sessions of the Central Conference or that may be committed to said boards or committees by the Central Conference.

28. A Central Conference, through a duly incorporated property-holding body or bodies, shall have authority to purchase, own, hold, or transfer property for and on behalf of The United Methodist Church and of all the unincorporated organizations of The United Methodist Church within the territory of that Central Conference or on behalf of other organizations of The United Methodist Church which have entrusted their property to that Central Conference.

29. A Central Conference shall have authority to make the necessary rules and regulations for the holding and management of such properties; *provided*, however, that (a) all procedure shall be subject to the laws of the country or countries concerned, (b) no transfer of property shall be made from one Annual Conference to another without the consent of the conference holding title to such property, and (c) the status of properties held by local trustees or other holding bodies shall be recognized.

30. A Central Conference shall not, directly or indirectly through its incorporated property-holding body or bodies, alienate property or proceeds of property without due consideration of its trusteeship for

<sup>8</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 350.

local churches, Annual Conferences, the Board of Global Ministries and other organizations, local or general, of the Church.

31. A Central Conference or any of its incorporated organizations shall not involve the Board of Global Ministries or any organization of the Church in any financial obligation without the official approval of said board or organization. All invested funds, fiduciary trusts, or property belonging to an Annual Conference, a Provisional Annual Conference, a Missionary Conference, or a Mission, or any of its institutions, acquired by bequest, donation, or otherwise and designated for a specific use, shall be applied to the purpose for which they were designated. They shall not be diverted to any other purpose except by the consent of the conference or mission involved, and with the approval of the Central Conference concerned, and civil court action when necessary. The same rule shall apply to similar funds or properties acquired by a Central Conference for specific objects. In cases involving the diversion of trust funds and properties within the territory of a Central Conference, the Central Conference concerned shall determine the disposition of the interests involved, subject to an appeal to the Judicial Court of the Central Conference.

32. When former Central Conferences of The United Methodist Church become or have become autonomous churches, or entered into church unions, retired bishops therein shall continue to have membership in the Council of Bishops if the retired bishops involved so desire.

33. A Central Conference which adapts and edits the Discipline as provided in ¶ 631.21 shall establish a Judicial Court which in addition to other duties which the Central Conference may assign to it, shall hear and determine the legality of any action of the Central Conference taken under the adapted portions of the Discipline or of a decision of law by the presiding bishop of the Central Conference pertaining to the adapted portions of the Discipline upon appeal by the presiding bishop or by one-fifth of the members of the Central Conference. Further, the Judicial Court shall hear and determine the legality of any action of an Annual Conference taken under the adapted portions of the Discipline or of a decision of law by the presiding bishop of the Annual Conference pertaining to the adapted portion of the Discipline upon appeal of the presiding bishop or of

such percentage of the members of the Annual Conference as may be determined by the Central Conference concerned.

#### Section IV. Provisional Central Conferences.

¶ 632. Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions outside the United States which are not included in Central Conferences or in the territory of affiliated autonomous churches, and which because of geographical, language, political, or other considerations have common interests that can best be served thereby, may be organized into **Provisional Central Conferences** as provided in ¶ 629.1.

¶ 633. The organization of Provisional Central Conferences shall conform to the regulations prescribed for Central Conferences insofar as they are considered applicable by the bishop in charge.

¶ 634. The General Conference may grant to a Provisional Central Conference any of the powers of a Central Conference except that of electing bishops.

¶ 635. In the interval between General Conferences, the Board of Global Ministries, upon the recommendation of the bishops in charge and after consultation with the Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions concerned, may make changes in the boundaries of a Provisional Central Conference and may grant to a Provisional Central Conference or to any of its component parts any of the powers of a Central Conference except that of electing bishops. All changes in boundaries and all grants of powers authorized by the Board of Global Ministries shall be reported to the ensuing session of the General Conference and shall expire at the close of that session unless renewed by the General Conference.

¶ 636. An Annual Conference or a Provisional Annual Conference in the field of a Provisional Central Conference shall have the power to set standards of character and other qualifications for admission of its lay members.

¶ 637. To Annual Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, Missionary Conferences, and Missions which are outside the United States and are not included in Central Conferences or Provisional

Central Conferences, the General Conference may grant any of the powers of Central Conferences except that of electing bishops; and in the interval between General Conferences, the Board of Global Ministries may grant such powers when requested to do so by the bishop in charge and by the Annual Conference, Provisional Annual Conference, Missionary Conference, or Mission concerned.

¶ 638. The General Conference shall make provision for the episcopal supervision of work in the territory outside the United States which is not now included in Central Conferences.

¶ 639. The Council of Bishops may provide, if and when necessary, for episcopal visitation of mission fields not included in Central or Provisional Central Conferences.

#### Section V. Affiliated Autonomous Churches

¶ 640. A self-governing church in whose establishment The United Methodist Church or one of its constituent members has assisted may be known as an **affiliated autonomous church**. Relations between The United Methodist Church and an affiliated autonomous church shall be such as may be mutually agreed upon by the two churches. The Board of Global Ministries shall serve as the agent of The United Methodist Church for a continuing dialogue looking to the establishment of mission priorities with special reference to matters of personnel and finance. The United Methodist Church assumes responsibility for all contractual agreements made by one of its constituent members (Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Churches) with an affiliated autonomous church.

¶ 641. The contractual agreements between The United Methodist Church and the affiliated autonomous Methodist churches include the following provisions:

1. Certificate of church membership given by ministers in one church shall be accepted by ministers in the others.
2. Ministers may be transferred between Annual and Provisional Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church and of affiliated autonomous Methodist churches with the approval and consent of the bishops or other appointive authorities involved.
3. Each affiliated autonomous church shall be entitled to two

delegates, a minister and a lay person, to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church, with all the rights and privileges of delegates, including membership on committees, except the right to vote. One of these delegates may be a bishop or other head of the Church if the affiliated church so desires. Such a church having more than seventy thousand full members shall be entitled to two additional delegates, at least one of whom shall be a woman, with the same rights and privileges. (See ¶ 1284.2.)

4. The term "minister" which appears in the *Covenant of Cooperation* with the affiliated autonomous churches shall, as far as The United Methodist Church is concerned, be understood to mean "bishop" or other ministerial head of the Church, and the term "layman" shall mean lay person.

¶ 642. When an Annual or Provisional Annual Conference becomes a part of an affiliated autonomous church, the Council of Bishops may at its discretion transfer its members who so desire to the conferences from which they went to the mission field, with the approval and consent of the appointive powers involved.

¶ 643. The Council of Bishops may assign one or more of its members for episcopal visitation to the affiliated autonomous churches.

¶ 644. An affiliated united church which is a member of the World Methodist Council shall be entitled to two delegates, a minister who may be a bishop or other leader and a lay person, to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church, with all the rights and privileges of delegates, including membership on committees, except the right to vote. Such a church having more than seventy thousand full members shall be entitled to two additional delegates, at least one of whom shall be a woman, with the same rights and privileges. (See ¶ 1284.2.)

¶ 645. When the requirements of an unaffiliated autonomous Methodist church for its ministry are comparable to those of The United Methodist Church, ministers may be transferred between its properly constituted ministerial bodies and the Annual and Provisional Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church, with the approval and consent of the appointive authorities involved.

¶ 646. When conferences outside the United States related to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church desire to be

an affiliated autonomous Methodist or affiliated united church, the procedure shall be as follows:

1. The conferences shall prepare a historical record with reasons why autonomy is requested and shall consult with the Committee on Central Conference Affairs (¶ 1283) on proceedings for autonomy.
2. The Committee on Central Conference Affairs and the conferences involved shall mutually agree on the confession of faith and the constitution of the new church. These shall be prepared with care and shall be approved by the conferences.
3. Preparation of its Discipline is the responsibility of the conference (s) desiring autonomy.
4. When the affiliated autonomous status has been approved by the General Conference and the provisions for it have been met the following shall sign the proclamation of autonomy:
  - a) The President of the Council of Bishops
  - b) The Secretary of the General Conference
5. An autonomous church, Methodist or united, may become an affiliated autonomous church of The United Methodist Church by mutual agreement with the Committee on Central Conference Affairs and the church involved.
6. The Board of Global Ministries shall work out whatever agreements are needed to provide the basis of mutual support in the area of personnel and funds.

#### Section VI. Provisional Annual Conferences.

¶ 647. Any Missionary Conference or Mission established under the provisions of the Discipline may be constituted as a **Provisional Annual Conference** by the General Conference in consultation with the Central Conference, Provisional Central Conference, or Jurisdictional Conference within which the Mission is located; *provided* that no Provisional Annual Conference shall be organized with fewer than ten ministerial members, nor shall a Provisional Annual Conference be continued with fewer than six ministerial members.

¶ 648. A Provisional Annual Conference is authorized to exercise the powers of an Annual Conference, subject to the approval of the presiding bishop, and its members shall share pro rata in the produce

of The United Methodist Publishing House with members of the Annual Conferences. A Provisional Annual Conference within the territory of a Central Conference or of a Provisional Central Conference may elect delegates to a Central Conference or Provisional Central Conference on the same basis as an Annual Conference but may not elect delegates to a General Conference.

¶ 649. The bishop having episcopal supervision of a Provisional Annual Conference in a foreign or a home mission field may appoint a representative as **superintendent**, to whom may be committed specific responsibility for the representation of the Board of Global Ministries in its relation to the indigenous church and also in cooperation with other recognized evangelical missions. Such duties shall be exercised so as not to interfere with the work of the district superintendent. This superintendent may also be a district superintendent; *provided* the superintendent is a member of the said conference. The superintendent shall be responsible directly to the bishop appointed to administer the work in that episcopal area, and shall make adequate reports of the work and needs of the field to the bishop and to the secretaries of the Board of Global Ministries immediately concerned.

¶ 650. If there is no bishop present at an annual session of a Provisional Annual Conference, the superintendent shall preside; if there is no superintendent present, the presidency shall be determined as in an Annual Conference (¶ 661.5).

¶ 651. Each Provisional Annual Conference or Mission at its annual session shall appoint a standing committee whose duty it shall be, with the concurrence of the president of the conference, to make an estimate of the amount necessary for the support of each pastoral charge, either in full or supplementary to the amount raised by the charge. Such estimates shall be subject to modification by the division of the Board of Global Ministries immediately concerned.

¶ 652. A charge within a Provisional Annual Conference, Missionary Conference, or Mission may receive aid from the Board of Global Ministries without having been designated by the conference at its meeting.

¶ 653. In a Provisional Annual Conference in the home field there shall be a conference Board of Global Ministries constituted as in an

Annual Conference and having the same duties and powers (see ¶¶ 1172-85).

### Section VII. The Missionary Conference.

¶ 654. *Definition.*—A Missionary Conference is a conference which because of its limited membership, ministry, financial strength, and property, requires administrative guidance and large financial aid from the Board of Global Ministries.

¶ 655. *Organization.*—A Missionary Conference shall be organized in the same manner and with the same rights and powers as an Annual Conference (¶ 660-62), but with the following exceptions:

1. The Council of Bishops shall provide episcopal supervision for such Missionary Conferences as are organized. The bishop thus placed in charge and having episcopal supervision in cooperation with the Board of Global Ministries shall appoint a conference superintendent and the district superintendents for such terms as the bishop may determine.

2. The Board of Global Ministries shall 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 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 Board of Global Ministries shall first have the approval of the Board of Global Ministries.

3. Mission and Missionary Conferences shall elect one minister and one lay person as delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences, with voice but not vote. Such conferences may not grant ministerial orders.

4. 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.

¶ 656. 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 Board of Global Ministries.

¶ 657. The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference shall have the same right as that given to Central Conferences in ¶ 631.9-10 to make such changes and adaptations regarding the ministry and ordination of ministers as the effective use of indigenous leadership in the Missionary Conference may require; *provided* that no action shall be taken which is contrary to the Constitution and the General Rules of The United Methodist Church. Any such ordination would be effective only within the bounds of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

### Section VIII. Missions.

¶ 658. *In the Home Field.*—A Mission shall meet annually at the time and place appointed by the bishop in charge, who shall preside. In the absence of the bishop the superintendent of the Mission shall preside. The presiding officer shall bring forward the regular business of the meeting and arrange the work. For rules governing the administration of Missions in the home field see ¶¶ 650-51, 1136.

¶ 659. *In Foreign Fields.*—A foreign field outside an Annual Conference, working under the care of the Board of Global Ministries and not having met the requirements for the organization of a Provisional Annual Conference, may be organized into a Missionary Conference or a Mission. For rules governing the administration of Missions in the foreign field see ¶¶ 636-38, 1162.

### Section IX. The Annual Conference.

¶ 660. *Composition and Character.*—1. The ministerial membership of an Annual Conference (¶ 315) shall consist of members in full connection (¶ 331), probationary members (¶ 325), and associate members (¶ 322). (See also ¶ 36 and Amendment VII, ¶ 67.)

a) Members in full connection shall have the right to vote on all matters in the Annual Conference except in the election of lay delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences (¶¶ 601.3, 614.3) and shall have sole responsibility for all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers (¶ 332).

b) Probationary members shall have the right to vote in the Annual Conference on all matters except constitutional amendments, election of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers (¶ 325.2).

c) Associate members shall have the right to vote in the Annual Conference on all matters except constitutional amendments, election of delegates to the General and Jurisdictional or Central Conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of ministers (¶ 322.2).

2. The following shall be seated in the Annual Conference and shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote: lay pastors who are in charge of pastoral appointments; lay missionaries regularly appointed by the Board of Global Ministries in fields outside the United States; and deaconesses serving within the bounds of the Annual Conference. By authorization of a Central Conference national lay workers may be given the same privileges.

3. The lay member or alternate, whoever was last seated in the Annual Conference, shall be seated in a special session of the Annual Conference when convened; *provided* that no local charge shall be deprived of its lay member due to death, serious illness, or cessation of membership. Under such circumstances another lay member may be elected by the Charge Conference<sup>9</sup> (see ¶¶ 36, 1051).

4. The lay members of the Annual Conference shall participate in all deliberations and vote upon all measures except on the granting or validation of license, ordination, reception into full conference membership, or any question concerning the character and official conduct of ministers. Lay members shall serve on all committees except those on ministerial relations and for the trial of ministers.

5. When at any time a lay member is excused by the Annual

<sup>9</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 319.

Conference from further attendance during the session, the alternate lay member may be seated instead. The lay member or alternate, whoever was last seated in the Annual Conference, shall be the lay member of the Annual Conference, and it shall be the duty of the lay member to report on actions of the Annual Conference.

6. It is the duty of every member and all probationers and lay pastors of the Annual Conference to attend its sessions and furnish such reports in such form as the Discipline may require. Any such person unable to attend shall report by letter to the conference secretary, setting forth the reason for the absence. Should any minister in active service be absent from the session of the Annual Conference without a satisfactory reason for the absence, the matter shall be referred by the conference secretary to the Board of the Ministry.

¶ 661. *Organization.*—1. Annual Conferences may become severally bodies corporate, whenever practicable, under the law of the countries, states and territories within whose bounds they are located.<sup>10</sup>

2. The bishops shall appoint the times for holding the Annual Conferences.

3. The Annual Conference or a committee thereof shall select the place for holding the conference, but should it become necessary for any reason to change the place of meeting, a majority of the district superintendents, with the consent of the bishop in charge, may change the place.

4. A special session of the Annual Conference may be held at such time and in such place as shall have been determined by the Annual Conference after consultation with the bishop, or by the bishop, with the concurrence of three fourths of the district superintendents. A special session of the Annual Conference shall have only such powers as are stated in the call.

5. The bishop assigned shall preside over the Annual Conference or, in case of inability, arrange for another bishop to preside. In the absence of a bishop the conference shall by ballot, without nomination or debate, elect a president pro tempore from among the traveling elders. The president thus elected shall discharge all the duties of a bishop except ordination.

<sup>10</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 108.

6. The Annual Conference of the first session following the General Conference or Jurisdictional or Central Conferences (or, if it may desire, at the last session preceding the General, Jurisdictional, or Central conferences) shall elect a secretary and statistician to serve for the succeeding quadrennium. In the case of a vacancy in any such office in the interim of the sessions, the bishop, after consultation with the district superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session of the Annual Conference. (See ¶ 877 for election of the treasurer.)

7. The Annual Conference may designate a person who is a member in good standing of one of the local churches and who is a member of the bar of the state as **chancellor**. The chancellor, who shall be nominated by the bishop and elected by the Annual Conference, shall serve as legal advisor to the bishop and to the Annual Conference.

¶ 662. *Powers and Duties.*—1. The Annual Conference for its own government may adopt rules and regulations not in conflict with the Discipline of The United Methodist Church; *provided* that in exercise of its powers each Annual Conference shall act in all respects in harmony with the policy of The United Methodist Church with respect to elimination of discrimination on the basis of race.<sup>11</sup>

2. An Annual Conference cannot financially obligate The United Methodist Church or an organizational unit thereof except the Annual Conference itself.

3. The Annual Conference may admit into membership only those who have met all the Disciplinary requirements for membership and only in the manner prescribed in the Discipline.

4. The Annual Conference shall have power to make inquiry into the moral and official conduct of its ministerial members. Subject only to the provisions of ¶¶ 1520-60, the Annual Conference shall have power to hear complaints against its ministerial members and may try, reprove, suspend, deprive of ministerial office and credentials, expel, or acquit any against whom charges may have been preferred. The Annual Conference shall have power to locate a ministerial member for unacceptability or inefficiency.

5. The status of a ministerial member and of a probationer and

<sup>11</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 43, 74, 141, 318, 323.

the manner and conditions of a transfer of a ministerial member from one Annual Conference to another are governed by the section on the ministry (Chapter Two).

6. Transfers of traveling preachers are conditioned on the passing of their character by the conference to which they are amenable. The official announcement that a preacher is transferred changes the preacher's membership so that all rights and responsibilities in the conference to which that preacher goes begin from the date of transfer. Such member of an Annual Conference shall not vote twice on the same constitutional question, nor be counted twice in the same year in the basis for election of delegates, nor vote twice in the same year for delegates to the General, Jurisdictional, or Central Conferences.

7. Whenever ministerial members, whether on trial or in full connection, are transferred to another Annual Conference, either in connection with a transfer of the pastoral charge to which they are appointed or by reason of the dissolution or merger of the Annual Conference, they shall have the same rights and obligations as the other members of the conference to which they are transferred.

8. The Annual Conference shall have power to make inquiry into the financial status of the local churches, and where there is a deficit in finances, it may require the minister and the lay member to appear before the appropriate committee and make explanation.

9. The Annual Conference shall have the power to make inquiry into the membership status of the local churches, and where no members have been received on confession of faith during the year, it may require the minister and the lay member to appear before the Committee on Evangelism and make explanation.

10. The Annual Conference shall give recognition to any new churches that have been organized during the year and 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 appropriate ceremony.

11. 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 of the Annual Conference shall include the answers to these questions in the conference record and in

the report to the Council on Finance and Administration. (See ¶ 664.3.)

¶ 663. *Business of the Conference.*—1. The session shall open with a period of devotion, followed by a call of the roll, including the roll of the lay pastors and deaconesses.

2. The Annual Conference, to expedite the transaction of its business, may adopt an agenda as a basis of its procedure. Such agenda shall be prepared by the bishop, the district superintendents, and such others as the conference may name, and shall be submitted to the conference for adoption.

3. Members for all standing committees, boards, and commissions of the Annual Conference shall be selected in such manner as the Annual Conference may determine or as the Discipline may specifically require.

For the purpose of adjusting tenure a certain number of members 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 Discipline see ¶ 665.1 and for the agencies established by the Annual Conference itself see ¶ 665.2.

4. The business of the Annual Conference shall include the receiving and acting upon reports from the district superintendents, the officers, the standing and special committees, the boards, commissions, and societies and also the making of such inquiries as the Council of Bishops shall recommend by the provision of a supplemental guide.

5. The Annual Conference shall make inquiry into the moral and official conduct of its ministers. In response to the inquiry whether all ministerial members of the conference 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 the Ministry may make inquiry of each district superintendent about each minister in the district and make one report to the bishop and the conference in open session; *provided* that the conference or the bishop may order an executive session of the ministerial members to consider questions relating to matters of ordination, character, and conference relationships.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 42.

6. At the conclusion of the examination of the standing of the ministers in the conference or at such later times as the bishop may designate, the presiding bishop may call to the bar of the conference the class to be admitted into full connection and receive them into conference membership after asking the questions to be found in ¶ 334. This examination of the ministers and the passing of their characters may be the business of one session.

¶ 664. *Records and Archives.*—1. The Annual Conference shall keep an exact record of its proceedings according to the forms provided by the General, Jurisdictional, and Central Conferences. If there are no archives of the Annual Conference, the secretary shall keep the bound copy or copies to be handed on to the succeeding secretary. The conference shall send to its Jurisdictional Conference or Central Conference a bound copy of the minutes of the quadrennium for examination and safekeeping.

2. Each Annual Conference shall send to the Council on Finance and Administration two printed copies of its annual journal and one printed copy to the Council on Ministries.

3. The Annual Conference journal shall include the following divisions, preferably in the following order:

- a) Officers of Annual Conference
- b) Boards, commissions, committees; rolls of conference members
- c) Daily proceedings
- d) Disciplinary questions
- e) Appointments
- f) Reports as ordered by the Annual Conference
- g) Memoirs as ordered by the Annual Conference
- h) Roll of dead—deceased ministerial members
- i) Historical
- j) Miscellaneous
- k) Pastoral record (including the records of accepted lay pastors in such manner as the conference may determine)
- l) Statistics
- m) Index

4. An Annual Conference in the United States shall include in its journal a list of the deaconesses and missionaries, ministerial and lay,

active and retired, who have gone from the conference into the service of the Church in mission fields.

5. The secretary of each Annual Conference shall keep a service record of every ministerial member of the Annual Conference together with the date of marriage and the birth dates of the member, spouse, and children.

6. All records of secretaries, statisticians, and treasurers shall be kept according to the forms prepared by the Council on Finance and Administration so that all statistical and financial items shall be handled alike in all conferences and that uniformity of reporting shall be established as a churchwide policy.

¶ 665. *Conference Agencies.*—1. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Discipline requiring an Annual Conference to constitute any board, commission, or committee, the Annual Conference may modify its structure and, rather than establishing such board, commission, or committee, may assign its duties to other organizations of the conference, *provided* adequate provision is made as determined by a two-thirds vote of the Council on Ministries of the Annual Conference and the written consent of the presiding bishop and Cabinet so that the essential functions required by the Discipline are cared for.

2. The Annual Conference may appoint additional 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.

3. In the appointment or election of Annual Conference Boards, commissions, and committees the provisions of the Discipline concerning membership requirements shall be held to be the *minimum* requirements, except as provided in § 1, above. Each Annual Conference may make its agencies of such size as its work may require. Full-time lay pastors serving charges are eligible for election or appointment to such agencies, except those dealing with qualifications, orders, and status of ministers and lay pastors.

4. (a) Each Annual Conference at the first session following the General Conference shall elect for a term of four years a **Board of the Ministry**, consisting of not fewer than six ministers in full connection in the conference, nominated by the presiding bishop after consulta-

tion with the chairperson of the board of the previous quadrennium, or with a committee of the board, and with the Cabinet. It is recommended that the conference Board of Higher Education and Ministry, if any (*see* ¶¶ 1249-53) have due representation and that at least two thirds of the members be graduates of colleges and schools of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate. Vacancies shall be filled by the bishop after consultation with the chairperson of the board.

b) The board shall organize by electing from its membership a chairperson, a registrar, and such other officers as it may deem necessary.

c) The board shall convene at the seat and time of the Annual Conference, preferably the day before the session opens, to review and complete the work of the past year and to plan for the future, and at such other times during the conference year as its work may require.

d) The board shall select for each of the district Committees on the Ministry an official representative, who need not reside within the district, to serve as a member of the committee.

e) The board shall work in cooperation with the Division of the Ordained Ministry.

5. The duties of the Annual Conference Board of the Ministry shall be:

a) To study ministerial needs and resources in the Annual Conference.

b) To cooperate with conference agencies, district superintendent(s), and ministers of the conference in every effort to interpret the Christian ministry and educational preparation for it in an effort to enlist suitable persons; to list all persons who have declared their purpose to prepare for the Christian ministry as ministerial students; and to provide contact with and counsel for all ministerial students while in preparation for the ministry.

c) To urge and encourage in every practical way all ministerial students to attend theological schools of The United Methodist Church to complete the course leading to the basic professional degree and to guide and counsel them in this course.

d) To receive annual reports on the progress made by each min-

isterial student enrolled in a theological school and to record credit for work satisfactorily completed.

e) To guide the ministerial candidate who is not enrolled in a theological school and who is pursuing the course of study as adopted by the Division of the Ordained Ministry.

f) To cooperate with the Division of the Ordained Ministry in administering its program of interpreting the ministry as a vocation for the purpose of enlisting suitable persons, to maintain its standards, and to interpret and promote the Ministerial Education Fund.

g) To inquire into the educational and spiritual qualifications of each candidate for the ministry.

h) To examine each candidate to be advanced to membership in the Annual Conference and to orders and each minister from another church seeking entrance into our fellowship according to the provisions of the Discipline, and report its recommendations to the Annual Conference.

i) To cooperate with other conference agencies and the Division of the Ordained Ministry to provide continuing education and other career support services for the minister.

j) To study matters pertaining to the status and relationships of ministers in the Annual Conference and to interpret the high ethical standards of the ministry set forth in the Discipline.

k) To make recommendations to the conference concerning: (1) changes from the effective relation to the superannuate and the supernumerary relations, (2) return to the effective relation from other relations, (3) locations, (4) readmission of located persons, (5) sabbatical leave, (6) disability leave, and (7) appointment as a student, and (8) to report to the conference all transfers into and out of the conference, withdrawals, and other changes in conference relationships.

l) To administer a portion of the Ministerial Education Fund retained for use by the Annual Conference in its program of ministerial education.

m) To work with the Division of the Ordained Ministry to promote the observance of Ministry Sunday.

6. The board shall seek, in cooperation with the Committee on

Enlistment for Church Occupations (¶ 666), with the bishop, district superintendents, pastors and lay members of the conference, and with the Division of the Ordained Ministry and the United Methodist schools of theology, to interpret the ministry as a vocation for the purpose of enlisting suitable persons. It shall seek in every way practicable to provide guidance and counsel to them in their training and preparation for the ministry, recommending colleges and schools of theology accredited or approved by the University Senate. It shall cooperate with our schools of theology by recommending from the Annual Conference students with definite ministerial promise.

7. For the purpose of making financial assistance available to students for the ministry, it is recommended that each Annual Conference and/or Jurisdictional Conference have a seminary loan fund or seminary student-aid fund under the direction of the conference Board of the Ministry.

8. The board shall examine all applicants (a) for employment as lay pastors and (b) for conference membership as to their fitness for the ministry, and shall make full inquiry as to the fitness of candidates for admission into full connection. This must include an examination as to character, habits of life, conversation, call to the ministry, Christian experience, evangelistic and missionary concern, age, educational qualifications, domestic situation, cooperation with others, ability to lead a service of worship, and understanding of the Church's mission. The answers to the examination questions may be submitted in writing. The board shall also report recommendations concerning: (a) candidates for ordination as deacons, (b) candidates for ordination as elders, (c) those to be received from other churches, (d) those to be transferred into the conference, and (e) students, not yet elders in full connection, to be appointed to attend school and assigned to a Charge Conference.

9. The board shall certify all information and recommendations concerning each candidate to the Annual Conference in duplicate. One copy of this record is to be kept by the registrar of the board, and one copy is to be mailed after each conference session to the Division of the Ordained Ministry.

10. In all cases involving discontinuance of probationary membership or termination of lay pastor status, the board shall file with the

office of the resident bishop for permanent record a copy of the circumstances relating thereto.

11. The board shall urge all probationary members to attend colleges and schools of theology related to The United Methodist Church and accredited or approved by the University Senate and shall encourage and assist them in every practicable way to complete the preparation recommended in ¶ 333. It shall require and assist all who are not attending an approved school of theology to pursue promptly the courses of study in an approved courses-of-study school.

12. The board should help in providing support services for the minister's career development, including personal and career counseling, continuing education, assistance in preparation for retirement, and all matters pertaining to ministerial morale. In these it shall consult and cooperate with the bishop and Cabinet and the Division of the Ordained Ministry.

13. The registrar of the board shall keep a full personnel record, including transcripts of academic credit, for all ministerial candidates within the bounds of the conference.

14. The registrar shall keep a permanent 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 schools, in approved courses-of-study schools, and by correspondence.

15. The registrar or some other designated officer of the board shall keep a record of the educational history and interests of each minister serving in the conference. This material shall be furnished to the board by active ministers. Such records are the property of the conference and shall be carefully preserved.

16. The board shall be directly amenable to the Annual Conference for its actions. It shall cooperate with and be responsible to the Division of the Ordained Ministry in all matters relating to the ministry.

17. The Annual Conference Board of the Ministry shall cooperate with and be amenable to the Annual Conference in all matters relating to the development and promotion of program for local churches. It shall cooperate with the Annual Conference Council on Ministries in order that its program emphasis may be integrated into

the total unified program of the council. It shall promote the total program of the Church or aspects of it which are particularly related to the board as it may be directed by the Council on Ministries. Field work plans which relate to the promotion of program in the Annual Conference or the local church shall be cleared through the Council on Ministries.

18. There shall be a **district Committee on the Ministry** composed of the district superintendent as chairperson, five other traveling preachers of the district nominated annually by the district superintendent and approved by the Annual Conference, and one representative from and appointed by the Board of the Ministry. Interim vacancies may be filled by the chairperson.

19. The committee shall examine all persons who apply in writing for a license to preach or for a renewal of such license. Where there is evidence that their gifts, graces, and usefulness warrant and that they are qualified under ¶¶ 318-20, on recommendation of their Charge Conference (¶ 145.5), the committee shall recommend to the District Conference to issue or renew their license to preach; *provided*, however, that where no District Conference exists, final action may be taken by the committee, and *provided* further that before the ballot for licensing persons to preach is taken, they shall have agreed to the condition set forth in ¶ 318.7.

20. The committee shall recommend to the Board of the Ministry of the Annual Conference suitable candidates for acceptance or continuance as lay pastors, for conference membership and for restoration of credentials.

21. The vote of the committee in all such matters shall be by individual written ballot, and a three-fourths majority vote of the committee shall be required for license or approval.

22. The committee shall report its work to the District Conference for approval, where such conference exists.

23. The chairperson and another representative of the committee shall meet annually with the Board of the Ministry, on call of the chairperson of the board, either separately or with representatives of all the districts.

24. The committee shall designate an official spokesman other

than the chairperson to confer with the board when so requested about any candidate recommended to it by the committee.

25. There shall be a **Joint Committee on Disability** in each Annual Conference. It shall be composed of a minimum of two representatives each from the Board of the 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. If the Annual Conference has entered the Ministers Reserve Pension Fund, the General Board of Pensions may name any ministerial member of the conference in full connection and in the effective relation as its representative on the committee. Unless and until other members are elected, the chairperson and registrar of the Board of 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. The committee shall organize at the beginning of each quadrennium by the election of a chairperson and a secretary. The duties of the Joint Committee on Disability shall be:

- a) To study the problems of disability in the Annual Conference.
- b) To provide for a continuing personal ministry to any disabled ministers of the conference and to aid them in maintaining fellowship with their brethren of the conference.
- c) To determine what medical doctor or doctors it will approve for medical examinations and reports regarding disabled ministers and what medical doctor or doctors it will recommend to the General Board of Pensions for that purpose.
- d) To make recommendations to the Board of the Ministry, the conference Board of Pensions, and the Cabinet on matters related to disability, including steps for its prevention, disability leave, benefits and programs of rehabilitation.
- e) To cooperate with and give assistance to the General Board of Pensions in its administration of disability benefits through the Ministers Reserve Pension Fund.

¶ 666. 1. In each Annual Conference there may be a **Committee on Enlistment for Church Occupations**.

2. It shall be the duty of this committee (a) to cooperate with

the Office of Personnel within the Board of Higher Education and Ministry (¶¶ 1242-47) and with the district secretaries and the local church secretaries of enlistment for church occupations; (b) to promote among youth and adults a philosophy of Christian vocation that recognizes the potential sacredness of all useful work and all opportunities for Christian service; (c) to organize a program for presenting to youth and adults the opportunities and claims of the pastoral ministry and other church occupations; (d) to take into account the basic interest and aptitudes of interested youth and adults and to inform them of the necessary preparation for specific church occupations; (e) to keep accurate and useful records of all youths who have indicated an interest in church occupations from the time of their first commitment until they are appointed to full work in the Church or until such time as responsibility for them is accepted by the proper conference board or commission.

3. Each Annual Conference, in whatever way it may decide, shall make adequate provision for the financial support of the work of its Committee on Enlistment for Church Occupations so that the committee may be able to carry forward an effective program of promotion and guidance in the field of Christian vocations.

4. Each district superintendent shall appoint a district secretary of enlistment for church occupations who shall work with the conference Committee on Enlistment for Church Occupations. The district secretary shall maintain contact with local church secretaries of enlistment for church occupations and seek to establish counseling and guidance programs with public schools.

¶ 667. 1. In each Annual Conference there shall be a **Committee on the Lay Worker** composed of no fewer than six nor more than fifteen members, of whom two thirds shall be laity. It shall include one representative from the Board of the Ministry. The committee shall be nominated by the bishop and elected by the Annual Conference on a quadrennial basis with due consideration to the boards and agencies related to the occupations for which the Church has established standards.

2. The committee shall organize by electing from its membership a chairperson and such other officers as may be necessary.

3. It shall be the duty of this committee:

a) To receive the list of persons certified for lay careers by the agencies.

b) To review qualifications of these persons as lay workers.

c) To examine candidates in terms of personal, church, and professional standards for the lay worker in The United Methodist Church. Personal standards include: commitment to Christian standards; integrity; concern for persons; willingness to work with persons of various social, religious, and ethnic backgrounds; openness to new thinking; and sensitivity to change. Church standards include: membership in a local congregation, a functional knowledge of the data of the Christian faith, a willingness to seek professional improvement, and an enabling approach to leadership with persons in groups. Professional standards include competency norms for performance in lay careers developed from standards established by the particular professions concerned.

d) To recommend candidates to the Annual Conference for consecration as lay workers.

e) To process and report to the Annual Conference for action on matters of transfer and termination of the lay-worker relationship.

f) To keep the Annual Conference advised concerning the lay worker, the careers included in this relationship for which the Church has established standards, and ways in which the Annual Conference may be supportive of the work of persons who serve as lay workers.

¶ 668. *Transfer of a Local Church.*—A local church may be transferred from one Annual Conference to another in which it is geographically located by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting in each of the following: (1) the Charge Conference, (2) a congregational meeting of the local church, and (3) each of the two Annual Conferences involved. Upon announcement of the required majorities by the bishop or bishops involved, the transfer shall immediately be effective. The votes required may originate in the local church or either of the Annual Conferences involved and shall be effective regardless of the order in which taken. In each case a two-thirds vote of those present and voting shall remain effective unless and until rescinded prior to the completion of the transfer by a vote of a majority of those present and voting.

### Section X. The District Conference.

¶ 669. 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.

¶ 670. 1. A District Conference shall be composed of all the preachers—traveling, including retired and supernumerary, and local—the deaconesses, the church lay leader, church school superintendent, president of the United Methodist Women, and president of the chartered United Methodist Men from each local church in the district, the district stewards, the district trustees, the district lay leader and associate district lay leaders, the lay member of the Annual Conference from each charge, the president of the district United Methodist Women, the district directors of children's, youth, adult, and general church school work, and such other persons as the Annual Conference may determine.

2. 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.

3. The District Conference shall vote on issuing or renewing licenses to preach on recommendation of the district Committee on the Ministry and shall consider for approval the reports of this committee.

4. 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. All such District Unions chartered or incorporated by districts of the churches which 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 Conference when convened for that purpose by the district superintendent, who shall be its executive secretary, or by its president or other executive officer.

Chapter Five  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Section I. General Provisions.

¶ 801. The wholeness of the gospel is manifest in the totality of the Church. God, the Creator, Redeemer, Savior, and Life-Giver, summons the Church to mission in the world. The aims of this mission are:

1. To witness in all the world, by word and deed, to the self-revelation of God in Jesus Christ and the acts of love by which God reconciles all people to himself.

2. To evoke in all people the personal response of repentance and faith through which by God's grace they may find newness of life in righteous, loving relationships with God and their fellow men.

3. To bring God's people together into a Christian community for worship and fellowship and to send them into the world as servants in the struggle for justice and meaning.

4. To respond to the given unity of God's people and to the needs of the world, and to advocate and work for the unity of the Christian Church in every aspect of the Church's life.

5. To reveal in ministry the love of God for all and to manifest the healing of the gospel to those who suffer.

6. To move all people to live in awareness of the presence and life-giving power of God's Holy Spirit, in acknowledgment of his rule over earthly history and in confident expectation of the ultimate consummation of his purpose.

¶ 802. 1. The general agencies of The United Methodist Church are the regularly established councils, boards, commissions, or committees which have been constituted by the General Conference. Not included are such commissions or committees as are created by the General Conference to fulfill a special function within the ensuing quadrennium, ecumenical groups on which The United Methodist Church is represented, or committees related to the quadrennial sessions of the General Conference.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 139.

2. Each general agency, so far as possible, shall adopt the following levels in agency organization:

a) Board—the general organization that shall establish policies and plans of work for the implementation of program approved by the General Conference and in accordance with actions taken by the Council on Ministries in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 828.

b) Division—an organizational unit within a board or council along functional lines for the purpose of accomplishing a part of the total work of the board or council.

c) Section—a functional subunit of a division.

d) Office—a support service unit within a board or council.

e) Association or Fellowship—shall apply to professional organizations.

f) Commission—an organization created by the General Conference for the fulfillment of a specific function for a limited duration.

3. Each general agency, so far as possible, shall adopt the following titles for staff executives:

a) General Secretary—chief staff officer of a council or board. Each council or board is entitled to only one general secretary, who is its chief administrative officer.

b) Associate General Secretary—chief staff officer of a division of a council or board.

c) Assistant General Secretary—chief staff officer of a section.

d) Executive Secretary—chief staff officer of a commission.

¶ 803. The voting membership of the program boards shall be composed of three categories: **basic, at-large, and episcopal.**

1. Basic membership of the program boards shall be nominated by the Annual Conferences and elected by the Jurisdictional Conferences. Each jurisdiction shall elect twelve persons for membership: four laymen, four laywomen, and four clergy in full connection. Each jurisdiction shall be responsible for observance of ¶ 21, Article VII.

2. At-large membership shall be elected by a board in order to perfect the representation of ethnic minorities, youth, and young adults, and to bring into the board special knowledge or background. Not less than 20 percent of the total membership of each board shall be under 35 years of age, with not less than 10 percent between the ages of 25 and 34, not less than 5 percent between the ages of 19

and 25, and not less than 5 percent 18 years of age or under at the time of election. Among the at-large members of each board, it is recommended that there be no less than two of each of the following: Asian Americans, Blacks, Hispanic Americans, and Indian Americans.

a) There shall not be less than ten nor more than twenty-five at-large members.

b) Each jurisdiction shall designate two of the twelve it has elected as basic members of a board to serve on the committee to nominate the at-large members of that board (*see* exception, ¶ 1082.1). This committee shall be responsible for the observance of ¶ 21, Article VII.

c) The president of the board or, if there be none, the secretary of the Council of Bishops, or a bishop designated by the secretary, shall convene the Nominating Committee as soon as practical after jurisdictional elections have been completed. The Nominating Committee shall consult with ethnic Annual Conferences, the caucuses, and other appropriate groups in making its nominations.

d) The Nominating Committee shall complete its work prior to the first meeting of the new board. At-large members shall be elected and seated before the board proceeds to the election of officers or any other business.

3. The episcopal membership of not less than five nor more than ten members shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference (*see* exception, ¶ 1082.6).

¶ 804. The membership of each program board shall be divided among the divisions of the board in such number as the board determines. The board may add to the membership of each division such division at-large members as it deems appropriate, provided that the total number of division at-large members not exceed 50 percent of the voting membership of the general board. At-large members of a division are not members of the general board.

¶ 805. Members of all general boards and agencies shall be members of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 806. 1. No person other than a bishop shall serve at the same time on more than one agency; *provided*, however, that if this limitation would deprive a jurisdiction of its full episcopal representation on an agency, it may be suspended to the extent necessary to permit such

representation; *provided* further, that this limitation shall not apply to a division of a board.<sup>2</sup>

2. A basic or at-large member of the General Council on Ministries or a member of the Council on Finance and Administration may not serve as a member of a board (¶ 841.1).

¶ 807. Each program board shall elect a president and one or more vice-presidents from the voting membership of the board, and a secretary, treasurer, and such other officers as it deems appropriate.

Each program board shall elect chairpersons for its divisions from the voting membership of the board. The divisions shall elect a vice-chairperson, a secretary, and such other officers as it deems appropriate.

Terms of officers of boards and divisions shall be for the quadrennium or until their successors are elected.

¶ 808. No person shall serve as president or chairperson of more than one general agency or division thereof.

¶ 809. The general secretary of each general program board of the Church shall be elected annually by ballot of the General Council on Ministries upon the nomination of the program board involved. Each program board shall elect annually by ballot an associate general secretary for each of its divisions upon nomination of the division.

¶ 810. No elected member of the staff of a general agency shall be eligible for voting membership on any general or jurisdictional agency except where the Discipline specifically provides for such interagency representation.

¶ 811. No elected staff officer shall hold the same position more than twelve years. Years of service prior to January 1, 1973, are not counted. The agency responsible for the election of these staff officers may suspend this provision by a two-thirds ballot vote.

¶ 812. 1. No person who receives compensation for services rendered or commissions of any kind from an agency shall be eligible for voting membership on that agency.<sup>3</sup>

2. Elected staff may be allowed voice but not vote in the board and its divisions.

3. "Official travel" of the staffs of boards and agencies shall be

<sup>2</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 224.

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 139.

interpreted to include all travel which is necessary in the performance of official duties directly related to the agency functions. No honoraria for such visitations shall be accepted. Nothing in this interpretation is to preclude special or nonofficial engagements when such do not interfere with official duties, but are not done at the cost of the agency.

¶ 813. 1. Membership on any general agency shall be limited to eight consecutive years. To provide a continuing membership on these agencies, it is recommended that each nominating and electing body give special attention to rotation of its representatives.

2. If a general agency is merged with another agency, the years served by members prior to the merger shall be counted as part of the maximum specified in § 1 above.

¶ 814. When a minister who had been elected as a representative of a jurisdiction to a general agency is transferred to an Annual Conference in another jurisdiction or a lay person who has been so elected changes legal residence to another jurisdiction, that person shall cease to be a member of that agency at the time of the transfer or removal. The vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Discipline.

815. 1. If members of a general agency are absent from two consecutive regular meetings without a reason acceptable to the agency, they shall cease to be members thereof. In that case they shall be so notified, and their places shall be filled in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Discipline.

2. When a bishop is unable to attend a meeting of an agency of which that bishop is a member, the Council of Bishops may name an alternate representative to attend that meeting with the privilege of vote.

¶ 816. Unless otherwise specified, vacancies on boards and other agencies occurring during the quadrennium shall be filled as follows: an episcopal vacancy shall be filled by the Council of Bishops; a vacancy in the basic membership shall be filled by the College of Bishops of that jurisdiction; a vacancy in the membership at large shall be filled by the agency itself.

¶ 817. 1. It shall be the policy of The United Methodist Church that all administrative agencies and institutions, including hospitals, homes, and educational institutions, shall: (a) recruit, employ, utilize,

recompense, and promote their professional staff and other personnel without regard to race, color, or sex; (b) fulfill their duties and responsibilities in a manner which does not involve racial segregation or discrimination; and (c) secure adequate representation by laymen and laywomen.

2. Elected staff personnel of a general agency shall not be eligible for election at the annual meeting in the year in which the person shall become sixty-eight years of age. All other staff personnel shall be retired not later than their sixty-eighth birthday.

The normal retirement age shall be sixty-five and mandatory at sixty-eight. An agency may retire its personnel at an earlier but not a later age than specified above.

¶ 818. *Relative Representation.*—In order to carry out the intent and spirit of the Constitution (Division Two, Section III, Article VII, ¶ 21):<sup>4</sup>

1. All General Conference boards and agencies:

a) Regardless of size shall have, during the first three quadrenniums following union, at least one member coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership.

b) During the quadrennium 1972-76 shall have at least 8.7 percent from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership and 58 percent from The Methodist Church membership.

c) During the quadrennium 1976-80 shall have at least 4.3 percent from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership and 29 percent from The Methodist Church membership.

d) Members of General Conference boards and agencies are elected in various ways: some by the General Conference, some by Jurisdictional Conferences, and some by the boards and agencies themselves. As promptly after the close of each General Conference as possible, the secretary of the General Conference shall make a tabulation of all General Conference boards and agencies showing the members already elected by the General Conference and the denomination from which each came, and, further, the secretary shall prepare and, subject to review and approval by the Council of Bishops or such subcommittee of the council as the council may designate, promulgate a schedule

<sup>4</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 356.

allocating to each jurisdiction and to each board or agency the number of members to be elected as coming from the former Evangelical United Brethren Church and the former Methodist Church, respectively, and each jurisdiction and each board or agency shall elect in accordance with such allocation. The allocation shall take into consideration the relative number of members coming from the former Evangelical United Brethren Church, shall be made as fair and equitable as possible, and shall be designed to carry out the intent and spirit of the constitutional provision regarding representation.

2. All jurisdictional boards and agencies:

a) Regardless of size shall have, during the first three quadrenniums following union, at least one member coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership.

b) During the quadrennium 1972-76, shall have members coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership and The Methodist Church membership, respectively, at least approximately as follows:

North Central	16.0%	and	50.6%
Northeastern	14.6%	and	52.0%
South Central	3.3%	and	63.3%
Southeastern	1.4%	and	65.0%
Western	5.3%	and	61.3%

c) During the quadrennium 1976-80, shall have members coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership and The Methodist Church membership, respectively, at least approximately as follows:

North Central	8.0%	and	25.3%
Northeastern	7.3%	and	26.0%
South Central	1.7%	and	32.7%
Southeastern	.7%	and	32.7%
Western	2.7%	and	30.7%

3. All boards and agencies of united Annual Conferences shall, when practicable, during the first three quadrenniums following union:

a) Regardless of size have at least one member coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership.

b) Recognize the principle of at least twice the number of members coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership, in relation to the number coming from The Methodist Church membership, as the relative numerical membership in the Annual Conference coming from the respective denominations would indicate; subject to the constitutional provisions and further subject to the fact that over the period of the three quadrenniums many persons will come into membership of The United Methodist Church without prior membership in either of the two uniting denominations and that, therefore, the fixed membership on boards and agencies to come from membership in the two uniting denominations should, over the period, be scaled down, in each case proportionately.

4. The membership of boards, committees, and agencies of The United Methodist Church, at the level of the General and Jurisdictional Conferences and insofar as possible at the level of the Annual Conference and the local church, shall insure adequate representation of racial minority members; further, all such boards, committees, and agencies whose membership is set forth in the Discipline shall be authorized to elect as many additional members at large as may be necessary to meet this requirement.

5. For the purpose of this section the term "member coming from" a denomination shall mean a person who was a member of such denomination on the date the Plan of Union became effective.

6. The College of Bishops of the jurisdiction shall have power to pass upon the facts concerning, and application of this section to, any situation arising under this section, and in such case the action of the College of Bishops shall be binding on all parties, subject only to appeal to the Judicial Council on matters within its jurisdiction. It is recognized that application of these provisions may prove difficult in many instances, but Annual Conferences are urged to comply so far as possible with the spirit and intention of the provisions regarding relative representation.

¶ 819. The boards, committees, or commissions elected, authorized, or provided for by the General Conference shall have full power

and authority to remove and dismiss at their discretion any members, officers, or employees thereof:

1. Who have become incapacitated so as to be unable to perform their official duties.

2. Who are guilty of immoral conduct or breach of trust.

3. Who for any reason are unable to, or who fail to, perform the duties of their office, or for other misconduct which any of said boards, committees, or commissions may deem sufficient to warrant such dismissal and removal.

In the event that any member, officer, or employee of such board, committee or commission, elected, authorized, or provided for by the General Conference, is found guilty of any crime involving moral turpitude by any federal, state, or county court or pleads guilty thereto, then and in that event, the board, committee, or commission of which that person is a member, officer, or employee shall be and is hereby authorized to remove such member, officer, or employee so charged or convicted; and the place so vacated shall be filled as provided in the Discipline. The action of such board, committee, or commission in removing such member, officer, or employee in the circumstances above set forth shall be final; and such member, officer, or employee so removed shall have no further authority to participate in any way in the affairs of such board, committee, or commission.

¶ 820. *Fiscal Policy.*—The regular program and fiscal year for The United Methodist Church shall be the calendar year. The second program and fiscal quadrennium of The United Methodist Church shall begin on January 1, 1973, and continue through the next four calendar years. (See also ¶ 1291 for "quadrennium.")

It is the policy of The United Methodist Church that all the funds administered by any board, commission, or agency of The United Methodist Church which are proposed to be used for funding a program shall be disbursed or used only after the Council on Ministries of the Annual Conference in which the program is proposed has been consulted.

¶ 821. *Evangelical United Brethren Council of Administration.*—The Council on Finance and Administration shall take steps to preserve the corporate existence of the Evangelical United Brethren Council of Administration until such time as attorneys shall advise its

dissolution. The Council on Finance and Administration shall nominate for election the Board of Trustees of the Evangelical United Brethren Council of Administration.

¶ 822. 1. *Church Name Outside the United States of America.*—The name of The United Methodist Church may be translated by any Central Conference into languages other than English. The United Methodist Church in the Central and Southern Europe Central Conference and the Germany Central Conference may use the name *Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche*.

2. *Church Founding Date.*—The United Methodist Church has become the legal and ecclesiastical successor to all property, property rights, powers, and privileges of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church; the two churches, from their beginnings, have had a close relationship.

The Methodist Church, the first of the two churches to organize, dates from the Christmas Conference of 1784. Therefore, The United Methodist Church recognizes as its founding date the year 1784.

All General Conferences shall be designated not in numerical sequence from any particular date, but merely by the calendar years in which they are respectively held. An Annual Conference, local church, or other body within The United Methodist Church which is composed of uniting units with differing dates of origin, shall use as the date of its founding the date of founding of the older or oldest of the uniting units, or it may use such other founding-date formula as it may determine.

¶ 823. All boards, councils, and commissions shall perform their functions in harmony with the policy of The United Methodist Church to eliminate discrimination based on race, color, and sex.

## Section II. The General Council on Ministries.

¶ 824. *Name.*—There shall be a General Council on Ministries of The United Methodist Church, hereinafter called the council.

¶ 825. 1. *Incorporation.*—The council shall be incorporated in such state or states as the General Conference shall determine. This corporation shall be the successor corporation and organization to the Program Council of The United Methodist Church.

2. *Amenability*.—The council shall report to and be amenable to the General Conference.

¶ 826. The aims of the Council on Ministries are:

1. To provide a continuing means for representative lay people, clergy, and administrators to study our ever-changing missional needs, to determine priorities, and to adjust emphases between sessions of the General Conference.

2. To establish the processes and relationships that will insure the coordination of the ministries and program emphases of The United Methodist Church through its general agencies and to eliminate overlapping or conflicting approaches to the local church and the Annual Conferences.

3. To enhance the effectiveness of our total ministries by reviewing the performance of the general boards and their responsiveness to the needs of the local churches and Annual Conferences.

4. To engage in research and planning in cooperation with the general agencies and the Annual Conferences.

¶ 827. The powers of the Council on Ministries are:

1. To establish policies and make decisions governing the functions of the general boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church, consistent with the actions of the General Conference, during the interim between its sessions.

2. To approve or disapprove recommendations by a board to change its internal structure as specified in the Discipline or by boards to transfer functions among them, subject to ratification by the General Conference.

¶ 828. The council shall have the following specific functions and authority:

1. To insure the development of a unified and coordinated ongoing calendar and program for the promoting of the connectional ministries of the Church.

2. Upon a two-thirds vote of the members of the General Council on Ministries present and voting, to make changes in missional priorities necessitated by emergencies or by other significant developments between General Conferences which substantially affect the life of the Church, and to make adjustments in program budget allocations accordingly; *provided* that such adjustments are made within the total

budget set by the previous General Conference and *provided*, further, that such adjustments are made after consultation with the affected boards and agencies and approval by a two-thirds vote of the Council on Finance and Administration.

3. To assign to the boards and agencies or to special task forces created by it specific missional responsibilities initiated between sessions of the General Conference.

4. To recommend to the General Conference priorities for the Church's ministry.

5. To take the following actions with respect to allocation of World Service funds to general program boards:

a) To determine, in cooperation with the Council on Finance and Administration, the Church's general program needs through consultation with the general boards and agencies.

b) To recommend to the Council on Finance and Administration the program needs it deems worthy of support.

c) After the Council on Finance and Administration decides the total sum of World Service money to be proposed for program agencies, to determine, on the basis of program priorities, a plan for the distribution of that total sum to general boards and agencies.

d) Only after these councils agree upon the plan of distribution shall it be included in the total budget of the Church presented to the General Conference by the Council on Finance and Administration.

6. To review and evaluate the effectiveness of the general program agencies in performing the ministries assigned to them.

7. To keep under review the concurrence of general program agencies with the social principles of The United Methodist Church.

8. To resolve any overlapping in structure or functions or lack of cooperation among the general boards and agencies and to be responsible for the coordination of any program adopted by the General Conference where two or more boards or agencies are involved, unless otherwise specified by the General Conference.

9. To participate in, to give leadership to, and coordinate research and planning for the United Methodist Church, thereby helping all levels of the Church evaluate needs, set goals, and plan strategy.

10. To assist the Advisory Committee on Research in discovering

and choosing research projects which merit support from the Reserve for Research Projects as provided in the General Administration Fund of the Council on Finance and Administration.

11. To become a depository for required filing of all planning and research documents of all agencies.

12. To ascertain the need for a special program for any particular quadrennium and, if it is deemed desirable, to formulate a plan for the same and present it to the General Conference for its consideration.

13. To review all plans of the general boards and agencies for the production and distribution of free literature and promotional resource materials (except church school literature) in order to coordinate the content, distribution, and timing of the release of such materials with a view to avoiding duplication of both materials and activities.

14. To consider the plans of any agency to publish a new promotional periodical. Any agency proposing to publish a promotional periodical shall submit its request to the council. If the council disapproves, the agency shall delay such publication and circulation until the proposal can be submitted to the General Conference for determination; *provided*, however, that the foregoing shall not apply to periodicals exempted in ¶ 938 or to Church school curricular materials.

15. To consult with the following to assure elimination of unnecessary overlapping and duplication:

a) General boards and agencies with regard to their publishing and communications policies.

b) The president and publisher of The United Methodist Publishing House and editors of the general publications.

16. To designate the general board or agency to undertake a special study ordered by the General Conference when that conference fails to make such a designation.

17. To provide, in cooperation with the Council of Bishops, training opportunities for bishops, district superintendents, and conference program directors.

18. To study the connectional structures of The United Methodist Church and, after consultation with the general boards and agencies, recommend to the General Conference such legislative

changes as may be appropriate to effect desirable modifications of existing connectional structures.

19. To maintain a calendar of meetings in behalf of all agencies of The United Methodist Church as an aid to the agencies in regulating the number and timing of such meetings.

20. To approve the scheduling and timing of all national conferences, convocations, and/or major consultations, subject to the approval of the Council on Finance and Administration of plans for financing such meetings.

21. To recommend to the General Conference, after consultation with the Council of Bishops and the Council on Finance and Administration, the number and timing of special days which are to be observed on a churchwide basis, except that the Council of Bishops and the Council on Finance and Administration may authorize a special financial appeal in an emergency.

22. To initiate procedures to orient overseas delegates on both the operations of the General Conference and materials that it will consider and, where possible, to devise and implement measures to assure full, effective representation and participation of overseas members in the work of The United Methodist Church and the General Conference.

23. To relate to Annual Conference Councils on Ministries (¶¶ 831-34) and their committees, to receive program recommendations from them, and to coordinate program recommendations to them.

24. To report to the General Conference for its approval a summary of all decisions and recommendations made dealing with program changes and structure overlap.

¶ 829. *Organization*.—The Council shall be organized as follows:

1. *Membership*—a) The membership of the council shall consist of:

One member from each Annual Conference within the United States elected by the Jurisdictional Conference from a list of three nominees submitted by each Annual Conference which shall include one laywoman, one layman, and one from the clergy. The nominations from the Annual Conference shall be made from the General Conference delegates. If there is not an adequate number of persons for the nominees, additional nominees may be selected from the jurisdictional

delegates, and if additional nominees are further required, they may be selected from the membership of the Annual Conference. The above members shall consist, so far as possible, of one-third laywomen, one-third laymen, and one-third clergy; a bishop from each jurisdiction and one bishop from overseas selected by the Council of Bishops; one youth under the age of 19 and one young adult under the age 31, at the time of their election, from each jurisdiction. The youth members shall be nominated by jurisdictional youth caucuses. The youth and young adult members shall be elected by the Jurisdictional Conference; one nonstaff, nonepiscopal representative selected by each of the program boards and commissions; fifteen members at large to be elected by the council; three persons from Central Conferences nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the Council on Ministries; the chief administrative officer of each of the program boards and the executive secretary of the program commissions with voice but without vote.

b) Members of the council representing Annual Conferences and bishops, except the bishop from the Western Jurisdiction, shall not serve on any boards or commissions having representation on the Council on Ministries.

c) Of the members at large, elected by the council, in order to ensure that one-fourth of the council's membership may represent ethnic minorities, it is recommended that there shall be not less than two representatives for each of the following groups: Asian-American, Blacks, Hispanic-Americans, and Indian-Americans. (The council shall receive nominations from the ethnic caucuses and ethnic Annual Conferences of these respective groups prior to the report of their nominating committee.)

d) If the required number of former members of The Evangelical United Brethren Church cannot be elected from the nominees submitted by the Annual Conferences, the Council of Bishops shall elect additional persons so that the required numbers are elected as provided in ¶ 818.1.

e) The members of the council shall serve for four years or until their successors in office are elected. No voting member shall be eligible to serve for more than eight years.

f) If a bishop is unable to attend a meeting of the Council, that bishop shall designate an alternate bishop from the same jurisdiction.

2. *Meetings.*—within ninety days after the adjournment of the regular sessions of the Jurisdictional Conferences, the basic members of the council elected from the Annual Conferences shall be convened by the president of the Council of Bishops or by an active bishop designated by the president for the purpose of organizing.

The council shall meet at least once during each calendar year. It may meet in special session at other times upon the call of the president, the president of the Council of Bishops, or upon the request of one-fifth of its members. A quorum shall be a simple majority of the voting members.

3. *Officers.*—The council shall have a president, one or more vice-presidents, and a recording secretary, elected from the membership of the council, and a treasurer, none of whom shall be a bishop.<sup>5</sup> The president of the council shall be its presiding officer. Officers shall be elected for terms of four years and shall continue in office until their successors are duly elected.

4. *Internal structure.*—The council shall divide itself into such sections or divisions and otherwise structure itself internally as it deems necessary for the performance of its duties.

5. *Staff.*—The council shall elect a general secretary annually. The addition of any additional elected staff positions shall first be authorized by the Council on Finance and Administration. No person shall be elected to a staff position for more than twelve consecutive years unless by a two-thirds ballot vote. The staff secretary shall sit with the council with voice but not vote.

#### JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

¶ 830. In each jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church there may be a **Jurisdictional Conference Council on Ministries** organized as the jurisdiction shall determine and with the authority to coordinate and make effective the ministries of the boards and agencies of the Church.

<sup>5</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 359.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

¶ 831. In each Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church there shall be an **Annual Conference Council on Ministries**, provided that such council or any component thereof may be organized on an area basis.

1. *Purpose.*—The purpose of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries shall be (a) to receive program recommendations from the local churches, the district agencies, the Annual Conference agencies, and the jurisdictional and General Councils on Ministries; (b) to develop these recommendations into a coordinate program to be recommended to the Annual Conference for consideration, amendment, and adoption as the Annual Conference program; and (c) to provide implementation for and administration of the coordinated program as adopted by the conference.

2. *Membership.*—The membership of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries shall consist of the presiding bishop; the district superintendents; representatives of conference agencies as determined by the conference; the conference secretary; two representatives of the conference youth organization; two representatives of the conference United Methodist Women, one of whom shall be the president; the conference lay leader; one lay person from each district; chairpersons of age-level and family departments; and such additional members as the Annual Conference may determine.

The following shall be members of the council without vote: salaried and volunteer Annual Conference staff, the conference treasurer, and one or more members of the Commission on Finance and Administration.

The person or persons serving as members of the General Council on Ministries shall be member (s) of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries as full voting member (s).

3. *Officers.*—The officers of the council shall be a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, a secretary, and a treasurer. They shall be elected by the council.

4. *Executive Committee.*—There may be an **executive committee** consisting of the officers, the bishop, at least one district superintendent chosen by the Cabinet, the director of the council, and other members

as the Annual Conference may determine. Approximately one half of the members of the executive committee shall be lay persons.

5. *Committees, Task Forces, and Consultations.*—The council may appoint a **Committee on Interpretation** (¶ 832), a **Committee on Communication** (¶ 833), and a **Committee on Planning and Research** (¶ 834). It may appoint such other committees, task forces, and consultations as may be deemed essential to the effective discharging of its responsibilities.

6. *Age-Level and Family Departments.*—The council may appoint age-level and family departments as it deems necessary to the performance of its duties.

7. *Director.*—The council shall elect, upon nomination by the bishop and district superintendents, an executive officer to be known as the **conference council director**. He shall be in a consultative relationship to the conference Cabinet on matters relating to coordination, implementation, and administration of the conference program.

8. *Staff.*—All Annual Conference council staff may be employed by, directed by, and amenable to the Annual Conference Council on Ministries. Ordained ministers on the staff are subject to being appointed by the presiding bishop.

9. *Relationships.*—The council shall have the following relationships, including the amenabilities indicated:

a) All Annual Conference program boards and agencies shall cooperate with and be amenable between sessions of the Annual Conference to the Council on Ministries of the Annual Conference in matters relating to the development, implementation, and administration of the program.

b) All District and Annual Conference agencies shall submit the elements of program which are to be promoted in, supported by, or implemented by the local churches of the conference to the council for consideration, coordinating, and calendaring prior to presentation to the local churches. The council may request District or Annual Conference agencies to implement a program for the entire conference.

c) The council staff shall be responsible, in cooperation with the district superintendents, for the implementation of the conference program.

10. *Functions.*—The functions of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries are:

a) To study the mission of the Annual Conference and the local churches of the conference and to determine program emphases which will assist the conference and the local churches to perform their mission.

b) To describe, coordinate, and organize opportunities to serve within the mission.

c) To receive program recommendations from the local churches, the District and Annual Conference agencies, and the jurisdictional and General Councils on Ministries; to evaluate these recommendations; and to formulate a coordinated conference program to be presented to the Annual Conference for consideration.

d) To provide for implementation and administration of the program adopted by the conference.

e) To provide program resources and assistance in program planning and implementation for local churches.

f) To provide staff personnel for implementing and administering the conference program.

g) To provide channels of communication between Annual Conference agencies and local churches.

h) To give leadership in research and planning for the conference and to cooperate with other research and planning agencies.

i) To cooperate in ecumenical projects and events which have been approved by the conference.

j) To study and coordinate the budget askings of the conference agencies as they relate to the conference program and to make recommendations regarding the same to the Council on Finance and Administration, understanding that an Annual Conference may direct that the accounting service for the conference treasurer shall be provided by a centralized office under the direction of a business manager.

k) To interpret the conference program to the local churches with a view toward gaining the financial support needed in order to implement that program.

¶ 832. In each Annual Conference Council on Ministries, chosen by it and amenable to it, there may be a **Committee on Interpretation**.

1. *Functions.*—It shall, in cooperation with the council, promote

the program of world service and other general benevolence causes in the pastoral charges of the conference in cooperation with the Joint Committee on Communications. It shall coordinate the promotion of all approved general and conference benevolence causes, including general and conference Advance specials, the One Great Hour of Sharing, the World Communion, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, and other general benevolence causes except as otherwise directed by the General Conference, and shall assign the responsibility for the promotion of approved causes that do not clearly belong to an existing agency.

2. *Finance.*—The Committee budget shall be provided by the conference through its Commission on Finance and Administration.

¶ 833. In each Annual Conference Council on Ministries, chosen by it and amenable to it, there may be a **Committee on Communication**, which may be divided into three subsections: namely, United Methodist Information, Publishing Interests, and Television, Radio and Film Communication. Its functions may include:

1. Cooperating with other Annual Conference agencies, the areas of United Methodist Information and TRAFCO of the Joint Committee on Communications (¶ 906.1-2), and the General Board of Publication, in the fulfillment of its functions.

2. Producing and distributing programs and materials related to its functions.

3. Promoting principles of good communication, the use of mass communication methods and materials, including the Annual Conference news organ and the general church periodicals.

4. Providing communication training opportunities for leaders in the Annual Conference and the local churches.

5. Supervising the conference news and/or public relations agency (s).

¶ 834. In each Annual Conference Council on Ministries, chosen by it and amenable to it, there may be a **Committee on Planning and Research**. It should not be deemed necessary for all members of this committee to be members of the conference council. Due consideration should be given to the inclusion in the membership of the committee persons with expertise in planning and research. Its functions shall be:

1. To engage in planning and research on behalf of the confer-

ence council for the continuing ministry of The United Methodist Church within the conference.

2. To serve as an advisory group in planning and research for the Annual Conference and its agencies.

3. To serve as the clearinghouse for all planning and research projects under the sponsorship of the Annual Conference and its agencies.

4. To relate to and cooperate with the planning and research activities of the General Council on Ministries.

#### DISTRICT COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

¶ 835. Each district of an Annual Conference may organize a **District Council on Ministries**.

1. *Purpose*.—The purpose of the District Council on Ministries shall be to assist local churches to minister more effectively; to serve as a channel of communication between the local churches, the Annual Conference Council on Ministries, and the general agencies of the Church; to initiate programs for the district; and to help the Annual Conference Council on Ministries in the performance of its functions.

2. *Membership*.—Each Annual Conference may determine the membership and the method of election of its District Councils on Ministries. The membership structure need not be identical in each district. It may include district coordinators of age-level and family ministries. It may include representatives of program agencies (i.e. district directors of evangelism, stewardship, education, district missionary secretary, etc.). It may include representatives of clusters of local churches. It is recommended that a member of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries staff be included as a resource person in each District Council on Ministries. Membership should be chosen so as to include equitable representation, insofar as possible, of laity as well as clergy, minority groups, women, youth, and young adults. The Annual Conference may ask the District Conferences (¶ 669) to elect the membership of the District Council on Ministries.

3. *Officers*.—The officers of the District Council on Ministries shall be the chairperson, who shall be elected from the membership of the council, and such other officers as the Annual Conference or the district deems necessary.

4. *Staff*.—The district superintendent shall be the chief executive staff officer.

5. *Functions*.—The functions of the District Council on Ministries may be determined by the Annual Conference or the District Council on Ministries. The following functions may be incorporated into its work:

a) To study the needs of the local churches in the district and help them establish and provide more effective ministry in and through the churches.

b) To keep local churches informed on the work of the whole Church and challenge each church to full participation.

c) To encourage local churches to engage in creative, innovative approaches to ministry.

d) To serve as a two-way channel of communication between the local churches and the Annual Conference and to assist local churches in communication with each other.

e) To study the needs of the district and establish priorities for district action.

f) To develop experimental types of ministry within the district.

g) To provide leadership training events for local church leaders.

h) To relate the Annual Conference Council on Ministries and its staff to local church needs.

i) To make program and other recommendations to the Annual Conference Council on Ministries.

j) To assist in the implementation of the program of the Annual Conference.

k) To cooperate in ecumenical programs and events on the district level.

l) To plan and conduct inspirational events.

m) To elect the lay representative(s) from the district to membership on the Annual Conference Council on Ministries when requested by the Annual Conference Council on Ministries.

The District Councils on Ministries in an Annual Conference shall cooperate with the Annual Conference Council on Ministries so that a harmonious and holistic approach to the total ministry of the conference may be achieved. In order to coordinate the calendar and program plans of each district with the Annual Conference, the An-

nual Conference Council on Ministries may require the district councils to submit their program plans for approval.

6. *Finances.*—Each Annual Conference shall determine the method by which its District Councils on Ministries shall be financed. It is recommended that an amount for the general operating expense of the District Councils on Ministries be included in the Annual Conference budget. As a general rule, major program expenditures for any district should be made through the budget of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries or the appropriate Annual Conference program board.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRY

¶ 836. 1. In each Annual Conference there shall be a conference **Council on Youth Ministry** composed of both youth and adults. 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. (See also ¶¶ 1071-76 for the general agency of United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry.)

2. *Membership*—No more than one-third of the membership of the council shall be adults. It is recommended that the council be composed of 50 percent minority members. Where ethnic or language conferences overlap nonethnic conferences, provision shall be made for the inclusion of members of the ethnic or language conferences to serve on the councils of nonethnic conferences and vice-versa.

3. *Functions*—a) To initiate and support plans and 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.

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 receive and set the policy and criteria for its portion of the Youth Service Fund (¶ 1074). 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.

g) To establish the policy for the Youth Service Fund education and be responsible for its promotion throughout the Annual Conference, in cooperation with the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry.

h) 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 to be composed of at least 50 percent minority group persons.

i) To choose jointly with the conference Council on Ministries the conference coordinator of youth ministry to serve as its advisor.

#### Section III. Council on Finance and Administration.

¶ 837. *General Statement on Church Finance.*—The work of the Church requires the support of our people, and participation therein through service and gifts is a Christian duty and a means of grace. In order that all members of The United Methodist Church may share in its manifold ministries at home and abroad and that the work committed to us may prosper, the following financial plan, including the causes supported by the Christian Service Fund of the former Evangelical United Brethren Church, has been duly approved and adopted.

¶ 838. *Name.*—There shall be a **Council on Finance and Administration** of The United Methodist Church, hereinafter called the council.

¶ 839. *Incorporation.*—The council shall be incorporated in such state or states as the council shall determine. This corporation shall be the successor corporation and organization to the Council on World Service and Finance (including the Council on World Service and

Finance of The United Methodist Church, an Illinois corporation; the World Service Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, an Illinois corporation; the General Council of Administration of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, an Ohio corporation; the Board of Administration, Church of the United Brethren in Christ, an Ohio corporation) and the Board of Trustees.

This corporation shall receive and administer new trusts and funds, and so far as may be legal be the successor in trust of: The Board of Trustees of The United Methodist Church; The Board of Trustees of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Board of Trustees of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Board of Trustees of the Evangelical Church, an unincorporated body; The Board of Trustees of The Methodist Church, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, incorporated under the laws of Ohio; The Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, incorporated under the laws of Tennessee; and The Board of Trustees of the Methodist Protestant Church, incorporated under the laws of Maryland; and so far as may be legal, as such successor in trust, it is authorized to receive from any of its said predecessor corporations all trust funds and assets of every kind and character, real, personal, or mixed, held by them or any one of them, or to merge into itself any one or more of its said predecessor corporations. Any such trusts and funds coming to it as successor corporation, either by transfer or by merger, shall be administered in accordance with the conditions under which they have been previously received and administered by said predecessor corporations or unincorporated body.

¶ 840. *Amenability.*—The council shall report to and be amenable to the General Conference, and it shall cooperate with the Council on Ministries in the compilation of budgets for program agencies participating in World Service Funds, as defined in ¶ 842.1.

¶ 841. *Organization.*—1. *Membership.*—The members of the council shall be elected quadrennially by the General Conference as follows: three bishops, nominated by the Council of Bishops; two clergy in full connection, two laymen, and two laywomen from each jurisdiction, nominated by the bishops of that jurisdiction; nine members-

at large, one-third laymen, one-third laywomen, and one-third clergy, at least one of whom shall not be over twenty-one years of age at the time of election, and at least two of whom shall represent ethnic minorities, and most of whom shall be elected for special skills, nominated by the Council of Bishops without reference to jurisdictions. The general secretaries shall be members with full participation in all hearings of the council but without vote. The voting members, including bishops, shall not be eligible to membership on, or employment by, any other agency receiving funds administered by the council. They shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies occurring between sessions of the General Conference shall be filled by the council on nomination of the bishops of the jurisdiction concerned or, in the event of a vacancy among the members at large, on nomination of the Council of Bishops.

2. *Meetings.*—The council shall meet annually and at such other times as are necessary on call of the president or on written request of one-fifth of the members. Twenty-two voting members shall constitute a quorum.

3. *Officers.*—The officers of the council shall be a president, a vice-president, a recording secretary, and a general secretary, who shall also be the treasurer of the council, all of whom shall be elected by the council (*see* § 5). They shall serve until the adjournment of the next succeeding quadrennial session of the General Conference after their election and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The president, vice-president, and recording secretary shall be elected from the membership of the council. The general secretary shall sit with the council and its executive committee at all sessions and shall have right to the floor without the privilege of voting.

4. *Committees.*—a) *Executive Committee.*—There shall be an executive committee of the council consisting of the episcopal members, the officers of the council, and twelve members, one lay person, one clergy from each jurisdiction, plus two lay persons at large, one of whom shall be from an ethnic minority, to be elected annually by the council. The executive committee shall meet on call of the president or of a majority of the membership and shall act for the council and exercise its powers in the interim between the meetings of the council, but it shall not take any action contrary to or in conflict with any

action or policy of the council. A copy of the minutes of each meeting of the executive committee shall be sent from the central office to each member of the council as soon after the meeting as practicable.

b) *Committee on Audit and Review.*—The executive committee of the council shall appoint a **Committee on Audit and Review**, no members of which shall be officers or members of the executive committee of the council, and at least half of whom shall not be members of the council, whose duty it shall be to review financial reports and audits of all treasuries receiving general church funds, including the funds of the council. The committee shall report its findings to the annual meeting of the council.

c) *Committee on Official Forms and Records.*—The council shall maintain and supervise under the direction of its general secretary a **Committee on Official Forms and Records**, which shall have the duty of preparing and editing all official statistical forms, record forms, and record books for use in the Church, including the preparation and circulation of the manual for conducting Annual Conferences. The committee shall consist of one bishop elected by the Council of Bishops and nine persons elected by the Council on Finance and Administration, as follows: one member of the council from each jurisdiction and one conference secretary, one conference treasurer, one conference statistician, and one district superintendent. The following persons shall be consultants to this committee ex officio without vote: a staff representative of the council, the director of the Department of Statistics, a staff representative of research and planning of the Council on Ministries, a representative of The United Methodist Publishing House, and representatives of other general agencies when their programs are directly involved. All official statistical forms, record forms, and record books required for use in The United Methodist Church shall be printed and published by The United Methodist Publishing House.

d) *Other Committees.*—The council shall elect or appoint such other committees and task forces as needed for the performance of its duties.

5. *Staff.*—The council shall elect a general secretary as provided in § 3, above. On nomination of the general secretary, the council may elect associate general secretaries, who shall work under the direction

of the general secretary. All employed personnel of the council shall be selected by and shall be amenable to the general secretary.

¶ 842. *Fiscal.*—The council shall have the authority and responsibility to perform the following functions:

1. It shall submit to each quadrennial session of the General Conference, for its action and determination, budgets of expense for its own operation, the World Service Fund, the General Administration Fund, the Episcopal Fund, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, the Ministerial Education Fund, the World Communion Offering, the One Great Hour of Sharing Fund, and the Temporary General Aid Fund. It shall also make recommendations regarding all other funding considerations to come before General Conference.

a) The council shall make recommendations to the General Conference as to the amount and distribution of all funds provided for in § 1, above.

b) In the case of the World Service Fund, the Council on Ministries, in cooperation with the Council on Finance and Administration, shall determine the Church's general program needs through consultation with the general boards and agencies and shall recommend to the Council on Finance and Administration the programs the Council on Ministries deems worthy of the Church's support. The Council on Finance and Administration shall establish and communicate to the Council on Ministries the total sum proposed for distribution among the general program agencies. The Council on Ministries, on the basis of program priorities, shall recommend a plan for distribution of World Service Funds. The Council on Finance and Administration shall act jointly with the Council on Ministries for the finalization of the plan for distribution of World Service Funds to boards and agencies.

c) It shall recommend the formulas by which all apportionments to the Annual Conferences shall be determined, subject to the approval of the General Conference.

d) The expenses of the council, including the cost of all its operations, shall be a first claim against all general funds received and disbursed by the council. The charges against the several funds or beneficiary agencies shall be in proportion to the funds' receipts.

2. It shall receive and disburse in accordance with budgets ap-

proved by the General Conference all funds raised throughout the Church for:

- a) The World Service Fund, including World Service special gifts and Advance special gifts,
- b) The General Administration Fund,
- c) The Episcopal Fund,
- d) The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund,
- e) The Ministerial Education Fund,
- f) The World Communion Offering,
- g) The One Great Hour of Sharing Fund,
- h) The Temporary General Aid Fund, and
- i) any other fund or funds as directed by the proper authority.

3. To perform the accounting and reporting function for the Council on Ministries and the boards and agencies amenable to it. The council shall assume this responsibility for the Board of Discipleship and the Board of Church and Society upon their organization; and for the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Board of Global Ministries prior to the General Conference of 1976. The council shall work with the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Board of Global Ministries to assure an efficient assumption of the boards' accounting and reporting functions by the council. If necessary for the efficient performance of the accounting and reporting function, the council may establish branch offices.

4. It shall require all agencies receiving general church funds to follow uniform accounting classifications and procedures for reporting. It shall require an annual audit of all treasuries receiving general church funds, following such auditing procedures as it may specify. It shall have authority to pass on the acceptability of any auditing firm proposed by an agency. It shall also require annually one month in advance of its annual meeting, or as is deemed necessary, statements of proposed budgets of all treasuries or agencies receiving general church funds. It shall review in each such agency budget the amount for administration, service, and promotion with a view to maintaining a proper balance among the various parts of the budgets.

5. To establish policy governing the functions of payroll, purchasing, accounting, and budget control for all agencies receiving general church funds. The council may upon mutual consent of the

agencies involved perform these functions on behalf of an agency in order to maximize efficiency of operation. All boards and agencies shall observe the uniform fiscal year (¶ 820).

6. To develop investment policies for, suggest investment counselors for, and review on at least a quarterly basis performance of all permanent funds of all agencies receiving general church funds. The council shall have complete authority to manage any portfolio of less than \$1,500,000. The council is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church (¶¶ 71-77).

7. In cooperation with the Board of Discipleship, to encourage United Methodists to provide for their continued participation in World Service, in one or more of the World Service agencies, through wills and special gifts; and to receive, collect, and hold in trust for the benefit of The United Methodist Church, its general funds, or its general agencies, any and all donations, bequests, and devises of any kind, real or personal, that may be given, devised, bequeathed, or conveyed to The United Methodist Church as such or to any general fund or agency of The United Methodist Church for any benevolent, charitable, or religious purpose, and to administer the same and the income therefrom in accordance with the directions of the donor, trustor, or testator.

8. To establish standardized gift annuity rates and formulate policies for the writing of annuities by institutions and agencies operating under the auspices of The United Methodist Church.

9. To approve plans for financing all national conferences and convocations to be held under the auspices or sponsorship of any general agency of the church.

10. To recommend to the General Conference, in consultation with the Council on Ministries, the days which shall be observed on a churchwide basis and on which the taking of special offerings shall be authorized, and, in the case of each, to recommend whether or not the receipts derived therefrom shall be credited to the contributing local church as a part of its World Service apportionment and charged against the claims of the agency receiving the same. All such recommendations are subject to the approval of the General Conference.

11. The council shall recommend to each conference Council on Finance and Administration a uniform procedure for presenting its report to the Annual Conference and shall prepare a form for the guidance of the conference treasurer in making his or her annual statement in the conference journal.

¶ 843. *Other Administrative Responsibilities.*—The council shall have the authority and responsibility to perform the following functions:

1. To establish general policy governing the leasing, sale, rental, renovation, or purchase of property by a general board or agency. The council shall consider the plans of any general board or agency proposing to acquire or sell real estate or erect a building or enter into a lease in the continental United States and determine whether the proposed action is in the best interest of The United Methodist Church. On the basis of that determination it shall approve or disapprove all such proposed actions. In the case of such proposed action by a general program agency, it shall solicit and consider the recommendation of the Council on Ministries. If either council disapproves, the agency shall delay the project until it can be considered by the next General Conference. Nothing in the foregoing shall include the operational requirements of the Board of Publication.

2. To exercise on behalf of the General Conference a property management function, by holding title to and managing real property for the use of general agencies of the Church. This function shall be exercised with respect to agency properties acquired before 1972 by mutual consent of the council and the agency. This provision shall apply to headquarters buildings but not to properties which are part of the program responsibilities of the Board of Global Ministries.

In no event shall the following be excluded: property of The Methodist Corporation in Washington, D.C., at Ward Circle at the intersection of Nebraska and Massachusetts Avenues, historical shrines, landmarks, and sites previously owned by the Program Council of The United Methodist Church.

3. To take all necessary legal steps to safeguard and protect the interests and rights of The United Methodist Church; to maintain a file of legal briefs related to cases involving The United Methodist Church, and to make provisions for legal counsel where necessary in

order to protect the interests of the Church at the request of a general agency or a bishop, as the council deems advisable.

4. To provide direction and coordination in the design and implementation of operating systems in order to maximize the efficiency of operating personnel, equipment, and resources between and within agencies. During the quadrennium these agencies shall study their respective functions, programs, and internal operations and institute such improvements and economies in their work as they find to be feasible and practicable. They shall cooperate with the council in working out, in advance of these studies, the general areas to be included and methods of carrying out this objective. They shall report their accomplishments in improvements and economies at the close of each fiscal year to the council, which shall prepare from this information a combined report for the General Conference.

5. To determine policy for ownership, lease, and use of computers by the general church agencies and to formulate policy governing the data-processing function carried out by general church agencies. Data processing shall include data gathering, storage, and retrieval.

6. The council shall require each general agency, including itself, to follow uniform policies and practices in the employment and remuneration of personnel, recognizing differences in local employment conditions. It shall establish titles for the employed executive staff of general agencies in the interest of uniformity and consistency. The council shall organize a **committee of ten**, four of whom shall be voting members of the Council on Ministries selected by it, and six of whom shall be members of the Council on Finance and Administration selected by it. The committee shall develop an approved salary scale based on compensation according to responsibility and a schedule of comparable fringe benefits, and require adherence.

7. To maintain a consultative service to assist general agencies in planning and making arrangements for national meetings, conferences, and convocations.

8. To maintain an accurate record of the mail addresses of all bishops; ministers in effective relation; lay pastors, including retired ministers serving charges; conference lay leaders; and such lists of general, jurisdictional, conference, and district boards, commissions, and committees, and officers of same, and of local church commission

chairpersons, as may be deemed necessary. No one other than authorized bodies or officers of the Church shall be permitted to use these records.

9. To prepare the important statistics relating to The United Methodist Church for the General Minutes, the Fact Book, or such other publications and releases as may be approved by the council. It shall provide for the distribution of statistical information to Annual Conferences, the general planning and research agencies of the Church, and other interested parties. The council may establish an appropriate schedule of fees and charges to defray the cost of such information distribution services.

10. To assist and advise the jurisdictions, Annual Conferences, districts, and local churches in all matters relating to the work of the council. These matters shall include, but shall not be limited to, business administration, fund raising, investment and property management, data processing, and auditing. The council may perform certain functions for the jurisdictions, Annual Conferences, districts, or local churches if the particular organization so elects and a suitable plan of operation can be determined.

11. To designate one of its staff members as the **business manager of the General Conference**; when acting in this capacity, this staff person shall be related operationally to the Commission on Entertainment and Program or its successor.

¶ 844. The treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration shall, not less than thirty days prior to the session of each Annual Conference, transmit to the presiding bishop thereof, to the president of the conference Council on Finance and Administration, and to the conference treasurer a statement of the apportionments to the conference for the World Service Fund, the General Administration Fund, the Episcopal Fund, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, the Ministerial Education Fund, the Temporary General Aid Fund, and such other funds as may have been apportioned by the General Conference. The treasurer shall keep an account of all amounts remitted by the conference treasurers and from other sources intended for: (1) the World Service Fund, including World Service special gifts and Advance special gifts, (2) the General Administration Fund, (3) the Episcopal Fund, (4) the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund,

(5) the Ministerial Education Fund, (6) the World Communion Offering, (7) the One Great Hour of Sharing Fund, (8) the Temporary General Aid Fund, and (9) any other fund so directed by the proper authority, and shall disburse the same as authorized by the General Conference and directed by the council. A separate account shall be kept of each such fund, and none of them shall be drawn on for the benefit of another fund.

¶ 845. The treasurer shall report annually to the council and to the respective conference councils as to all amounts received and disbursed during the year. The treasurer shall also make to each quadrennial session of the General Conference a full report of the financial transactions of the council for the preceding quadrennium. The treasurer shall be bonded for such an amount as may be determined by the council. The books of the treasurer shall be audited annually by a certified public accountant approved by the Committee on Audit and Review (¶ 841.4b).

#### GENERAL FUNDS

¶ 846. *General Policies.*—1. The Council on Finance and Administration shall withhold approval of the entire budget of any agency or any church-related institution receiving general church funds until such agency or church-related institution certifies to the council in writing that it has established and has complied with a policy of (a) recruiting, employing, utilizing, recompensing, and promoting professional staff and other personnel without regard to race, color, or sex, and (b) fulfilling its duties and responsibilities in a manner which does not involve racial segregation or discrimination.

2. It shall withhold approval of any item or items in the budget or budgets receiving general church funds which in its judgment represent unnecessary duplication of administrative function; in cooperation with and on recommendation of the Council on Ministries, it shall withhold approval of any such item which represents unnecessary duplication of program within an agency or between two or more agencies. If the council finds that there is such duplication in existing activities, it shall promptly direct the attention of the agencies involved to the situation and shall cooperate with them in correcting the same, and may decline to supply from general fund receipts money

to continue activities which have been held to duplicate each other unnecessarily or plainly violate the principle of correlation as applied to the total benevolence program of the Church.

3. An agency of The United Methodist Church proposing to borrow funds for a period in excess of twelve months or in an amount in excess of 25 percent of its annual budget or one hundred thousand dollars, whichever amount is smaller, whether for building or current expense purposes, shall submit such proposal, accompanied by a plan for amortization, to the council for approval. If the council disapproves, the agency shall delay such borrowing until it can be considered by the next General Conference.

4. Any general board, cause, agency, or institution or any organization, group, officer, or individual of The United Methodist Church desiring or proposing to make a special churchwide financial appeal during the quadrennium shall present a request for authorization to make such appeal to the Council on Finance and Administration at the time budgets for the ensuing quadrennium are being considered. All such appeals shall be reviewed by the Council on Ministries and its actions shall be reported to the Council on Finance and Administration. The council shall then report such request to the General Conference with a recommendation for its action thereon. "Special appeal" shall be understood to mean any appeal other than the general appeal for support of the World Service program as represented in the World Service budget. "Churchwide appeal" shall be understood to mean any appeal to the Church at large except appeals to such special groups as alumni of an educational institution. In the interim between the quadrennial sessions of the General Conference such proposed churchwide financial appeal shall require the approval of the Council on Finance and Administration and the Council of Bishops. In case of emergency the executive committee of either of these bodies may act in such matter for the body itself, but only by a three-fourths vote.

¶ 847. *The World Service Fund.*—The World Service Fund is basic in the financial program of The United Methodist Church. World Service on apportionment represents the minimum needs of the general agencies of the Church. Payment in full of these apportionments by local churches and Annual Conferences is the first benevolent responsibility of the Church.

1. The council shall recommend to each quadrennial session of the General Conference the amount of the annual World Service budget for the ensuing quadrennium. In cooperation with the Council on Ministries it shall prepare and recommend a plan of distribution of World Service receipts among the World Service agencies, in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 842.1b, c. In the planning of the World Service budget it shall be the role of the Council on Finance and Administration to facilitate sound fiscal and administrative policies and practices within and among the general agencies of the Church. It shall be the role of the Council on Ministries to relate the budget askings of the program agencies to one another in such a way as to implement the program and missional priorities of the Church.

2. The general secretary or other duly authorized representative of each agency of The United Methodist Church requesting support from the World Service Fund and the authorized representative of any other agency for which askings are authorized by the General Conference shall have the right to appear before the council at a designated time and place to represent the cause for which each is responsible, provided that such representation has been previously made to the Council on Ministries.

3. The World Service agencies shall not solicit additional or special gifts from individual donors or special groups, other than foundations, unless approval for such solicitation is first secured from the council.

¶ 848. *World Service Special Gifts.*—Individual donors or local churches may make special gifts to the support of any cause or project which is a part of the work of any one of the World Service agencies. Such gifts shall be sent to the Central Treasury of the Council on Finance and Administration. Bequests, gifts on the annuity plan, gifts to permanent funds, and gifts of property shall be classified as special gifts.

1. All special gifts made to or administered by a general agency, except as provided in § 4 below, shall be acknowledged by special-gift vouchers.

2. The vouchers acknowledging such gifts to World Service agencies shall be entitled "World Service Special-gift Vouchers," *provided,*

however, that vouchers for such gifts to the World and National Divisions of the Board of Global Ministries or the Division for the United Methodist Committee on Relief shall be entitled "Advance special-gift vouchers"; and *provided* further, that vouchers for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering (¶ 851) and World Communion offerings (¶ 852) shall bear the respective names of these appeals.

3. A World Service agency or any individual or agency authorized to make a churchwide appeal for funds shall channel all special gifts through the Central Treasury. Individuals soliciting such funds shall channel the money received through the Central Treasury, which shall issue the proper vouchers.

4. Bequests, gifts on the annuity plan at maturity, and gifts of real property shall be reported to the Central Treasury as supplemental contributions and shall not be subject to prorated service charges.

¶ 849. *The Advance.*—1. There shall be an **Advance** program of The United Methodist Church to advance the community of believers through mutual Christian experience as disciples in partnership. This partnership shall be seen as crossing boundaries of race, nationality, and culture. The Advance program shall foster relationships between persons and churches as they relate to programs, projects, and institutions of service. All partners shall determine voluntarily the points at which they shall become involved and the character of their participation. Disciples in partnership will respect one another's worth and dignity in giving and receiving, recognizing the importance of all persons to determine the priority of their own needs.

2. Money given and received as a part of the relationships fostered by the Advance shall be known as **Advance special gifts**. General Advance specials shall include gifts to such mission causes as have been approved for this purpose by the Advance Committee (¶ 850). Conference Advance specials may be established by an Annual Conference. Advance giving shall be voluntary and shall be over and above the acceptance of World Service apportionments.

3. The Advance shall be organized and administered as hereinafter set forth, to the end that opportunity may be given to each local church, through its Charge Conference, as well as individuals and groups, to take part in the partnership represented by the Advance.

¶ 850. 1. There shall be an **Advance Committee**, organized under the authority and direction of the Council on Ministries. It shall consist of twenty members of the Council on Ministries.

2. The committee shall have general oversight of the Advance program as hereinafter described.

3. There shall be a **director of the Advance**, elected by the Advance Committee from the staff of one of the participating agencies and confirmed by the Council on Ministries, who is charged with responsibility for the Advance program. The director of the Advance shall report directly to the Advance Committee concerning the program and progress of the Advance, and shall be responsible administratively to the agency from which the director comes. The director of the Advance shall coordinate the total program of the Advance, including its promotion, cultivation, and administration, coordinating the staff work required of agencies within the Advance.

4. The Advance constitutes the official program of designated giving within The United Methodist Church (except for programs of United Methodist Women). A **general Advance special** is a designated gift made by an individual, local church, organization, or District or Annual Conference, as a means of fulfilling the purposes of the Advance to a specific project, program, or institution of service in missions or overseas relief, *provided* that the object of the gift has been authorized as a general Advance special by the Advance Committee. Agencies authorized to receive funds as general Advance specials shall be the World and National Divisions and the United Methodist Committee on Relief of the Board of Global Ministries, and other such agencies as designated by the Council on Ministries.

5. Advance specials shall be authorized only for work in accord with the purposes set forth above and for objects that can be visualized and described. Each such special object shall be approved by the Advance Committee, and no funds may be solicited for Advance credit for work not so authorized. Projects for Advance special support shall be proposed by the administering agency to the Advance Committee. An Annual Conference, local church, or individual may assume responsibility for an undesignated world, national, or overseas relief special, in which case the agency concerned shall determine where such special shall be allocated, shall inform the donor where his

or her gift has been invested, and shall as far as is practicable establish communication between donor and recipient. All specials authorized by the Advance Committee shall be reported in duplicate to the executive director of the Advance, and the administering agencies shall report to him or her on the progress or completion of work so financed.

6. Receipts for general Advance specials shall be remitted by the local church treasurer to the conference treasurer, who shall make remittance each month to the participating agencies in a manner determined by the general church treasurer. Individuals may remit directly to respective agencies in a manner determined by the general church treasurer.

7. Each administering agency shall, upon the receipt of funds for a general Advance special, communicate promptly with the donor, acknowledging receipt of the gift and, in the event that communication has not already been established, advise on steps for such communication.

8. Gifts as Advance specials may be made for broadly designated causes (such as a type of work, a country, or a region), or for use as block grants to a certain country or administrative unit. In such case the administering agency shall provide the donor with information about the area to which the funds have been given and, where practicable, establish communication with a person or group representative of that type of work.

9. There may be a conference Advance program, established and carried out in the same spirit as the general Advance program, with emphasis upon partnership across boundaries of race, nationality, and culture.

10. Conference Advance specials are monetary gifts, made within a conference Advance program for purposes consistent with the goals of the Advance.

11. Proposed conference Advance specials shall be approved and promoted by the conference Board of Global Ministries; *provided*, however, that such approval shall be given only to projects or programs administered as provided in §§ 12, 13, and 14 below.

12. Conference Advance specials may be administered by the conference Board of Global Ministries or by the National Division of the

General Board of Global Ministries on request of the Annual Conference concerned.

13. An Annual Conference may undertake a conference-wide campaign for a lump sum to be applied to its missionary and church-extension needs. The funds so received shall be designated as conference Advance specials and shall be administered by the conference Board of Global Ministries. Local churches shall report their respective contributions as conference Advance specials.

14. Unless the Annual Conference directs otherwise, 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 missionary society organized for that purpose or by a similar body set up by the District Conference. Such specials secured and administered on a district level shall be reported by each local church to the Annual Conference as conference Advance specials.

15. Local churches shall report their contributions to general Advance specials and conference Advance specials in the manner indicated on the Annual Conference report form.

16. It is recommended that each Annual Conference or district administering conference Advance specials set aside each year 10 percent of the amount received for that purpose for aid to the weaker and more urgent situations outside the conference and that such amount be remitted to the national Division of the General Board of Global Ministries, to be administered by it as a general Advance special.

¶ 851.\* I. The annual observance of the **One Great Hour of Sharing** shall be under the general supervision of the section on interpretation of the Joint Committee on Communications (¶ 906.3), in accordance with the following directives:

a) The One Great Hour of Sharing shall be observed annually on or about the fourth Sunday in Lent. All local churches shall be fully informed and encouraged to contribute a freewill offering in behalf of the crusade scholarship program, the overseas relief program, the ministry to servicemen overseas program of The United Methodist Church, and such capital-funds emergency projects of the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries as may be authorized by

\* ¶ 851 was printed in error. See Errata page 568.

the section on interpretation of the Joint Committee on Communications.

b) In connection with the One Great Hour of Sharing there shall be an emphasis on the spiritual implications of Christian stewardship.

c) The following participating agencies shall administer the funds in accordance with the ratios determined by the division: the Crusade Scholarship Committee for the Crusade Scholarship Fund, the United Methodist Committee on Relief for the Overseas Relief Fund, the World Division of the Board of Global Ministries for the Servicemen Overseas Fund in cooperation with the cooperative committee of the National Council of Churches, and the National Division for the capital-funds emergency projects.

d) The One Great Hour of Sharing offering shall be promptly remitted by the local church treasurer to the conference treasurer, who shall remit monthly to the general treasurer. The general treasurer shall distribute these funds to the participating agencies in accordance with the ratios determined by the Council on Ministries.

e) A One Great Hour of Sharing special gift voucher shall be issued (¶ 848.2), and local churches shall report the amount of the offering in the manner indicated on the Annual Conference report form.

f) The expense budget for promoting the One Great Hour of Sharing shall be subject to approval annually by the section on interpretation of the Joint Committee on Communications, and shall be a prior charge against receipts from these offerings.

2. The following general directives shall be observed in the promotion and administration of the Advance and One Great Hour of Sharing:

a) In the appeal and promotion of Advance specials and One Great Hour of Sharing offerings there shall be no goals or quotas except as they may be set by the Annual Conferences for themselves.

b) The treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration shall be treasurer of the Advance and One Great Hour of Sharing.

c) The expense of promotion for Advance specials shall be borne by the respective participating agencies in proportion to the amount received by each in Advance specials. The causes of the Advance shall be coordinated with other financial appeals and shall be promoted

by the central promotional office of the section on interpretation of the Joint Committee on Communications.

d) The appeal for Advance specials shall be channeled through bishops, district superintendents, and pastors, the details of the procedure to be determined by the section on interpretation of the Joint Committee on Communications in consultation with the Division of Education and Cultivation of the Board of Global Ministries and the Advance Committee.

e) In each Annual Conference the conference Board of Global Ministries (if any; see ¶ 1172), in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries, shall promote Advance specials and One Great Hour of Sharing offerings through district missionary secretaries, conference and district missionary institutes, and other effective means as it may determine.

f) Should a clear emergency arise, any feature of the structure and administration of the Advance may be altered on the approval of a majority of the Council of Bishops and of the Council on Finance and Administration.

¶ 852. The World Communion appeal (¶ 163.1b) shall be continued until it is deemed no longer needed, either by the General Conference or between its sessions by a three-fourths vote of the Council of Bishops and of the Council on Finance and Administration meeting separately. Each local church shall be requested to transmit, either through its conference treasurer or directly to the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration, under designation of the World Communion offering, all the Communion offering received on World Communion Sunday (the first Sunday in October) and that portion of the Communion offering received at subsequent observances of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. A World Communion special-gift voucher shall be issued (¶ 842.2), and local churches shall report the amount of the offering in the manner indicated on the Annual Conference report form. The treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration is authorized to distribute these receipts, after payment of promotional costs, as follows: 50 percent to the Crusade Scholarship Committee; 25 percent to the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries; 25 percent to the scholarship fund for minority groups.

¶ 853. *The General Administration Fund.*—1. The General Ad-

**ministration Fund** shall provide for the expenses of the sessions of the General Conference, the Judicial Council, such special commissions and committees as may be constituted by the General Conference, and such other administrative agencies and activities as may be recommended for inclusion in the general administration budget by the Council on Finance and Administration and approved by the General Conference. Any agency or institution requiring or desiring support from the General Administration Fund shall present its case for the same to the council at a time and place which shall be indicated by the officers of the council. The council, having heard such requests, shall report the same to the General Conference with recommendations for its action and determination.

2. The apportionments for the general administration budget shall not be subject to change or revision either by the Annual Conference or by the charge or local church.

3. The treasurer of the council shall disburse the funds received for the General Administration Fund as authorized by the General Conference and as directed by the council. Where the General Conference has not allocated definite sums to agencies receiving money from the General Administration Fund, the council or its executive committee shall have authority to determine the amount to be allocated to each.

¶ 854. *The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.*—The council shall recommend to the General Conference the sum which the Church shall undertake to provide as its share of the budget of the National Council of Churches, the World Council of Churches, the World Methodist Council, and such other interdenominational causes as may be recommended by the council and approved by the General Conference for inclusion in the interdenominational cooperation budget. United Methodist general agencies whose activities are primarily in the area of interdenominational and ecumenical relationships may also be included in this budget. The council shall also recommend to the General Conference for its action and determination the sum and conditions under which the expense of delegates of The United Methodist Church to official meetings of the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches may be paid. The sum approved by the General Conference for these purposes shall be the interde-

nominal cooperation budget. The money contributed by the local churches, boards or other agencies for this purposes shall be known as the **Interdenominational Cooperation Fund** and shall be received and held by the treasurer of the council and disbursed as the General Conference shall direct.

¶ 855. *The Temporary General Aid Fund.*—The council shall recommend to the General Conference the sum which the Church shall undertake for the purpose of providing grants-in-aid for pensions and minimum salaries to those Annual Conferences that qualify under a formula adopted by the General Conference. The purpose of this fund is to raise the level of pensions and minimum salaries of the former Central Jurisdiction conferences and the Rio Grande Annual Conference and their successors, and conferences merging with such conferences. The pension portion of this fund is to be administered by the General Board of Pensions, and the minimum salary portion by the council. The apportionment and distribution are to be made by the council in accordance with formulas approved by the General Conference.

¶ 856. *The Ministerial Education Fund.*—The council shall recommend to the General Conference the sum which the Church shall undertake for the Ministerial Education Fund and the method by which it shall be apportioned to the Annual Conferences, in accordance with the provisions adopted by the 1968 General Conference in establishing the Ministerial Education Fund. The purpose of the fund is to enable the Church to unify and expand its program of financial support for ministerial recruitment and education and to equip the Annual Conferences to meet increased demands in this area. The maximum amount possible from this fund shall go directly for program and services in theological education, ministerial enlistment, continuing education, and the courses of study.

1. Of the total money raised in each Annual Conference for the Ministerial Education Fund, 25 percent shall be retained by the Annual Conference which raised it, to be administered by its Board of the Ministry in its program of ministerial education. No Annual Conference which had been participating in a 1 percent plan or other conference program of ministerial student scholarships and loan grants prior to the establishment of this fund shall receive less for

this purpose than it received in the last year of the quadrennium preceding the establishment of the fund, *provided* the giving from that conference for ministerial education does not fall below the level achieved in the quadrennium preceding the establishment of the fund.

2. Of the total money raised in each Annual Conference for the Ministerial Education Fund, 75 percent shall be remitted by the conference treasurer to the treasurer of the council for distribution to the Division of the Ordained Ministry of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry for distribution as follows:

a) At least 75 percent of the amount received by the division from a jurisdiction shall be distributed by the division to the seminaries within that jurisdiction after the division has consulted with an appropriate jurisdictional committee, taking into account established amounts of Annual Conference support to specific seminaries. All money allocated to the theological schools shall be used for current operations, not for physical expansion.

b) The remaining portion of the amount received by the division shall be administered by it, in order of priority, for distribution to the seminaries of The United Methodist Church to correct inequities in appropriations to the seminaries, and for divisional use in the further development of the program in ministerial enlistment and continuing education. The plan intends that every seminary shall receive substantially more money for current operations than it received in the last year of the quadrennium preceding the establishment of the fund from all Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren Church sources (General, Jurisdictional, and Annual Conferences and local church sources), *provided* the jurisdiction in which the seminary is located meets its obligation to the nationwide Ministerial Education Fund.

3. This fund shall be regarded by Annual Conferences as a priority to be met before any additional benevolences, grants, or funds are allocated to a theological school or school of religion.

#### THE EPISCOPAL FUND

¶ 857. The Episcopal Fund, raised separately from all other funds, shall provide for the salary and expenses of effective bishops

and for the support of retired bishops and surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops. Subject to the approval of the Council on Finance and Administration, the treasurer shall have authority to borrow for the benefit of the Episcopal Fund such amounts as may be necessary for the proper execution of the orders of the General Conference.

¶ 858. The Council shall recommend to each quadrennial session of the General Conference for its action and determination: (1) the amounts to be fixed as salaries of the effective bishops; (2) a schedule of such amounts as may be judged adequate to provide for their expense of house, office, and travel; (3) the amounts to be fixed as annual pensions for the support of retired bishops; and (4) a schedule for allowance for the surviving spouses and for the support of minor children of deceased bishops. From the facts in hand the council shall estimate the approximate total amount required annually during the ensuing quadrennium to provide for the items of episcopal support above mentioned and shall report the same to the General Conference. This amount as finally determined shall be the estimated episcopal budget.

¶ 859. The council shall estimate what percentage of the total salaries paid pastors and associate pastors by the entire Church will yield an amount equal to the estimated episcopal budget and shall make recommendations to the General Conference concerning the same for its action and determination. When such percentage has been approved by the General Conference, it shall be the basis of the annual apportionment to each Annual Conference for the Episcopal Fund. The apportionment to each Annual Conference shall be an amount equal to the approved percentage of the total cash salaries paid to the pastors and associate pastors serving charges under episcopal appointment or as lay pastors, as reported to the current session of the Annual Conference. This apportionment shall be distributed to the pastoral charges as the conference may determine. In every case the amount apportioned to a charge for the Episcopal Fund shall be paid in the same proportion as the charge pays its pastor.

¶ 860. The treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration shall remit monthly to each effective bishop one twelfth of his annual salary and also one twelfth of his house rent or maintenance,

and office expenses as approved by the council. Allowances for retired bishops and for the surviving spouses and minor children of deceased bishops shall be paid to them severally in equal monthly installments.

¶ 861. The treasurer of the council shall pay monthly the claim for the official travel of each bishop upon presentation of an itemized voucher with such supporting data as may be required by the Council on Finance and Administration. "Official travel" of an effective bishop shall be interpreted to include all visitations to local churches within the area and to institutions or enterprises of The United Methodist Church where the bishop is called in the performance of official duties and such journeys outside the area as are within the meaning of "travel through the connection at large" (¶ 390.10). No part of the expense and no honoraria for any such visitations shall be accepted from local churches or enterprises or institutions of The United Methodist Church, such expense being a proper claim against the Episcopal Fund. Nothing in this interpretation is intended to preclude special or nonofficial engagements of a bishop, other than the oversight of the temporal and spiritual affairs of the Church, such as series of lectures in educational institutions, baccalaureate addresses, and preaching missions for several days' duration when such engagements do not interfere with official duties, nor does it preclude the acceptance of honoraria for such services.

¶ 862. *Pensions.*—1. The pensions for the support of retired bishops elected by General or Jurisdictional Conferences and the surviving spouses and minor dependent children of such deceased bishops shall be provided by means of a **contributory reserve pension fund**, to be held and administered by the Council on Finance and Administration in consultation with the General Board of Pensions.

2. The amounts of the annual pensions payable to such persons shall be determined by the General Conference on recommendation of the council.

3. Each bishop in active service shall contribute annually to the fund an amount equal to 3 percent of the bishop's cash salary. The treasurer of the Episcopal Fund is authorized and instructed to withhold from each bishop's salary the amount of this required contribution and pay it to the fund.

4. Any and all benefit derived from the contributions required of

a bishop shall be regarded as a part of the total amount of the pension payable to said bishop upon retirement and to the surviving spouse and minor dependent children.

5. The remainder of the cost of the reserve funding of such pensions shall be provided from the Episcopal Fund in accordance with such program and procedure as may from time to time be determined by the Council on Finance and Administration with the approval of the General Conference.

¶ 863. Should any effective bishop in the interim of the quadrennial sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference be relieved by the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction from the performance of regular episcopal duties on account of ill health or for any other reason, the president of the said College of Bishops shall so notify the treasurer of the Episcopal Fund. Beginning ninety days after such notification, the said bishop shall receive the regular pension allowance of a retired bishop, and such pension allowance shall continue until the regular duties of an effective bishop are resumed or until the bishop's status shall have been determined by the Jurisdictional Conference. Assignment of another bishop or bishops to perform the regular episcopal duties of a bishop so disabled or otherwise incapacitated, for a period of sixty days or more, shall be interpreted as a release of the said bishop from the performance of regular episcopal duties.

¶ 864. Should any retired bishop, in the interim of the quadrennial sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference, be called into active service by the Council of Bishops and assigned to active episcopal duty (¶ 391), that bishop shall be entitled to remuneration for such service out of the Episcopal Fund. In the event of such assignment of a retired bishop to active episcopal duty, the president of the Council of Bishops shall notify the treasurer of the Episcopal Fund, giving full information as to the nature and scope of the work assigned. On the basis of this information the Council on Finance and Administration or its executive committee shall determine what salary remuneration and what expense allowance shall be allowed the bishop concerned during the period of active service. The treasurer of the Episcopal Fund shall make remittance accordingly.

¶ 865. In determining the schedule of allowances for the surviving spouses of deceased bishops the following rules shall apply: each

beneficiary who prior to the death of the bishop had been that person's spouse for not less than fifteen years while said person was engaged in the effective ministry of The United Methodist Church, whether bishop or traveling preacher, shall receive the full allowance for the surviving spouse of a deceased bishop as ordered by the General Conference. The allowance of the surviving spouse of a deceased bishop who prior to the death of said bishop had been that person's spouse for less than fifteen years while said person was an effective minister of The United Methodist Church shall be determined on the basis of that fraction of fifteen years during which the survivor was the spouse of the deceased while that person was an effective minister of The United Methodist Church, whether a bishop or traveling preacher; *provided* that the Council on Finance and Administration may at its discretion increase the said allowance if special need exists, but in no instance shall the allowance of the surviving spouse of a deceased bishop exceed the full allowance as hereinbefore set forth.

#### THE CONFERENCE COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

¶ 866. Each Annual Conference shall elect, at its session next succeeding the General Conference, a **conference Council on Finance and Administration**, nominated by the district superintendents or a nominating committee, as the conference may determine, and composed of five ministers and six lay persons; *provided* that in smaller conferences the number may be reduced to not less than two ministers and three lay persons, and *provided*, further, that in every case there shall be at least one but not more than two lay persons more than ministerial included on the council. Their term of service shall begin with the adjournment of the said conference session, and they shall serve for the quadrennium and until their successors shall have been chosen. No member or employee of any conference board and no employee, trustee, or director of any agency or institution participating in the funds of the conference benevolence budget shall be eligible for membership on the council.<sup>6</sup> Any vacancy shall be filled by action of

<sup>6</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 10.

the council until the next conference session, at which time the Annual Conference shall fill the vacancy.

¶ 867. The council shall elect a president, a vice-president, and a secretary. The conference treasurer (¶ 877) shall be the treasurer of the council. As an employee of the council the treasurer shall not be a member of it but may sit with the council and its executive committee at all sessions and have the privilege of the floor but without vote. The treasurer shall be bonded in a surety company approved by the council and for an amount which the council judges to be adequate.

¶ 868. 1. 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 the chairperson's agency before the council.

2. In preparing the conference benevolence budget the council shall make diligent effort to secure full information regarding all conference benevolence and service causes that none may be neglected, jeopardized, or excluded. In studying the requests of conference program agencies for allocations from the conference benevolence budget, the council shall seek and consider the recommendations of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries regarding the askings of such agencies as they relate to conference program priorities. 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 benevolence budget; the council shall also recommend to the Annual Conference for its action and determination the amount or the percentage of the total of the conference benevolence budget which shall be apportioned to each cause included in the said budget.

3. The council shall make its budget recommendations to the Annual Conference on a form prepared by the Committee on Official Forms and Records and approved by the Council on Finance and Administration; when the budget has been approved by the Annual Conference, a copy shall be sent to the Council on Finance and Administration.

4. All agencies receiving financial support from conference benevolences or from any other authorized conference-wide appeal shall make audited reports to the council concerning all such receipts and the disbursements thereof in such detail and at such times as the council may direct.

¶ 869. 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 represented by voting membership on the conference Council on Ministries and institutions whose work is within the field of responsibility of one or more of those agencies. Administrative expenses which are directly related to the program, mission, and benevolent causes of conference program agencies 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 ministerial support funds as set forth in ¶¶ 887-896, allocations and expenditures of conference agencies responsible for administering ministerial support funds, or apportionments made to the Annual Conference by the General or Jurisdictional Conferences.

¶ 870. 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, shall combine the total World Service apportionment without reduction for the quadrennium<sup>7</sup> and the approved conference benevolence budget (¶ 868) in one total sum to be known as **World Service and Conference benevolences**. The total World Service apportionment as received from the Central Treasury and conference benevolence budget thus established shall include a statement of the percentage for World Service and the percentage for conference benevolences and shall be distributed as received annually among the districts or charges by the method determined by the conference (¶ 871) and by such divisions and ratios as the conference may approve. A like distribution shall be made of

<sup>7</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 348.

Jurisdictional Conference apportionments and any other apportionments that have been properly made to the Annual Conference. The distribution of all apportionments mentioned in this paragraph shall be subject to the approval of the Annual Conference.

¶ 871. The council shall recommend to the Annual Conference for its action and determination whether the apportionments referred to in ¶ 870 shall be made by the council to the districts only or to the charges of the conference. If the apportionments are made by the council to the districts only, then the distribution to the charges of each district shall be made as provided in ¶ 872. The conference may order that the entire distribution to all the charges of the conference be made by the district superintendents. The World Service and Conference benevolences apportionment to the charges of the conference, whether made by the conference directly, by the District Board of Stewards as provided in ¶ 872, or by the district superintendents, shall not be combined with any other General, Jurisdictional, or Annual Conference apportionment made to the charges of the conference.

¶ 872. Should the Annual Conference make the apportionments to the districts only, the distribution to the 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 (¶ 145.3). In that case it shall be the duty of the district superintendent to call a meeting of the board as soon as practicable after the adjournment of the Annual Conference, and the board shall make the distribution to the charges of the district, using such methods as it may determine, unless the Annual Conference shall have determined the method of distribution to the charges.

¶ 873. The council shall include in its recommendations to the Annual Conference the amounts computed by the conference Board of Pensions as necessary to meet the needs for pension and benefit programs of the conference.

¶ 874. The council shall report to the Annual Conference at each session the standard percentage approved by the General Conference for the Episcopal Fund as an apportionment to the Annual

Conference, as described in ¶ 859. This apportionment shall be distributed to the pastoral charges as the conference may determine.

¶ 875. The council, on receiving from the Council on Finance and Administration a statement of the amount apportioned to the Annual Conference for The World Service Fund (¶¶ 847-48) the General Administration Fund (¶ 853), the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund (¶ 854), the Temporary General Aid Fund and the Ministerial Education Fund, shall apportion the same to the several districts or charges as the conference may direct.

¶ 876. 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 salary and suitable provision for dwelling, travel, and office expense. The council shall recommend to the Annual Conference for its action and determination the amount estimated, including the salary and other allowances specified above, for each of the several district superintendents.<sup>8</sup> The council shall also recommend to the Annual Conference for its action and determination the basis and method by which the total amount shall be apportioned to the districts or charges in harmony with ¶ 888. The conference treasurer shall, as far as practicable, remit monthly to the several district superintendents the amounts due them, respectively, and with the approval of the Annual Conference the council or the treasurer, as the conference may determine, may borrow the funds necessary to make this possible. If an Annual Conference adopts the basic salary plan (¶ 893) for ministerial support, the support for the several district superintendents thereof shall be included therein. The amounts necessary to provide for suitable dwelling, travel, and office expense may be included in the basic salary budget or apportioned separately as the conference may determine.

¶ 877. Each Annual Conference, on nomination of its Council on Finance and Administration, shall at the first session of the conference after the General Conference elect a **conference treasurer**.<sup>9</sup> The treasurer shall serve for the quadrennium or until a successor shall

<sup>8</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 44.

<sup>9</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 185.

be elected and qualify. If a vacancy should occur during the quadrennium, the council shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the Annual Conference. The council shall have authority and supervision over the treasurer. After consultation with the bishop in charge, it may remove the treasurer from office for cause and fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference. The council shall have the accounts of the conference treasurer for the preceding conference year audited by a certified public accountant within ninety days after the close of the conference fiscal year.<sup>10</sup>

¶ 878. All amounts contributed in each local church for World Service and conference benevolences shall be remitted monthly by the local church treasurer to the conference treasurer, who shall each month divide the total amount thus received, 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 benevolence budget. The conference treasurer shall make monthly remittances of the share received for conference benevolences to the treasurers of the several agencies for conference work according to the rightful share and proportion of each. The treasurer shall remit monthly to the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration the total share received for World Service. When the amount contributed during the year for World Service and conference benevolences exceeds the amount apportioned to or accepted by the Annual Conference, the entire share contributed for World Service shall be remitted in regular order to the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration before the end of the fiscal year.<sup>11</sup>

¶ 879. The conference treasurer shall remit monthly to the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration the amounts received and payable for the General Administration Fund, the Episcopal Fund, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, and the Temporary General Aid Fund. All amounts received for World Service special gifts, Advance special gifts, the World Communion offering, the One Great Hour of Sharing, the United Methodist Committee

<sup>10</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 334.

<sup>11</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 306, 332.

on Relief, and all other general causes not otherwise directed, shall also be transmitted.

¶ 880. The conference treasurer shall make each month a full report of all general funds handled to the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration and annually a report of all receipts, disbursements, and balances of all funds under the conference treasurer's direction, which report shall be printed in the conference journal. The reports shall be made on forms authorized by the council (¶ 842.11) so that all financial items going outside the local church shall be handled alike in all districts and conferences, and uniformity of financial reporting shall be established as a churchwide policy.

¶ 881. The council shall provide a suitable bond for the conference treasurer and shall designate a depository or depositories for conference funds. It shall require the treasurers of all conference boards and agencies to be properly bonded in companies approved by the council and shall require that their books be properly audited at least annually. The council shall recommend to the Annual Conference the amount in which the treasurers of all unincorporated boards or commissions shall be protected by fidelity insurance, and application for such fidelity bonds shall be made by the corporate body of the Annual Conference, and the costs shall be provided for out of the funds held by the unincorporated board or commission so insured. Institutions and organizations that are incorporated under the laws of the state shall secure fidelity bonds for the treasurers of their funds and shall pay the cost of the premium required.

¶ 882. For the sake of economy and efficiency the Annual Conference may constitute the conference treasury as a depository for funds designated for any or all conference boards and agencies participating in the conference benevolences, eliminating as far as possible the necessity of a treasurer for each. In this event the conference treasurer shall keep a separate account for each such conference board or agency, enter the proper credits in each at the end of each month's business, and disburse the same on proper order from each board or agency, respectively. None of the above-designated accounts shall be drawn on for the benefit of another.

¶ 883. The council shall cooperate with the General Council on Finance and Administration and with the general Board of Discipline

ship in promoting and standardizing the financial system in the local churches of the conference.

¶ 884. No Annual Conference board or interest, such as a school, college, university, or hospital, shall make a special conference-wide appeal to the local churches for funds without the approval of the Annual Conference 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.

¶ 885. When application is made to the conference for the privilege of a special conference-wide financial appeal, whether by special collections, campaigns, or otherwise, the application shall be referred to the council before final action is taken thereon. 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. Such application for privilege of a special appeal may be made directly to the council for recommendation to the Annual Conference.

¶ 886. The various conference agencies shall report each year to their respective Annual Conferences the salaries and other expenses allowed each secretary in their employ, and they shall be published in the conference journal.

#### MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

¶ 887. Assumption of the obligations of the itinerancy, 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 entire ministry of the Church. In view of this the claim for ministerial support in each pastoral charge shall include provisions for the support of pastors, district superintendents, bishops, and conference claimants.<sup>12</sup>

¶ 888. 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 (¶ 857), for the support of district superintendents and conference claimants, and for the

<sup>12</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 306.

Equitable Salary Fund (¶ 892), whether by percentages based on the current cash salary paid to the ministers serving pastoral charges under episcopal appointment and to lay pastors or by some other method.<sup>13</sup>

¶ 889. When the apportionments for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Salary 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 ministerial salary or salaries (¶ 859). 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 ministry and shall remit, monthly if practicable and quarterly at the latest, the items for bishops, district superintendents, conference claimants, and the Equitable Salary Fund to the proper treasurer or treasurers.<sup>14</sup>

¶ 890. The several Charge Conferences shall determine the pastors' salaries according to the provisions of ¶ 145.9.

¶ 891. No pastor shall be entitled to any claim for unpaid salary against any church or charge served after pastoral connection with the church or charge has ceased.

¶ 892. *Equitable Salaries.*—1. It shall be the purpose of the equitable salary system to provide for the most effective assignment of conference ministerial manpower and financial resources within the framework of the conference program. Each Annual Conference is expected to develop and maintain guidelines and policies for the effective deployment of ministerial manpower.

2. Each Annual Conference shall adopt a schedule of equitable salaries for pastors and shall create a **Commission on Equitable Salaries**, composed of ministers and lay persons, to administer it. The commission shall carefully study the number and extent of the needs for additional ministerial support within the conference and the sources of income and with the approval of the conference Council on Finance and Administration shall present to the conference for adoption a schedule of equitable salaries, subject to such rules and regulations as the conference may adopt so long as the rules do not

<sup>13</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 208.

<sup>14</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 320.

conflict with the provisions of this legislation. The schedule may allow for differences in living conditions, number of dependents in pastor's family, and any other variants the conference may direct.

3. In so far as practicable this schedule of equitable salaries shall be observed by the bishops and district superintendents in arranging charges and making appointments.

4. The Commission on Equitable Salaries shall present its estimate of the amount required to comply with the schedule of equitable salaries for the pastors, as adopted by the conference, to the conference Council on Finance and Administration, which shall apportion the amount as an item of ministerial support to the districts or the charges as the conference may direct.<sup>15</sup>

5. The Equitable Salary Fund, secured as described in § 4, shall be used to provide each pastor who receives less than the equitable salary with an additional amount sufficient to make the salary approved by the pastoral charge plus the supplemental aid or income from other sources equal to the equitable salary approved by the conference; *provided* that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as limiting the right of an Annual Conference to set a maximum amount to be used in attaining such equitable salary in any given case.

6. The Commission on Equitable Salaries shall see that the amounts for equitable salaries are collected and disbursed.

7. Consistent with the provisions of this paragraph, the primary responsibility for the payment of pastoral salaries remains with individual pastoral charges.

¶ 893. *Basic Salary Plan.*—1. An Annual Conference may by a two-thirds majority vote at any regular session adopt a **basic salary plan** for the support of its active itinerants and lay persons who are giving their full time to the ministry of the Church; *provided*, however, that it shall not institute the basic salary plan until the plan has been approved and ratified by a majority vote of the members of the Charge Conferences present and voting in 75 percent of the pastoral charges of such conference. The district superintendents shall certify to the conference secretary the results of the votes taken in the several Charge Conferences.

<sup>15</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 90, 179.

2. The basic salary plan shall provide an established salary schedule for the support of the regular active itinerants and lay pastors giving their full time to the ministry of the Church, which may allow for differences of living conditions, number of dependents in the family, and other variants. On recommendation of the conference Council on Finance and Administration the basic salary schedule may be changed from time to time by a majority vote of the Annual Conference.<sup>16</sup>

3. The conference Council on Finance and Administration shall estimate the amount necessary to provide such ministerial support as may be required by the schedule adopted, which amount shall be distributed as an apportionment to the districts or pastoral charges by a method to be determined by the conference.

4. The amounts due from the pastoral charges on apportionment shall be paid to a conference treasury established for that purpose, and all basic salaries due shall be paid from that treasury. The basic salary provided for each minister concerned shall constitute his entire salary except as hereinafter provided.

5. Any pastoral charge which has made adequate provision for paying its apportionments for all ministerial support items in full may augment the basic support of its pastor.

6. The conference Council on Finance and Administration shall administer the basic salary plan and shall be responsible for collecting and disbursing the funds.

¶ 894. *Sustentation Fund.*—An Annual Conference may establish a **Sustentation Fund**, which shall be administered by the conference Council on Finance and Administration or some other agency created or designed for the purpose of providing emergency aid to the ministers of the conference who may be in special need. On recommendation of the council, the amount needed for this purpose may be apportioned to the pastoral charges as the conference may determine.

¶ 895. The total of all travel, automobile, and other expenses allowed and paid to a pastor in addition to his salary shall be reported for insertion in the journal of the Annual Conference, in a separate column from that of pastor's salary and adjacent thereto. These ex-

<sup>16</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 65, 70.

penses shall be distinguished from the moving expenses of a new appointee to a pastoral charge.

¶ 896. Every ministerial member of an Annual Conference appointed to any other field than the pastorate or district superintendency shall furnish annually to the conference secretary, at the time of the conference session, a statement of his remuneration, and the salaries or remuneration of all ministers in special service shall be published in the journal of the Annual Conference.<sup>17</sup>

#### Section IV. Joint Committee on Communications.

¶ 897. *Name.*—There shall be a **Joint Committee on Communications** which shall be administratively related to and amenable to the General Council on Ministries.

¶ 898. *Incorporation.*—The committee or its subunits may be incorporated. These corporations shall be successor corporations to the corporations whose functions are assigned to them. They shall be incorporated in such state or states as the committee may elect.

¶ 899. *Organization.*—The affairs of the committee shall be governed by a board of managers composed of thirty persons of whom ten shall be from the membership of the General Council on Ministries, ten elected by the Council on Finance and Administration from its membership, and ten elected at large by the committee for their expertise in the field of communication. It is recommended that the ten at-large members shall include at least one representative of each of the following groups: Asian-Americans, Blacks, Hispanic-Americans, Indian-Americans, and youth.

¶ 900. *Meetings.*—The committee shall hold at least one meeting in each calendar year. Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 901. *Officers.*—The committee shall have a president, at least one vice-president, a recording secretary, and such other officers as the committee determines, elected from its membership.

¶ 902. *Executive Committee.*—There may be an executive committee, one-third elected by the General Council on Ministries and one-third elected by the Council on Finance and Administration and one-third by the members at large.

<sup>17</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 345.

¶ 903. *Elected staff.*—The General Council on Ministries shall elect upon nomination by the Joint Committee an executive secretary to serve the committee. The board of managers of the committee shall elect the number of associate executive secretaries which may be needed and such additional staff persons which may be needed to perform its work. The executive secretary shall cooperate with the general secretary of the Council on Ministries in order to coordinate the communication services performed by the committee with the work of the council.

¶ 904. *Internal Organization.*—There shall be three areas of work within the committee. The committee is empowered to organize itself in any way that it deems advisable to carry out its functions.

¶ 905. *Finance.*—Provision for the financial needs of the committee shall be provided by the General Conference upon recommendation by the Council on Finance and Administration.

¶ 906. *Functions.*—The aim of the committee is to serve the General Council on Ministries and the general boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church is helping to meet their communication needs. There shall be three areas of communication functions: United Methodist Information and Public Relations; Television, Radio, and Film Communication; Program and Benevolence Interpretation.

1. *United Methodist Information and Public Relations.*—This area of work shall be the official general news gathering and distributing agency for The United Methodist Church and its general agencies. In discharging its functions, it shall at all times be permitted to operate with complete editorial freedom as an independent news bureau serving all segments of church life and society. It may arrange with other general agencies for some persons in those organizations to represent the section in direct release of United Methodist news items to the religious and public news media.

It shall have general supervision over planning public relations and procedures for making releases throughout the Church in the United States. It may encourage and work with area and conference directors of public relations, may assist in pastor's schools and conduct seminars in public relations, and may prepare instruction materials for local church use concerning public relations.

It shall maintain a cooperative relationship with the editors of all boards and other agencies and with the editors of area and conference periodicals.

There may be area, conference, and district United Methodist Information Committees to be constituted and organized as the respective governing bodies may determine. Such committees shall be related to the general section.

2. *Television, Radio, and Film Communication.*—The functions of Television, Radio, and Film Communication shall be:

a) To unify and coordinate the audio-visual programs of all United Methodist agencies dealing with projected pictures, recordings, transcriptions, radio and television programs, and other audio-visual materials. The section is assigned the responsibility in the United States for presenting the faith and work of the Church to the general public by radio and television broadcasting and by such other audio and visual media as may be available.

b) To make the studies necessary for the development of a unified and comprehensive program of audio-visuals for the Church and to plan, create, produce, or cause to be produced materials that are informative and vital to this program and the religious life of all United Methodists.

c) To represent The United Methodist Church in the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches and in other interdenominational agencies working in the area of mass communication. Budget allocations and other funds granted to ecumenical agencies shall be administered in accordance with ¶ 1097.7.

d) To provide funds for scholarships and other training opportunities to prepare qualified persons for full-time Christian service in this field, and to work with other United Methodist agencies in providing training opportunities for ministers and lay leaders in order to assist them to develop effective communications.

3. *Interpretation.*—The functions of Interpretation shall be:

a) To determine and implement, after consultation with the Council on Finance and Administration, policy governing the promotion and cultivation of all financial causes or undertakings demanding churchwide promotion or publicity, including the Advance.

(1) To establish and maintain a central promotional office, oper-

ating under the joint committee's authority and direction, for the purpose of promoting throughout the Church the program of World Service, Advance specials, One Great Hour of Sharing, World Communion offerings, the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, and other general benevolence causes except as otherwise directed by the General Conference.

(2) After consultation with the Council on Finance and Administration, to employ all available means of communication in carrying out its purpose throughout The United Methodist Church. In preparing its materials the joint committee shall give attention to the inseparable relationship between giving for benevolence and education in Christian stewardship. Appeals for giving that are made to United Methodists shall be consistent with the aims of Christian stewardship. The committee shall cooperate with the Board of Discipleship to the end that stewardship education materials of that board and promotional materials of this committee shall be in harmony.

(3) To publish a program journal for pastors and other church leaders which shall present the program and promotional materials of the general agencies in a coordinated manner and shall be in lieu of general agency promotional periodicals.

#### Section V. Board of Publication.

¶ 907. *Publishing Interests.*—The General Board of Publication comprises the publishing interests of The United Methodist Church and shall hereafter be designated as The United Methodist Publishing House. It shall have responsibility for and supervision of the publishing and printing for The United Methodist Church. The General Board of Publication shall through agencies or instrumentalities it deems necessary achieve the objectives set forth in ¶ 919. The General Board of Publication shall provide publishing and printing services for other boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church and shall share with other boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church in the total program of The United Methodist Church, as well as share in the total ecumenical program in the area of printing and publishing for the advancement of the cause of Christ and his

Kingdom as the General Board of Publication shall determine to be appropriate.

¶ 908. *Organization.*—The General Board of Publication, hereinafter called the board, constituted coincident with or next following the Declaration of Union of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church, shall consist of forty-five members, including two bishops selected by the Council of Bishops. Five members shall be members at large elected by the board. The remaining members shall be elected by the Jurisdictional Conferences on a ratio which will provide for an equitable distribution among the various jurisdictions, based on the memberships thereof; *provided* that no jurisdiction shall be represented by fewer than two members. Membership on the board shall be equally divided, as far as practicable, between ministers and lay persons. Membership shall also be by classes based on term of office for one or two quadrenniums, attention being given to the principle of rotation so that, as far as practicable, one half of the membership shall be elected each quadrennium. It shall be the duty of the secretary of the General Conference to inform the various jurisdictional secretaries of the number of members to be elected from their jurisdictions, the ratio of such representation being computed on the basis of the latest official membership statistics available. In case a vacancy occurs between sessions of the Jurisdictional Conferences for any cause, the board shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term from that jurisdiction in the representation of which the vacancy occurs, except in the case of members at large where such vacancies would be filled by the board in the prescribed manner without regard to geographic or jurisdictional relationship. The publisher of The United Methodist Church (¶ 920) shall be an ex officio member of the board without vote.

¶ 909. The board shall hold at least one meeting in each calendar year. The place and time of all meetings shall be designated by the board, but if it fails to do so, then the time and place shall be designated by the chairperson. It shall convene at such other times on call of the chairperson or by the board or by the executive committee. At all meetings of the board a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 910. The board shall keep a correct record of its proceedings

and make written report thereof to the Church through the General Conference.

¶ 911. The members of the board and all officers of the board elected by it shall hold office until their successors are chosen and the new board is duly organized.

¶ 912. The board is authorized to perfect its organization from its membership, including the offices of chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary. The board shall elect from its membership an **executive committee** of sixteen members, including the chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary of the board, who shall serve respectively as chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary of the committee. Not more than four members of the executive committee shall be from any one jurisdiction, and for the first three quadrenniums following the Declaration of Union two members shall be from the former Evangelical United Brethren Church. The bishops serving on the board shall be ex officio members, and the publisher of The United Methodist Church (¶ 920) shall be an ex officio member without vote. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the executive committee shall be filled by it, subject to confirmation by the board at its next meeting.

¶ 913. The executive committee shall have and may exercise all the powers of the board except those expressly reserved by the board and/or by the Discipline for board action. It shall meet quarterly to examine the affairs under its charge and shall keep and submit to the board correct records of its proceedings. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson on his or her own initiative and shall be called on the written request of five members of the executive committee. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 914. The board shall be the successor in interest to and carry on the work of the Board of Publication of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Board of Publication of The Methodist Church.

¶ 915. *The United Methodist Publishing House.*—1. The board is empowered and authorized in its discretion to cause the general operations, if any, of the five existing corporations to be conducted under the name of **The United Methodist Publishing House**. The corporations are: The Methodist Book Concern, a corporation existing under

the laws of the State of New York; The Methodist Book Concern, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Ohio; The Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania; Book Agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Tennessee; and the Board of Publication of The Methodist Church, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Illinois.

2. The board is authorized and empowered at any time it may deem such action to be desirable or convenient to take corporate action in the name of said corporations to surrender the charter or charters of one or several or all of said corporations or to merge, consolidate, or affiliate such corporations, or any of them, in compliance with appropriate state corporation laws.

¶ 916. The members of the board shall serve and act as directors or trustees of the corporations named in ¶ 915.

¶ 917. The corporations named in ¶ 915 are agencies or instrumentalities through which The United Methodist Church conducts its publishing, printing, and distribution in the name of The United Methodist Publishing House in accordance with the objectives set forth in ¶ 919. Each of these corporations shall comply with the policies set forth in ¶ 817.

¶ 918. The board shall examine carefully the affairs of The United Methodist Publishing House and make written report thereof to the Church through the General Conference.

¶ 919. *Objectives.*—The objectives of The United Methodist Publishing House shall be: the advancement of the cause of Christianity throughout the world by disseminating religious knowledge and useful literary, scientific, and educational information in the form of books, tracts, multimedia, and periodicals; the promotion of Christian education; the implementation of any and all activities properly connected with the publishing, manufacturing in a variety of media, and distribution of books, tracts, periodicals, materials, and supplies for churches and church schools, including the ecumenical outreach of Christianity, and such other activities as the General Conference may direct.

¶ 920. *Direction and Control.*—The United Methodist Publishing

House shall be under the direction and control of the board, acting through an executive officer elected quadrennially by the board, who shall be the publisher of The United Methodist Church, and such other officers as the board may determine.

¶ 921. The net income from the operations of The United Methodist Publishing House, after providing adequate reserves for its efficient operation and allowing for reasonable growth and expansion, shall be appropriated by the board and distributed annually on the basis of an equitable plan provided by the General Board of Pensions to the several Annual Conferences for the persons who are and shall be conference claimants.

¶ 922. The net income from the operations of The United Methodist Publishing House shall be appropriated to no other purpose than its own operating requirements and for persons who are or shall be conference claimants as provided in ¶¶ 20 and 921.<sup>18</sup>

¶ 923. The members of the board and their successors in office are declared to be the successors of the incorporators named in the charters of The Methodist Book Concern issued by the states of New York and Ohio and in the charter of The Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church issued by the state of Pennsylvania. The executive officer of the board, elected from time to time under this or any subsequent Discipline, is declared to be the successor in office of the Book Agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, named in the charter issued to the corporation of that name by the State of Tennessee.

¶ 924. Subject to the provisions of ¶ 920 and to the continuing control and direction of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church as set forth from time to time in the Discipline, the board is authorized and empowered to cause the operations of The United Methodist Publishing House to be carried on and the objectives defined in ¶ 919 to be achieved in such manner, through or by means of such agencies or instrumentalities, and by use of such procedures as the board may from time to time determine to be necessary, advisable, or appropriate, with full power and authority in the

<sup>18</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 322, 330.

premises to take all such action and to do all such other acts and things as may be required or found to be advisable. In particular, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the board is authorized and empowered, for the purposes of this section:

1. To use, manage, operate, and otherwise utilize all property and assets of every kind, character, and description of four corporations—namely The Methodist Book Concern, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of New York; The Methodist Book Concern, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Ohio; The Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania; and Book Agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Tennessee—as well as all income from such property and assets and the avails thereof, all with liability or obligation to account for such property and assets, the use thereof, the income therefrom, and avails thereof, only to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church or as it shall direct.

2. To cause each of the said corporations to take all such action and to do all such things as the board may deem necessary or advisable to carry out the intent and purposes of this paragraph. The governing body of each of the said corporations from time to time shall take all action which the board deems necessary or advisable to carry out the intent and purposes of this paragraph. The board shall cause all legal obligations of said four corporations, now existing or hereafter incurred, to be met, fulfilled, and performed.

3. To continue to exercise the powers and administer the duties and responsibilities conferred on it as an agency of The United Methodist Church through the corporation named Board of Publication of The Methodist Church, incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois in accord with authority delegated to it by the General Conference of 1952, or through such other means and agencies as it may from time to time determine to be expedient and necessary in order to give full effect to the purposes expressed in this section.<sup>19</sup>

¶ 925. 1. The property, assets, and income of the Illinois corporation shall be held by it, under the direction of the board, as an

<sup>19</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 330.

agency of The United Methodist Church and shall at all times be subject to the control and direction of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church as set forth from time to time in the Discipline.

2. In carrying out and executing its operations and functions, the Illinois corporation shall be entitled to hold, use, manage, operate, and otherwise utilize all property and assets of every kind, character, and description of each of the four corporations identified in ¶ 924.1 (other than its corporate powers and franchises) and all income therefrom and avails thereof for the purposes and objectives defined in this section.

3. The governing body of each of the five existing corporations under the direction of the board shall from time to time take all such action as the board deems necessary or advisable to carry out the intent and purposes of this paragraph and section.

4. The Illinois corporation shall be liable for and shall execute and satisfy all legal obligations of each of the four corporations named in ¶ 924.1, but neither it nor the board shall have or be under any obligation to account for principal and income to any such other corporation or to otherwise report to any of them.

¶ 926. Pursuant to the Declaration of Union of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church and under the authority of ¶¶ 939, 950-54 of the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 1968, The Otterbein Press, an Ohio corporation, and The Evangelical Press, a Pennsylvania corporation, have been legally dissolved and their charters have been surrendered. The proceeds of their corporate assets have been and are being administered pursuant to said Disciplinary provisions.

¶ 927. *Officers of the Corporations.*—The officers of each corporation under the direction of the board shall be elected annually in accordance with its charter and bylaws.

¶ 928. The executive officer (publisher) elected pursuant to ¶ 920 shall also be elected the president of each corporation under the direction of the board.

¶ 929. The board shall fix the salaries of the officers of the corporations and shall report the same quadrennially to the General Conference.

¶ 930. The board shall require the president to submit quarterly to the executive committee and annually to the board written reports of the financial condition and operating results of The United Methodist Publishing House.

¶ 931. The president (publisher) and the board shall have authority to extend the activities of The United Methodist Publishing House in such manner as they may judge to be for the best interests of the Church.

¶ 932. The board shall require the president and other corporate officers to give bond conditioned on the faithful discharge of their respective duties. It also shall authorize the execution of a blanket bond covering all staff personnel whose responsibilities justify such coverage. The amount of the bonds shall be fixed by the board, and the bonds shall be subject to the approval of the board. The premiums shall be paid by The United Methodist Publishing House, and the chairperson of the board shall be the custodian of the bonds.

¶ 933. The board shall have power to suspend, after hearing, and to remove, after hearing, the president or any of the officers for misconduct or failure to perform the duties of their offices.

¶ 934. *Book Editor.*—The board shall elect quadrennially a **book editor**, who shall have joint responsibility with the publisher for approving manuscripts considered for publication. The book editor shall edit all the books of our publication, and the periodical *Religion in Life*. In the case of materials authorized by the Program-Curriculum Committee in the field of Christian education which are to be edited by the editor of church school publications, the book editor shall collaborate with that editor whenever such collaboration is necessary or desired. The book editor shall perform such other editorial duties as may be required by the board. The book editor shall not have responsibility for materials issued by other agencies of the Church for program or promotional purposes.

¶ 935. The board, at its discretion, may continue the publication of the periodical *Religion in Life*, with the book editor responsible for its editorial content.

¶ 936. The board shall fix the salary of the book editor.

¶ 937. The board shall have power to suspend or remove, after

hearing, the book editor for misconduct or failure to perform the duties of the office.

¶ 938. *General Church Periodicals.*—1. The board is authorized to publish a periodical for pastors and other church leaders and a periodical for the general church membership, which shall be a general magazine, informative and vital to the religious life of all United Methodists. The board may, at its discretion, issue such editions of the official periodicals as in its judgment may be deemed advisable. In consultation with the Council on Ministries it shall explore ways and means of making the pages of these periodicals available to other general agencies to the extent possible, either through acceptable editorial channels or by paid insertion as the need may indicate. It shall make available to the council the operating statements of these periodicals and shall furnish such other relevant information as the council may request (¶ 828.15).

2. The editors of these periodicals shall be elected quadrennially by the board after consultation with the Council on Ministries through a joint committee composed of the chairperson and two other members of the council and the chairperson and two other members of the board, one of whom shall be a bishop. One of the editors shall be designated as editorial director. The editorial director shall be responsible for administration of the work of this unit, establish general editorial policy, and be responsible for final determination of editorial content of the general church periodicals.

3. The board is authorized to issue such editions or combinations of the general church periodicals in a variety of formats and communication media as in its judgment will best serve the general communication needs of The United Methodist Church.

4. All other details relating to the publishing and distribution of these periodicals, not specifically delegated to the editors, shall be under the direction of the publisher.

5. The board shall fix the salaries of the editors.

6. The board shall have power to suspend or remove, after hearing, any editor for misconduct or failure to perform the duties of the office.

¶ 939. *Church School Publications.*—There shall be an editor of church school publications, elected as set forth in ¶ 1016.

¶ 940. The editor of church school publications shall be responsible for the preparation of all curriculum materials as set forth in ¶ 1007.

¶ 941. The curriculum of the church school shall be determined by the Program-Curriculum Committee, which shall include in its membership the vice-president in charge of publishing, and the publisher, as set forth in ¶ 992.

¶ 942. The board shall fix the salary of the editor of church school publications and shall have full financial responsibility for all expenses connected with this work.

¶ 943. The publications of the Division of Education of the Board of Discipleship shall be manufactured, published, and distributed through The United Methodist Publishing House. In matters involving financial responsibility the final determination in every case shall lie with the board. After consultation with the publisher, the editor of church school publications shall prepare a complete budget for this work, including salaries of assistants and office secretaries and travel, etc., to be effective when approved by the board, and shall direct its operation from year to year.

¶ 944. There shall be one complete, coordinated system of literature published by the board for the entire United Methodist Church. This literature is to be of such type and variety as to meet the needs of all groups of our people.

¶ 945. The board and the publisher shall have authority to decline to publish any item of literature when in their judgment the cost would be greater than should be borne by The United Methodist Publishing House.

¶ 946. The editor of church school publications (¶ 1016) and the chairperson of the Division of Education of the general Board of Discipleship shall have the right to sit with the board and shall have the privilege of the floor without vote for the consideration of matters pertaining to the joint interests of the board and the division.

¶ 947. The United Methodist Publishing House shall explore and engage in cooperative publication of United Methodist church school curriculum resources wherever both The United Methodist Publishing House and the Section on Curriculum Resources of the General Board

of Discipleship find this to be practicable and in harmony with related editorial and publishing policies.

¶ 948. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the program and promotional materials of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, or of the Section on Local Church Education of the Division of Education of the General Board of Discipleship.

¶ 949. *Printing for Church Agencies.*—It is recommended that the general agencies and institutions of The United Methodist Church have all their printing done by The United Methodist Publishing House (¶¶ 628, 841.4).

¶ 950. *Distributing for Church Agencies.*—It is recommended that all general agencies of The United Methodist Church use the distribution system of The United Methodist Publishing House for distribution of resources, materials, and supplies needed for use in the local church.

¶ 951. *Real Estate and Buildings.*—The United Methodist Publishing House shall not buy, sell, or exchange any real estate except by order of the General Conference or, between sessions of the General Conference, by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the board; nor shall the board authorize any new buildings or make any improvements, alterations, or repairs to existing buildings to cost in excess of \$500,000 except by order of the General Conference or, between sessions of the General Conference, by a two-thirds vote of all members of the board. In either case such vote shall be taken at a regular or called meeting of the board, and if at a called meeting, the purpose of this meeting shall have been stated in the call.

¶ 952. The erection of a new building or the improvement, alteration, or repair of an existing building involving an expenditure of not more than \$500,000 may be authorized by the vote of a majority of the executive committee. These provisions shall not prevent the making of investments on mortgage security or the protection of the same or the collection of claims and adjustments. (See ¶ 951 above, for additional requirements and restrictions.)

¶ 953. *Annual Conference Committee.*—1. There may be organized in each Annual Conference Council on Ministries a **Committee on Publishing Interests** (¶ 831.5), consisting of no fewer than three

nor more than five members at large. The resident bishop, the conference or area director of public relations and United Methodist information, the conference director of the Annual Conference Board of Discipleship and any resident member of the Board of Publication shall be members *ex officio*. There may be also one additional person from each district, to be designated **district secretary of publishing interests**.

2. The committee may meet at least once before or during every regular conference session and may act in cooperation with the board in promoting the work of the board within the bounds of the conference.

#### Section VI. Board of Church and Society.

¶ 954. *Name.*—In keeping with the historic concerns of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church, there shall be a **General Board of Church and Society** in The United Methodist Church. This board shall be incorporated.

¶ 955. *Purpose.*—Its purpose shall be to relate the gospel of Jesus Christ to the members of the Church and to the persons and structures of the communities and world in which they live. It shall seek to bring the whole life of man and woman, their activities, possessions, and community and world relationships, into conformity with the will of God. It shall show the members of the Church and the society that the reconciliation which God effected through Christ involves personal, social, and civic righteousness. To achieve this purpose the board shall project plans and programs that challenge the members of The United Methodist Church to work through their own local church, through ecumenical channels, and through society toward such righteousness; to assist the district and annual conferences with needed resources in areas of such concerns; to analyze the issues which confront the person, the local community, the nation, and the world; and to encourage Christian lines of action which assist humankind to move toward a world where peace and justice are achieved. Prime responsibility of the board is to implement the Social Creed (¶ 77).

¶ 956. *Authority.*—It shall be the responsibility of the board and its executives to give forthright leadership and witness on those social

issues that call Christians to action as forgiven people for whom Christ died. The board shall speak to the Church, and to the world, its convictions, interpretations, and concerns, recognizing the freedom and responsibility of all Christians to study, interpret, and act on any or all recommendations in keeping with their own Christian calling.

¶ 957. *Organization.*—The Board of Church and Society, hereinafter referred to as the board or the general board, shall be composed according to the instructions defined for all program boards in ¶¶ 803-804 of the general provisions. Liaison relationships with other boards may be fulfilled through at-large categories of board and division membership.

¶ 958. *Vacancies.*—Vacancies in the board membership shall be filled by the procedure defined in ¶ 816 of the general provisions.

¶ 959. *Officers.*—The board shall elect a president, four vice-presidents, each of whom shall serve as the chairperson of one division; a recording secretary; and such other officers as it may determine.

¶ 960. *Executive Committee.*—The board shall elect an executive committee, which shall consist of the officers of the board and four additional members from each of the four divisions of the board, one of whom shall be the recording secretary of the division. Not more than five members of the executive committee shall be from one jurisdiction. This committee shall have the power ad interim to fill any vacancies occurring in the elected staff and to transact such business as is necessary between the meetings of the board. It shall report all of its actions to the board promptly after each of its meetings and again for confirmation at the next meeting of the board.

¶ 961. *Nominating Committee.*—A nominating committee of six members shall be constituted. It shall be composed of one member, ministerial or lay, from each jurisdiction, chosen by the board members from that jurisdiction, and one bishop chosen by the bishops who are board members. The bishop shall serve as convener. This committee shall nominate the officers of the board (¶ 959).

¶ 962. *Meetings.*—1. The board shall meet quadrennially for purposes of organization and other necessary actions after the adjournment of the General Conference and not later than October 15 of that year. The organizational meeting shall be convened by the bishop

designated by the Council of Bishops for that purpose, and the bishop shall fix the time and place.

2. The board shall hold an annual meeting, at a time and place to be determined by its executive committee, and such other meetings as its work may require, and shall enact suitable bylaws governing the activities of the board and its employees. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 963. *Predecessor Boards.*—The members of the board shall constitute the membership of its predecessor boards, namely the Board of Christian Social Concerns of The United Methodist Church; the Department of Christian Social Action of The Evangelical United Brethren Church; the Board of Christian Social Concerns of The Methodist Church; and the Board of Temperance and its legal predecessors, the Board of World Peace and its legal predecessors, and the Board of Social and Economic Relations, all of The Methodist Church.

¶ 964. *Financial Support.*—1. The work of the board shall be supported from the general benevolences of the Church, the amount to be determined by the General Conference following the budgeting procedures established by ¶ 842.

2. Either on behalf of its total work or on behalf of one or more of its divisions, the board may solicit and create special funds, receive gifts and bequests, hold properties and securities in trust, and administer all its financial affairs in accordance with its own rules and the provisions of the Discipline. Funds vested in any of the predecessor boards shall be conserved for the specific purposes for which such funds have been given.

¶ 965. *Divisions.*—1. The board shall be organized into four divisions: Division of General Welfare, Division of World Peace, Division of Human Relations, and Division of Emerging Social Issues.

The membership of the board shall be divided among the divisions as provided in ¶ 804 of the general provisions.

2. Each division shall organize itself with a vice-president of the board as chairperson, and shall elect a recording secretary. It shall also elect three of its own number by written ballot who, together with the chairperson and recording secretary, shall constitute the executive

committee of that division. The members of the divisional executive committee shall be members of the executive committee of the board.

¶ 966. Each division shall meet at the same time and place as the board. A special meeting of the division may be held on the call of its chairperson or of three members of its executive committee or of a majority of its members. All expenses of such special meetings shall be chargeable to the budget of the division.

¶ 967. 1. The members assigned to each division shall have the responsibility of establishing policies relating to the work of that division and its staff, subject to the approval of the board.

2. The divisions shall carry forward cooperatively the total work of the board through the Annual Conferences and districts, in the local churches, and in such other places and by such means as they may have opportunity to present the witness of Christian social concern.

¶ 968. *General and Associate General Secretaries.*—1. The general secretary shall be an ex officio member of the board, of its executive committee, and of the executive committee of each division, without vote. The general secretary shall be the chief administrative officer of the board, responsible for the coordination of the total program of the board and for the general administration of the headquarters office and of such facilities and functions as serve all three divisions of the board.

2. Under the supervision of the general secretary there shall be a staff treasurer, who shall have charge of the financial operations of the board, property management, the service department, purchasing, and such other duties assigned by the board. Also under supervision of the general secretary shall be such other staff persons as are deemed necessary by the board.

3. The associate general secretaries shall have primary responsibility for those Christian social concerns which are assigned to their particular divisions. Within this area and under the direction of the division and its executive committee, the associate general secretaries with their staffs, shall develop a program of research, education, and action, bringing these concerns to the attention of the denomination and of the communities they serve. They shall be responsible, under the direction of the division and its executive committee, for the ad-

ministration of the budget, including the income from trust funds allocated to their divisions. The three associate general secretaries shall cooperate with one another and with the general secretary to prevent undue overlapping in the work of the divisions and to avoid conflicts in scheduling of meetings and conferences.

¶ 969. *Headquarters.*—The headquarters location shall be determined by the Council on Ministries.

#### DIVISION OF EMERGING SOCIAL ISSUES

¶ 970.—1. It shall be the responsibility of the **Division of Emerging Social Issues** to conduct a program of research, education, and action centering around newly emerging social issues which need to be called to the attention of the Church.

2. The work assigned to the division shall be carried forward by the associate general secretary and such other staff members as the division shall determine, subject to budget allocations. The staff shall report to the division at the time of the annual board meeting concerning the work of the past year and plans proposed for further implementation of its assigned responsibilities.

#### DIVISION OF GENERAL WELFARE

¶ 971. 1. It shall be the responsibility of the **Division of General Welfare** to conduct a program of research, education, and action, centering around the following Christian social concerns: alcohol problems, tobacco, drug abuse, gambling, sex and moral values and pornography, juvenile delinquency, crime and rehabilitation, mental health, medical care, problems of the aging, population problems, family life, planned parenthood, public safety, morality and mass media, community welfare policies and practices, and such other related concerns as the board may specify.

2. The work assigned to the division shall be carried forward by the associate general secretary and such other staff members as the division shall determine, subject to budget allocations. The staff shall report to the division at the time of the annual board meeting concerning the work of the past year and plans proposed for further implementation of its assigned responsibilities.

3. To implement United Methodist concern for the problems of alcohol and drug abuse as expressed in the Social Principles (¶ 73 I) and the resolution on "The Addictive Society" (see *The Book of Resolutions*, 1968, p. 57), the second Sunday in November will be set aside to emphasize drug and alcohol concerns for the purpose of:

a) Educating the constituency on the nature and extent of alcohol and drug abuse problems from theological, ethical, and sociological perspectives.

b) Fostering understanding and acceptance of the dimensions of Christian responsibility in one's decisions about alcohol and drugs and in the Church's concern for the personal and social problems related to alcohol and drugs, especially the addictive and dependency disorders.

c) Enlisting United Methodists and others for effective action to alleviate social problems that contribute to and issue from alcohol and drug abuse; to work in the development of new and improved services and facilities for the treatment and rehabilitation of individuals suffering from alcohol and drug abuse problems; to develop a healing, reconciling, and sustaining community in the Church for such persons; to strengthen the resources of family, Church, and community to help persons grow into the kind of maturity which makes it possible to cope with the tensions of life without undue dependence upon alcohol and drugs; and to foster a social and cultural environment conducive to responsible decision-making.

d) Encouraging abstinence from the use of alcoholic beverages as one form of personal and social witness to God's liberating love for mankind.

#### DIVISION OF WORLD PEACE

¶ 972. 1. It shall be the responsibility of the **Division of World Peace** to conduct a program of research, education, and action, centering around the following Christian social concerns: American foreign policy; United Nations and related international organizations; disarmament and nuclear weapon control; space control; foreign aid, tariffs, and trade; immigration and naturalization; military policy and conscription legislation; conscientious objectors and the draft; and

such other concerns as the board may specify. The general policies shall be established by the division, subject to the approval of the board.

2. The work assigned to the division shall be carried forward by the associate general secretary and such other staff members as the division shall determine, subject to budget allocations. The staff shall report to the division at the time of the annual board meeting concerning the work of the past year and plans proposed for further implementation of its assigned responsibilities.

3. To enlist United Methodists and encourage others to promote international brotherhood and good will and to challenge church members to creative action for world order, the Sunday preceding Reformation Sunday shall be observed as **World Order Sunday**.

#### DIVISION OF HUMAN RELATIONS

¶ 973. 1. It shall be the responsibility of the **Division of Human Relations** to conduct a program of research, education, and action, centering around the following Christian social concerns: race relations, extremist movements, civil liberties, application of democratic principles related to voting, public policy on education, Church and state relations, labor-management relations, agriculture, conservation, government and private economic policy and practice, technological and social change, employment, poverty, urbanization, housing, and such other concerns as the board may specify. The general policies shall be established by the division, subject to the approval of the board. It shall work closely with the Commission on Religion and Race (¶¶ 1278-80) to coordinate common race relations concerns.

2. The work assigned to the division shall be carried forward by the associate general secretary and such other staff members as the division shall determine, subject to budget allocations. The staff shall report to the division at the time of the annual board meeting concerning the work of the past year and plans proposed for further implementation of its assigned responsibilities.

3. To enlist United Methodists and encourage others to cooperate in studies and discussions and to work toward a better understanding in all human relations, the division shall seek to enlist

all churches to cooperate fully in the observance of Labor Sunday, Race Relations Sunday, and other days related to this area of concern.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

¶ 974. *Amenability.*—The Board of Church and Society shall be amenable to the General Conference and ad interim to the General Council on Ministries. It shall report quadrennially to the General Conference. It shall work with the Council on Ministries in all matters relating to the development and promotion of program for jurisdictional boards, conference boards, and local churches, in order that its program emphasis may be integrated into the total unified program of the Church.

¶ 975. *Bylaws.*—The Board of Church and Society shall provide its own bylaws, which shall not violate any provisions of the constitution or the Discipline, and which may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting thereon at a regular or special meeting; *provided* that notice of such amendment has previously been given to the members.

¶ 976. *Amendments.*—The constitution of the Board of Church and Society can be amended only by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 977. *Jurisdictional Boards.*—In each jurisdiction there may be a jurisdictional Board of Church and Society auxiliary to the general board, as the Jurisdictional Conference may determine (¶¶ 26.3, 624).

¶ 978. *Annual Conference Boards.*—1. The Annual Conference shall determine the necessity for a conference Board of Church and Society. Should the conference determine not to create such a board, it shall be the responsibility of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries to provide for the connectional relationship between the general board and conference, district and local church organizations.

2. The conference board, in cooperation with the general board and the Annual Conference Council on Ministries, shall develop and promote programs on Christian social concerns within the bounds of the conference. To this end it may divide its membership into three committees of approximately equal size, patterned after the divisions

of the general board. They shall have responsibility to cooperate with one another to advance the concerns of their respective divisions.

3. 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.

4. 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.

¶ 979. *District Committees.*—The district superintendent, after consultation with the conference board, may appoint a district director of Christian social concerns and, if desired a district Committee on Church and Society of lay persons and ministers to work with the district superintendent to further the purposes of the conference board. The chairperson of Christian social relations of the district United Methodist Women shall be an ex officio member. If the Annual Conference so orders, three district directors shall be appointed, each to represent the interests of one of the divisions within the general board.

¶ 980. *Local Church Commissions.*—For the program of Christian social concerns in the local church see ¶ 159.4.

#### Section VII. Board of Discipleship.

¶ 981. *Purpose.*—There shall be a Board of Discipleship. Within the expression of the total mission of the Church outlined in the Aims of Mission of the Council on Ministries, the Board of Discipleship exists for the primary purpose of assisting Annual Conferences, districts, and local churches in their efforts to win persons as disciples of Jesus Christ and to help these persons to grow in their understanding of God that they may respond in faith and love, to the end that they may know who they are and what their human situation means, increasingly identifying themselves as children of God and members of the Christian community, to live in the Spirit of God in every relationship and to fulfill their common discipleship in the world.

¶ 982. *Incorporation.*—The Board of Discipleship, hereinafter referred to as the board, shall be incorporated under the laws of

whatever state the Council on Ministries shall determine and shall be the legal successor and successor in trust of the General Board of Education of The United Methodist Church; the General Board of Christian Education of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Board of Education of The Methodist Protestant Church; the Board of Sunday Schools of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Epworth League of The Methodist Episcopal Church; the Board of Christian Education of the Evangelical United Brethren Church; the Board of Christian Education of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; the Board of Christian Education of the Evangelical Church; The Board of Education of The Methodist Church; and such educational boards and societies as may have been merged to constitute these boards; the General Board of Evangelism of The United Methodist Church; the Board of Evangelism of The Methodist Church; the Board of Evangelism of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and such evangelism boards and societies as may have merged to constitute these boards; the General Board of the Laity of The United Methodist Church; the General Board of Lay Activities of The Methodist Church; the Department of Christian Stewardship and the general organization of Evangelical United Brethren Men of the Evangelical United Brethren Church; the Commission on Worship of The United Methodist Church; and it is authorized and empowered at any time it may deem such action to be desirable or convenient to take corporate action to merge, consolidate, or affiliate such corporations in compliance with appropriate state corporation laws so as to accomplish as nearly as may legally be possible the end result of which the Board of Discipleship and it shall be the one legal entity authorized to act on behalf of the interest heretofore and hereafter in the name of one or the other said corporations.

¶ 983. *Organization.*—1. The board shall consist of the number of members as defined in ¶ 803 of the general provisions. It shall be organized to accomplish its work through elected officers as prescribed in ¶ 807.

2. Within the board, there shall be a Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship; a Division of Lay Life and Work; and, a Division of Education.

¶ 984. *Financial Support.*—The financial support of the board and

its divisions shall be determined as follows: the General Conference shall determine and provide the budget for the board in accord with procedures defined in ¶ 842.

The Board of Discipleship is hereby instructed to assume the management and publication of *The Upper Room* and to produce and distribute such literature as that now represented by *The Upper Room* for the cultivation of the devotional life; *provided*, however, that no funds either now in hand or hereafter accumulated by *The Upper Room* or other devotional and related literature hereafter produced shall be used for the support of other features of the board's work, but that all net income from the sale of such publications shall be conserved by the board for the purpose of preparing and circulating such literature; *provided*, however, that this shall not prevent the setting up of a reserve fund out of such income as a protection against unforeseen emergencies.

The cost of other materials and resources produced by the various divisions of this board shall be included as a part of the operational budget of the divisions with the net income accruing therefrom being taken into account at the time of the distribution of the World Service Fund to the Board of Discipleship. The Board of Discipleship shall be responsible for the coordination of the production of these resources and insofar as possible cooperate with the Board of Publication in their printing and distributing.

When special evangelistic missions are conducted or other special projects undertaken by the board, freewill offerings may be received toward defraying their expenses.

¶ 985. *Amenability of Divisions.*—The divisions shall be amenable to and report regularly to the board and its executive committee.

¶ 986. The president of the board, the general secretary, and the treasurer shall have the power to execute on behalf of the board legal papers such as conveyances of real estate, releases on mortgages, transfer of securities, contracts, and all other legal documents.

¶ 987. *Organization of Divisions.*—The divisions shall be organized as follows:

1. *Membership.*—The divisions shall be composed of board members as provided in ¶ 803. In order to provide for division members

with special knowledge and experience, the divisions shall have authority to elect members at-large to the divisions in accord with ¶ 804.

2. *Meetings.*—The divisions shall meet in conjunction with the meeting of the board. Special meetings of any division may be held upon the call of the chairperson of the division, or on written request of one-fifth of its members. One-third of a division's members shall constitute a quorum.

3. *Officers.*—Each division shall have a chairperson, elected by the board, such vice-chairpersons as necessary as section heads, and a recording secretary, elected by the division. The divisions shall determine the power and duties of their officers.

4. *Executive Committee.*—Each division may elect an executive committee and establish such rules as necessary for its meetings and the carrying out of its duties.

5. *Division Staff.*—The associate general secretary elected by the board shall be the administrative officer of his or her respective division. Each associate general secretary shall sit with the division and all its regular committees. In all of these relationships he or she shall have the right of the floor without the power to vote.

¶ 988. *Functions.*—All of the functions assigned to the separate divisions shall be considered to be the functions of the board. In addition to these, the board shall have authority:

1. To publish a special audience news media directed toward the local church age-level coordinators, the work area chairpersons of evangelism, stewardship, and worship, the pastor and the other local church officers for whom the board and its divisions have primary responsibility.

2. To assign to one or several of its divisions any programs adopted by the General Conference or the Council on Ministries, and assigned to the board.

3. To coordinate and harmonize the work of its divisions.

4. To review and act upon reports of the divisions, the committees, and their officers and staffs.

5. To relate to all Annual Conference agencies and their committees and local-church administration officers; age-level coordinators; age-level councils; work area chairpersons for evangelism, stewardship,

worship, and local-church education; and their commissions and task groups.

6. To establish appropriate organization of the board, its divisions and its staff, including the creation or discontinuation, as deemed necessary, of section committees, task forces, and consultations to carry out the regular or special duties of the board.

7. To cooperate with the various agencies of the Church in the training and nurturing of ministers and lay persons for leadership in the areas of evangelism, stewardship, worship, and local church education, in creating new congregations, and in initiating new forms of ministry.

8. To provide programs for the training of pastors, parents, teachers, officials, and others in the work of the local church and to promote these programs through various types of training schools, correspondence work, and such other agencies as it may see fit to establish. It shall have authority also to promote and conduct educational conferences, councils, assemblies, and other meetings in the interest of church schools and Christian education of children, youth, and adults, and in the interest of improved leadership.

9. To make the studies necessary for the development of a unified and comprehensive program of leadership training to serve all age groups in the home, church, and community.

10. To provide for representation in ecumenical and interdenominational agencies as they relate to the work of the board.

11. To provide such bylaws as necessary to facilitate the work of the board, which shall not violate any provisions of the Discipline; and which may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting thereon at a regular or special meeting; *provided* that written notice to such amendment has been given to the members and the vote thereon shall be delayed at least one day.

#### THE PROGRAM-CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

¶ 989. The educational program of the Church calls for curriculum plans for children, youth, and adults that are graded and based on the Bible, on the universal gospel of the living Christ, and on sound educational principles. Such curriculum plans shall include the

traditions, purposes, programs, and movements of the Church. They shall include the Bible, the heritage of the faith, personal and social ethics, and mission through churchmanship, including worship, leadership education, stewardship, witness, and service. The aim of this curriculum shall be the achievement of the purpose of the board (¶ 981).

¶ 990. The Board of Discipleship shall organize and administer a **Program-Curriculum Committee** for the purpose of designing and authorizing the development of an official curriculum for the Church. This curriculum shall coordinate all of the educational programs and curriculum plans, including the courses for the education of leaders, which are provided by the boards, commissions, and other agencies of the Church for use in the educational ministry of the local churches of the denomination. The authorized curriculum shall be consistent with the educational philosophy and approach formulated for the educational ministry of the Church by the Board of Discipleship. The authorized curriculum shall become the official curriculum of the Church when it has been approved by the Board of Discipleship after review of the full, detailed design recommended by the Program-Curriculum Committee. The committee shall be administratively related and responsible to the Board of Discipleship.

¶ 991. In its curriculum function the committee shall develop an overall plan for experiences through which children, youth, and adults may have opportunities for commitment and growth in Christian faith and service. These teaching-learning experiences will be planned for such educational settings as the church school, confirmation classes, outdoor experiences, family life, leadership education, and others, formal and informal. In its program function, the committee shall develop underlying assumptions and recommend plans concerning grouping, grading, educational settings, leadership enterprises, and teaching-learning theory as these are related to the curriculum. The recommendations of the committee shall be presented to the Section on Local Church Education (¶¶ 998-1006) and the Section on Curriculum Resources (¶¶ 1007-18) for action. The Program-Curriculum Committee may approve and recommend existing or projected resources from other agencies.

¶ 992. The Program-Curriculum Committee shall consist of thirty-seven voting members selected quadrennially as follows:

1. Twenty-one members at large, one of whom shall be a bishop, at least seven of whom shall be pastors, and at least seven of whom shall be lay persons presently engaged in the educational ministry in the local church.

The members at large shall be elected by the Board of Discipleship, on nomination of its secretarial council, with due consideration to our diversity in theological perspectives, educational attainments, ethnic differences, and sizes of local churches, in consultation with the Council on Ministries Director and the Board of Discipleship of each Annual Conference (if any; see ¶¶ 1029-30).

2. Sixteen members from the program boards as follows: the four general secretaries of the program boards or someone designated by them; the four associate general secretaries from the Board of Discipleship; the publisher; the vice-president in charge of publishing; the editors of adult, youth, and children's publications; and three persons from the Section on Local Church Education designated by the assistant general secretary of that section.

¶ 993. The Program-Curriculum Committee may select other persons to assist in its work as follows:

1. *Consultants.*—The Program-Curriculum Committee may invite persons, upon nomination of the boards and agencies of the Church, to serve as consulting members of the Program-Curriculum Committee. They shall have full privilege of membership in the sections and task forces to which they are assigned.

2. *Specialists.*—The Program-Curriculum Committee may designate other persons of special interest or technical competence to aid the committee in its work.

¶ 994. The work of the Program-Curriculum Committee shall be financed by the divisions of the Board.

#### DIVISION OF EDUCATION

¶ 995. The total Christian educational program of The United Methodist Church for use in local churches shall be developed by the

**Division of Education** for incorporation in the total church program. It shall include the educational emphases and activities of all the general departments and interests of the denomination, such as evangelism, stewardship, missions, Christian social action, and Bible instruction. It shall be developed as a comprehensive, unified, and coordinated Christian educational program for children, youth, and adults in local churches and shall be promoted and administered by the Division of Education in cooperation with those agencies responsible for Christian education in jurisdictions, Annual Conferences, districts, and local churches.

¶ 996. The executive committee of the Division of Education shall be composed of the chairperson and recording secretary of the division and the officers of the advisory committees of the constituent sections. The chairperson of the division shall be elected from the membership of the division. The chairperson shall preside over the meetings of the division and of the executive committee. The associate general secretary shall be the chief administrative officer of the division.

¶ 997. The Division of Education shall cooperate with the Board of Global Ministries in carrying on the residual functions of the former Interboard Committee on Christian Education and of the former Interboard Committee on Missionary Education and submit the proposal for the fulfillment of these functions to the Council on Ministries.

#### SECTION ON LOCAL CHURCH EDUCATION

¶ 998. *Program and Work.*—1. The program and work of Christian education, as directed by the General Conference, shall be under the supervision of the **Section on Local Church Education**. The section shall be responsible for the development of a clear statement of the biblical and theological foundations of Christian education, consistent with the doctrine of The United Methodist Church and the purpose of the board. The section shall have general oversight of the educational interests of the Church in the United States as directed by the General Conference, and shall carry responsibility for the advancement of Christian education in other lands, in accordance with

the provisions of ¶ 1346 of the 1968 Book of Discipline.<sup>20</sup> The section shall devote itself to studying, supervising, strengthening, evaluating, and extending the educational ministry of the Church. It shall be responsible for the educational program which is carried on through the structure adopted for the local church.

2. The total Christian educational program of The United Methodist Church for use in local churches shall be developed by the Section on Local Church Education. The educational program shall seek to encourage persons to commit themselves to Christ and membership in His Church; to learn about and participate in the Christian faith and life; and to develop skills which enable them to become effectively involved in the ministry of God's people in the world. It shall include the educational emphases and activities of all the general departments and interests of the denomination, such as evangelism, stewardship, missions, Christian social action, and Bible instruction. It shall be developed as a comprehensive, unified, and coordinated Christian educational program for children, youth, adults, and families in local churches and shall be promoted and administered by the Division of Education of the general Church in cooperation with those agencies responsible for Christian education in jurisdictions, Annual Conferences, districts, and local churches.

3. The educational ministry in local churches shall provide for study, worship, fellowship, and service, including social, recreational, evangelistic, stewardship, and missionary activities as education in the Christian way of life.

¶ 999. *Functions.*—The section shall organize as may be necessary for carrying on the educational ministry throughout the whole life span of persons. The section shall be responsible for the following functions:

1. Providing general oversight to the total educational ministry for local churches, including: the church school and related activities; individual or group study; fellowship and action groups for children, youth, and adults; day care centers; choirs; drama groups; mission

<sup>20</sup> ¶ 1346 reads: "Other agencies of the United Methodist Church shall conduct work in foreign fields only with the consent of and in cooperation with the Board of Missions."

studies; preparation for confirmation; camping; education of the mentally retarded and others of special need; special Bible study groups; human relations workshops; training in churchmanship; continuing education for adults and educational ministries with older adults.

2. Formulating and interpreting the educational philosophy and approach which shall undergird and give coherence to all of the educational work of the Church.

3. Providing guidance for local churches in organizing classes and groups for the study of the Bible and the Christian tradition of beliefs and values.

4. Developing educational approaches in a variety of settings which appeal to persons with different life-styles and theological perspectives and which will enable persons of different ethnic and cultural groups to appropriate the gospel for their own life situation.

5. Developing under the direction of age level and family life specialists, the educational ministries of the Church in keeping with learning capacities of persons, backgrounds, levels of development, and providing the field and support services for leaders, teachers, and supervisors of these constituencies.

6. Developing, resourcing, and supporting flexible systems of organization and administration to provide for the Church's ministries with children, youth, adults, and families at the local, district, and conference levels with the cooperation of other agencies.<sup>21</sup>

7. Engaging in educational research, experimentation, and innovation, and testing educational procedures and evaluating programs and methods to discover more effective ways to help persons achieve the purpose as set forth in ¶ 981. This will include authority to experiment with and develop the use of educational technology and new communication media for the purpose of Christian education and the self-

<sup>21</sup> Action by the 1972 General Conference assigned similar responsibilities to the Section on Local Church Education and the Division on Lay Life and Work with regard to age-level and family ministries (cf. ¶¶ 1025-26, 1027.5). While the Editorial Committee recognized the conflict, the committee decided to let the legislation stand as passed by the General Conference, with the understanding that the newly created Board of Discipleship will foster a cooperative approach toward age-level and family ministries between its Section on Local Church Education and its Division on Lay Life and Work, under the authority given in ¶ 985.

development of persons in homes, churches, communities, and unstructured settings.

8. Providing guidance for local churches to promote participation through membership and attendance among children, youth, and adults in a wide variety of settings.<sup>22</sup>

9. Initiating programs of teacher recruitment, development, training, and retraining in biblical, theological, and ethical thinking, as well as in procedures and methods.

10. Providing guidance and training for volunteer workers recruited for Christian service. It shall offer training courses and other aids needed for vocational guidance.

11. Developing the leadership competencies of those who serve as members of Councils on Ministries, and as coordinators of age level and family ministries in local churches, districts, Annual Conferences, and jurisdictions. This will include designing leadership training models, guiding training specialists in planning and conducting leadership development enterprises and other appropriate means, and may be done in cooperation with other agencies where appropriate.<sup>22</sup>

12. Providing programs for the training of pastors, parents, teachers, officials, and others in the work of the local church and promoting these programs through various types of training schools, correspondence work, and such other agencies as it may see fit to establish.

13. Designing, guiding, resourcing, and conducting leadership development enterprises specifically for teachers and educational leaders at all levels including district and conference, and such other leaders as may be assigned.

14. Providing, in behalf of the whole Church, resources and training procedures for coordinators of the Church's work with children, youth, adults, and families at the local church, district, and conference levels.<sup>22</sup>

15. Providing, in behalf of the whole Church, program proposals, resources and leadership development opportunities for a unified ministry with families at the local church, district, conference, jurisdictional, and national levels.<sup>22</sup>

16. Providing for instruction concerning the significance and work

<sup>22</sup> See note 21.

of the Church and the functions of its various officers and boards, and for education for churchmanship with the cooperation of other agencies.

17. Planning for and providing education in the processes and procedures by which teaching, learning, and educational communication occur, and in the selection, development and use of learning resources, media, and technology.

18. Providing multi-media resources that interpret educational policies and guidance for educational workers in the Annual Conference, district, and local churches in cooperation with the Section on Curriculum Resources, The United Methodist Publishing House, and other agencies.

19. Implementing the program plans developed in cooperation with other boards and agencies in the Program-Curriculum Committee, and seek to interpret and support the curriculum plans developed by the Program-Curriculum Committee.

20. Providing a unified program of missionary education for all age groups in local churches and suggested aids for teaching in colleges, universities, and schools of theology in cooperation with the Board of Global Ministries.

21. Providing guidance, resources, and other assistance for the work of Christian education outside the United States, subject to the provisions of ¶ 1346 of the 1968 Book of Discipline.<sup>23</sup>

22. Cooperating with the Board of Global Ministries in the planning and execution of programs for the strengthening and development of the town and country ministries of The United Methodist Church and of interdenominational cooperation in these fields.

23. Cooperating with the Board of Global Ministries and the Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship in jointly developing and recommending architectural standards for facilities needed to house the Church's program of worship, education, and fellowship, and for parsonages; and to cooperate in recommending training ventures to interpret these commended standards.

¶ 1000. *Educational Standards.*—The section shall establish and maintain standards and shall give direction to the program of Chris-

<sup>23</sup> See note 20.

tian education in local churches, in districts, in conferences, and elsewhere.

1. The section shall set standards and provide guidance concerning programming, leadership, grouping, and grading procedures for the various educational settings of the Church.

2. The section shall establish standards for the church school which will include programming, leadership, a definition of membership, organizational procedures, and a system for recording and reporting membership and attendance.

3. The section shall cooperate with the Office of Personnel in developing standards governing the work of local-church directors, ministers, and associates of Christian education and educational assistants and concerning their certification as provided in ¶ 1038. It is authorized to cooperate with the Christian Educators Fellowship of The United Methodist Church in developing and strengthening the educational ministry of the Church, and in other ways as may be mutually agreed.

4. The section shall cooperate with the Office of Personnel (¶ 1243b) in developing standards governing the work of local church ministers, directors, and associates of music and music assistants and shall serve as may be possible in advancing this field of work in the Church. It shall cooperate with the Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians in developing an effective ministry of education in music and hymnody in local churches and other settings for which the Church has responsibility, and in other ways as may be mutually agreed.

5. The section shall develop standards governing all types of camping in regard to physical facilities, program, and leadership. All camps shall be available to persons without regard to race or national origin.

6. The section shall set educational standards and provide guidance for local churches in equipment, arrangement, and design for church school buildings and rooms.

¶ 1001. The section shall cooperate with other boards and agencies as follows:

1. The section shall cooperate with other general boards and

agencies in the promotion of stewardship, evangelism, missionary education, and social action.

2. The section shall cooperate with the Board of Higher Education and Ministry in giving guidance to the training of directors and ministers of education and of music (¶ 1038).

3. The section shall cooperate with other divisions in the Program-Curriculum Committee in designing, developing and supporting program-curriculum for the Church which will coordinate the educational processes, programs, and curriculum resources, including the courses for the education of leaders, which are provided by the boards, commissions, and other agencies of the Church for use in the educational ministry of the local churches of the denomination.

4. It shall, in cooperation with the Section on Curriculum Resources; the Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship; the Board of Higher Education and Ministry; the Women's Division; and the Division of Health and Welfare Ministries of the Board of Global Ministries; and the Board of Church and Society, establish a **Committee on Family Life** to promote the concerns of Christian family living, which may include the planning of national, regional, and area conferences on family life and cooperation in the development and support of the World Family Life Committee of the World Methodist Council.<sup>24</sup>

5. The section shall be responsible for developing a unified program of missionary education for all age groups in the local church and for developing aids for teaching in colleges, universities, and schools of theology.

a) The section shall cooperate with the Board of Global Ministries and other divisions of the board in the interest of effective missionary education including: (1) providing missionary information through the church school literature, preparing curricular and other materials for missionary education; (2) developing educational approaches and educational channels for missionary giving of children, youth, and adults; and (3) carrying on the residual functions of the former Inter-board Committee on Missionary Education.

b) The missionary education program shall include provisions for

<sup>24</sup> See note 21.

(1) linking emerging philosophies of mission and of education and information flow between the respective staffs and boards; (2) developing and disseminating models for new approaches to mission study, including travel and study seminars; (3) involving various agencies in the design and development of ecumenical mission education resources; (4) curriculum planning for education in mission; (5) certifying of leaders for schools of mission through developing educational criteria; (6) varied styles of missionary education appropriate to different groups, including age groupings; (7) comprehensive listing of mission resources for leaders; and (8) opportunities for persons in local churches to express missionary interest through educational giving channels, such as the Children's Fund for Christian Missions.

6. The section shall have authority to cooperate with the jurisdictional, Annual Conference, district, and local church agencies responsible for education, with other agencies of the Church, and with ecumenical agencies in cooperative enterprises to further the cause of Christian education.

¶ 1002. *Educational Meetings.*—The section shall have authority to promote and conduct educational conferences, councils, assemblies, and other meetings in the interest of church schools and Christian education of children, youth, and adults, and in the interest of improved leadership.

¶ 1003. *Authority Concerning Youth Ministry.*—1. The section shall have the authority to enable and strengthen the ministry with and to youth at all levels of the Church, including the calling together of youth and adults. It shall have authority to cooperate with other agencies of the Church, ecumenical and secular agencies, jurisdictions, Annual Conferences, districts, and local churches.\* The section shall cooperate with the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry (¶¶ 1071-76) in providing a ministry of youth at the Annual Conference, jurisdiction, and general church levels.

2. The section shall have the authority to enable and strengthen the ministry with and to young adults at all levels of the Church, including the calling together of young adults and adults.

¶ 1004. *Church School Extension.*—1. The section shall be authorized to project and promote plans for church school extension through-

\* A new phrase was added by legislation to this ¶. See Errata page 568.

out the Church and to cooperate in the strengthening of Christian education in mission territory.

2. The section shall have the responsibility to develop, in cooperation with jurisdictional agencies responsible for education, a general program and plan to further within the Annual Conferences all the interests of the Christian education within the purview of the division.

¶ 1005. *Authority to Solicit Funds.*—1. The section shall have authority to receive and administer funds, gifts, or bequests that may be committed to it for any portion of its work and to solicit, establish, and administer any special funds that may be found necessary for the carrying out of its plans and policies.

2. Only such special solicitations as are approved by the Section on Local Church Education may be promoted in the church schools. The section may solicit special contributions in the church schools for its own area of work.

3. In the discharge of its responsibility for Christian education in The United Methodist Church, the Section on Local Church Education may establish, and provide for participation by church school groups in a fund (or funds) for missions and Christian education in the United States and overseas. Plans for the allocation of, administration of, and education for this fund (s) shall be developed cooperatively by such means as the Section on Local Church Education shall determine in consultation with the Board of Global Ministries.

¶ 1006. *Residual Functions.*—1. The functions of the former general Committee on Family Life shall be carried by the Section on Local Church Education.

2. The functions of the former Interboard Committee on Missionary Education shall be carried by the Section on Local Church Education.

#### SECTION ON CURRICULUM RESOURCES

¶ 1007. There shall be a **Section on Curriculum Resources**, which shall have responsibility for the development of curriculum resources for use in the educational ministry of the Church. Curriculum resources are designed to help local churches carry out the various aspects of educational ministry for children, youth, and adults. These

resources shall be designed to meet the needs of the varied constituencies in the Church and to support the several aspects of educational ministry, including study and discussion, worship, fellowship, and service, and are for use in a variety of settings both formal and informal—the church school, outdoor settings, family life, leadership education. Curriculum resources shall be of such nature as to foster the objective of Christian education.

¶ 1008. The section shall participate with the Program-Curriculum Committee (¶¶ 989-94) in curriculum planning and building and in the development of statements of theological positions and of Christian education philosophy for program-curriculum planning.

¶ 1009. The section shall reflect through its resources the official positions of The United Methodist Church as authorized by the General Conference. It shall give appropriate support and guidance through its resources to the total life and work of the Church.

¶ 1010. The section may cooperate with other denominations through the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America or in other ways in curriculum planning. It may explore cooperative publication wherever both the section and the publisher find this to be practicable and in harmony with editorial and publishing policies.

¶ 1011. The section may cooperate in curriculum planning and building with Christian bodies with overseas responsibilities through such groups as the Board of Global Ministries, the Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries, the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and the World Council of Churches.

¶ 1012. The section is authorized to cooperate with the Jurisdictional and Annual Conference Boards of Discipleship (if any; *see* ¶¶ 1028-30) and with organizations of United Methodist Church educational workers.

¶ 1013. The section shall cooperate through its representatives and its staff in the work of missionary education, in encouraging enlistment for church occupations, and in encouraging Christian family life, and with the General Council on Ministries and its various sections.

¶ 1014. The resources of the Section on Curriculum Resources

shall be published, manufactured, and distributed by The United Methodist Publishing House. The interpretation and promotion of these resources shall be a joint responsibility of the Board of Discipleship and the Board of Publication.

¶ 1015. In the development of formats and types of curriculum resources, the Section on Curriculum Resources shall work cooperatively with the Board of Publication, which agency has final responsibility in relation to publishing and financial matters. The section shall recommend additions or changes in the publications to be produced. These resources will be issued in a variety of types, such as periodicals, books, booklets, graphic resources, recordings, and other audio-visual resources.

¶ 1016. The assistant general secretary of the Section on Curriculum Resources, who shall be the editor of church school publications, shall be elected by the Board of Discipleship upon nomination of a joint committee composed of the president of the Board of Discipleship and two members from the Section on Curriculum Resources and the chairperson and two other members of the Board of Publication. The election of the editor shall be subject to confirmation by the Board of Publication.

¶ 1017. The editor of church school publications and the staff shall be responsible for the content of resources and shall work cooperatively with the publisher in the design, the layout, and the handling of proofs and equivalent steps in the case of nonprinted resources. The editor shall be responsible to the Board of Discipleship through the Section on Curriculum Resources regarding editorial policies and content of resources. In matters of publication and financing, the editor shall be responsible to the Board of Publication.

¶ 1018. The publisher or the representative of the publisher shall sit with the Section on Curriculum Resources for the consideration of matters pertaining to the joint interests of the Section on Curriculum Resources and the Board of Publication and shall have the privilege of the floor without vote.

#### DIVISION OF EVANGELISM, WORSHIP, AND STEWARDSHIP

¶ 1019. The objectives of the **Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship** are to diffuse the blessing of the gospel of the Lord

Jesus Christ to all persons by the development, promotion, and support of all forms and phases of evangelism, worship, and stewardship throughout the membership of The United Methodist Church; to promote evangelistic understanding, interest, and zeal; public, individual, and family worship and celebration; the practice of prayer; the use of hymns and music in praise of God; the reading of the Bible in public and private; to prepare and encourage the use of ritual and approved orders of worship of The United Methodist Church on all occasions appropriate to the same; to recommend to the General Conference the preparation of future editions of *The Book of Hymns* and *The Book of Worship* for use in church and home, and to bring United Methodists to an understanding of the theological meaning of Christian stewardship and its application to the entire life of the Christian, including the use of time, influence, personal abilities, and material resources.

¶ 1020. The division may organize itself so as to fulfill the objectives assigned to it in ¶ 1019 within the mandate of the Board of Discipleship.

¶ 1021. *Functions.*—The division, in the area of evangelism, shall have the following functions:

1. To set forth an adequate biblical and theological basis and understanding for evangelism, consistent with the doctrine of The United Methodist Church, and to communicate and interpret the same to the membership of the Church.
2. To give particular emphasis to the promotion of comprehensive and practical programs of evangelism at the conference, district, and local church levels, so that persons without a church affiliation will be included within the responsibility of some local church.
3. To give guidance to the Church in using leisure time and the appropriate days and seasons of the Christian calendar for special evangelistic emphasis.
4. To provide resources for the programs of the divisions and for programs assigned to it by the Council on Ministries, including resources for the local church Commission on Evangelism (¶ 159.2) and related committees and task forces.
5. To cooperate with other program agencies of the Church in

supporting and equipping both clergy and laity for involvement in evangelism ministries.

6. To engage in experimentation, study, research, analysis, and evaluation for the enrichment of evangelism ministries in the Church and in the world.

7. To foster experimentation and demonstration of additional evangelistic approaches, consistent with the nature of the Christian gospel and the Church, at all levels of the Church's life.

8. To cooperate with the Office of Personnel of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry in developing standards governing the work of those persons seeking to be certified as local church ministers and directors of evangelism, and associate and assistant ministers and directors of evangelism. Such standards of certification shall be designed to acquaint persons with viable understandings of evangelism for the contemporary Church that will enable them to create and discover ways by which the gospel can be made real in the lives of persons and events. The division shall make available, upon request, procedures to be followed for the above certification and shall also review the credentials of those persons seeking certification and make appropriate recommendations to the responsible Annual Conference agency.

9. To cooperate with the Office of Personnel of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry (¶¶ 1242-47) to set minimal standards for elders desiring to serve as conference evangelists. The division shall send copies of these standards quadrennially to the bishops, district superintendents, conference Boards of Discipleship and conference evangelists. An elder who feels called of God to be a conference evangelist should prepare definitely for such service under the guidance of the Annual Conference to which he belongs.

10. To maintain and service the General Military Roll for The United Methodist Church and to work in cooperation with the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries so that United Methodist chaplains may be aware of and informed concerning all forms and phases of evangelism.

11. To relate and provide liaison services to denominational associations and fellowships of evangelism.

12. To seek mutual cooperation among and with the seminaries

of the Church and the Division of Ordained Ministry in the training and nurturing of persons for ministry and in continuing education where the responsibilities intersect.

13. To communicate with other agencies in whose programs the subject matter of evangelism should be included, and to provide counsel, guidance, and resources for the implementation of such programs.

14. To participate in and cooperate with the work of the Program-Curriculum Committee of the board for the inclusion of evangelism concepts and resources in local church study program curriculum.

¶ 1022. The division, in the area of stewardship, shall have the following functions:

1. To interpret the biblical and theological basis for stewardship consistent with the doctrines of The United Methodist Church and inform the Church of the same through educational channels and study materials.

2. To develop a program which will create concern on the part of The United Methodist Church for the ecological and environmental problems which confront our nation and world and will motivate them to accept responsibility for aiding in the solution of such problems.

3. To communicate with all agencies in whose programs the subject matters of stewardship should be included; to provide counsel, guidance, and resources for the implementation of such programs, and specifically with the Program-Curriculum Committee and the Section on Curriculum Resources of the board for the inclusion of stewardship concepts in local church curriculum materials.

4. To develop program resources and training materials for local church stewardship work area chairpersons, Commissions on Stewardship, and Committees on Finance.

5. To counsel with Jurisdictional and Annual Conference agencies on stewardship relative to their organizational structure and program responsibilities and assist them in their interpretation of program and resources.

6. To take action, as necessary, to encourage United Methodists to provide for their continued participation in World Service, or in one

or more of the World Service agencies, through estate planning, wills, special gifts, and foundations.

7. To seek to develop and promote, through stewardship education and the Every Member Commitment program, sound financial methods to aid local churches, districts, Annual Conferences, areas, and their related institutions, and general benevolent causes in raising funds for current expenses and capital needs. When projects of this nature are so extended as to exceed the conventional amount of service rendered, a fee may be charged.

8. To develop programs and materials to assist in securing adequate financial support for all United Methodist ministers and church-related employees.

9. To provide guidance and consultation in the area of local church administration, including establishment of professional standards, a training program, certification of church administrators, sponsorship of an association of United Methodist church administrators, and placement services.

¶ 1023. The division, in the area of worship, shall have the following functions:

1. To cultivate the fullest possible meaning in the worship and celebration experiences of the Church, both corporately and personally, including the use of music, the arts, and drama.

2. To develop standards and resources for the conduct of public worship in the churches.

3. To cooperate with the Board of Global Ministries and with the Division of Education in jointly developing and recommending architectural standards for facilities needed to house the church's program of worship, education, and fellowship, and for parsonages; and to cooperate in recommending training ventures to interpret these recommended standards.

4. To prepare new and alternate rituals and orders of worship.

5. To revise existing rituals and orders of worship, when necessary, for recommendation to the General Conference for adoption.

6. To supervise future editions of *The Book of Worship for Church and Home* and *The Book of Hymns* if so ordered by the General Conference.

7. To advise the general agencies of the Church in the prepara-

tion, publication, and circulation of orders of service and other liturgical materials bearing the imprint of The United Methodist Church.

8. To counsel with the editors of the periodicals and publications of The United Methodist Church concerning material offered in the fields of worship and the liturgical arts.

9. To participate in and cooperate with the Program-Curriculum Committee of the board for the inclusion of worship concepts and resources in local church study curriculum.

10. To encourage in the seminaries, and pastors' schools and other settings, the offering of instruction in the meaning and conduct of worship.

11. To counsel with those responsible for planning and conducting the worship services of the General Conference and other general assemblies of the Church.

#### DIVISION OF LAY LIFE AND WORK

¶ 1024. The **Division of Lay Life and Work** shall have the responsibility to interpret and spread through the Church all the rich meanings of the universal priesthood of believers, of Christian avocation, and of the ministry of the laity. It shall help the Annual Conferences and the local churches in programs which aim to recruit and to equip the laity—children, youth, men, and women—for the widest and most productive ministry possible through the Church.

¶ 1025. The scope of responsibility of this division shall include the age-level and family ministries performed throughout the Church; the program liaison relationship with The United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry; the development of and oversight for United Methodist Men's organizations; the provision for an adequate participation in the life of the Church for women, and for the family life concerns of the total Church.<sup>25</sup>

¶ 1026. 1. There shall be a **Committee on Family Life**, which shall be related administratively to the Division of Lay Life and Work and shall cooperate with its staff for Christian family program develop-

<sup>25</sup> See note 21.

ment to promote activities of a creative nature that can be most efficiently engaged in by the boards working together, including the planning of national, regional, and area conferences on family life.<sup>26</sup>

2. The committee shall be composed of fifteen members of the Board of Discipleship including two bishops. Liaison membership with other boards may be provided through the category of members at large.

¶ 1027. *Functions.*—The division shall have the following functions:

1. To seek an adequate understanding of the theological and biblical basis for lay life and work.

2. To develop and interpret an active lay ministry through lay careers, both within and without the institutional Church, and through volunteer service.

3. To provide resources and support services to organized auxiliary groups of the General, Jurisdictional, and Annual Conferences and local churches, except as specifically delegated to other agencies, and especially the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry; the local, district, conference, and jurisdictional United Methodist Youth Ministry; and United Methodist Men's fellowships.

4. To provide resources, support services, and designs for the development and improvement of leaders in the Church, except as specifically delegated to other agencies, and especially those who serve as members of pastor-parish relations committees, administrative boards, Charge Conferences, boards of trustees, nominations and personnel committees, committees on lay personnel, and those who serve as lay leaders and lay members of Annual Conferences.

5. To provide resources and support services to age-level and family ministry coordinators as they carry out their responsibilities to coordinate the local church's unified and comprehensive ministry to persons through efforts to meet the needs and to channel the ministries of persons as adults, as youth, as children, and in families.<sup>26</sup>

6. To cooperate with the Committee on Family Life in developing a ministry to all of the families for which the Church is responsible.

<sup>26</sup> See note 21.

7. To cooperate with the Office of Personnel of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry (¶¶ 1242-47, see also ¶¶ 1067-70) in setting standards for certification of the lay speaker.

8. To provide resource and support services for the Certified Lay Speaker Program and provide a training course to be used by the Annual Conferences and districts.

9. To continually research the need for persons not affiliated with formally organized groups within the Church to determine whether new organizations and/or other ways are needed to recognize these individuals as persons, minister to their needs, and channel their ministry to others. The division will initiate such action as is indicated by the research or make recommendations to other agencies for action, where appropriate.

#### JURISDICTIONAL BOARD

¶ 1028. In each jurisdiction there may be a **jurisdictional Board of Discipleship**, auxiliary to the general board, as the jurisdictional conference may determine. (See ¶¶ 26.3, 625.)

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOARD

¶ 1029. The Annual Conference shall determine the necessity for a **conference Board of Discipleship**.

¶ 1030. Should the conference determine not to create such a board, it shall be the responsibility of the Conference Council on Ministries to provide for the connectional relationship between the general board and conference, district and local church organizations.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

¶ 1031. 1. In each Annual Conference there may be a **conference Committee on Education**, elected by the conference to foster and direct a plan of Christian education that encourages an experience of Christ and the development of a well-rounded Christian character, and that

gives children, youth, young adults, and adults a knowledge of and experience in the Christian faith as motivation for Christian service in the Church, the community, and the world; and to aid persons in their preparation for the Christian ministry and other church occupations. It shall promote church school extension, the program of Christian education, and the use of church school literature approved by the General Board of Discipleship.

2. The committee, if organized, shall be auxiliary to the jurisdictional board, if any, and to the general board, and shall cooperate with them and the Annual Conference Council on Ministries.

3. The committee may be incorporated under the laws of the state (or all the states) within whose bounds the conference is located. The committee may receive gifts for its work. It may hold title to property for use in its work and title to housing for its personnel. It shall report to each session of the conference on the legal and financial status and physical condition of all such property.

¶ 1032. 1. The committee may elect a **conference director of education**, after consultation with the bishop and the Cabinet, who shall then become a member of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries staff (¶ 831.2) and who may serve two or more contiguous conferences. The conference council director (¶ 831.7) or another staff person may also serve as the director of education. The director shall have responsibility for the general oversight and promotion of all the work of the committee. If elected, the director shall make a full report annually both to the committee and to each of the three associate general secretaries of the general Board of Discipleship.

2. The director shall give leadership and direction to (a) the program of Christian education; (b) the chairperson of the work area on education; and (c) the Commission on Education and the superintendent of the study program in the local churches.

3. The director shall actively cooperate in the promotion of knowledge about the support for all schools, colleges, universities, and seminaries related to the conference, the campus Christian movement, and the campus ministry of the conference, region, or area. The director shall assist in the establishment and support of such forms of this program as shall be approved by the conference committee or

committees in harmony with policies and procedures of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

4. The director shall nominate annually, after consultation with each district superintendent, the district chairpersons, as provided in ¶ 1041.1.

¶ 1033. 1. The committee shall be responsible for developing and promoting a conference program of Christian education which will provide guidance and help for all the agencies of Christian education within the bounds of the conference, such as: coordinators and councils of age-level and family ministries; the chairpersons of the work areas and the Commission on Education; the superintendents of the study program; the church schools; and the related agencies of Christian education, including leadership training schools, Bible conferences, camps, assemblies, and institutes. It shall encourage and give help in the use of United Methodist curriculum resources. It shall promote and support those agencies which direct the cause of higher education under Christian auspices and shall provide for the campus Christian movement and campus ministry related to the conference.

2. The committee shall see that the first Sunday of Christian Education Week, or some other day designated by the Annual Conference, is observed 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 program of its local church division.<sup>27</sup> (See ¶¶ 159.1 and 163.1c.)

¶ 1034. 1. The committee, in cooperation with other conference agencies, shall be responsible for developing and recommending to the Annual Conference long-range plans for the procurement of camp and conference properties in accordance with standards of camping developed by the general Board of Discipleship. The development and operational policies of all camp and conference properties shall be under the direction of the conference committee, or organizations delegated by it, in cooperation with other conference agencies.

2. On recommendation of the committee and in cooperation with other conference agencies, the Annual Conference may constitute a conference **Subcommittee on Camps and Conferences**, composed of the

<sup>27</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 188.

director of education and three or more members of the conference Board of Discipleship; the conference directors of camps and conferences; the conference coordinators of children's ministry, youth ministry, adult ministry, and family ministry; one or more district superintendents elected by the Cabinet; the chairperson of district Committees on Camps and Conferences (¶ 1042.1); a representative of the trustees of any camp or conference properties of the conference Board of Discipleship (*see* § 1 above); one representative each from the conference Board of Trustees and any other incorporated trustees holding title to properties used extensively in the Christian education program of camping, conference, and related enterprises of the Annual Conference or of the districts; one representative from the conference United Methodist Women and the conference Committee on Lay Life and Work; two young adult lay persons under thirty years of age at the time of election; two college or university students; and two youth members of the conference Council on Youth Ministry or other youth chosen by that council. The Cabinet or the subcommittee may appoint other members on the basis of qualifications to meet specific needs.

¶ 1035. The committee may constitute a **conference Subcommittee on Leadership Development**.

¶ 1036. The committee may constitute a **conference Subcommittee on Family Life**, composed of the conference director of education and two members of the committee; the conference directors of children's, youth, and adult ministry; one representative each from the conference youth ministry and Young Adult Fellowship and from the conference Committees on Lay Life and Work and Evangelism; the secretary of Christian social relations of the conference United Methodist Women; and one district superintendent elected by the Cabinet. Special resource persons may be added as the subcommittee may determine. Its duty shall be to study the forces which affect family life within the conference and recommend to the committee plans to strengthen family life. It shall be administratively related to the committee and shall report to it annually.

¶ 1037. The committee may constitute a **Subcommittee on Use of United Methodist Curriculum Materials**, composed of the conference director of education and one member of the committee from

each district. This subcommittee shall encourage the adoption of United Methodist curriculum materials by any classes, groups, or church schools not now using them.

¶ 1038. The committee shall have authority to provide training conferences for selected persons in the District and Annual Conferences and local churches in the effective use of audio-visual materials and other learning resources.

¶ 1039. The committee shall have authority to cooperate with other conference committees in matters of common interest.

¶ 1040. The committee shall report its proceedings and policies to the Annual Conference, including the treasurer's report showing all resources and liabilities of the committee, its income and its expenditures. Immediately following the conference session it reports to the jurisdictional Board of Discipleship, if any (*see* ¶ 1028), through its executive secretary, a summary of its acts and the names of its officers and salaried workers. It shall transmit to the jurisdictional board the names and addresses of superintendents of the study program and the officers of the district and conference organizations operating under the conference committee and of youth assemblies and other organizations.

#### DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS

¶ 1041. 1. In each district a **district chairperson of education** shall be appointed by the district superintendent in consultation with the chairperson of the conference Committee on Education. District chairpersons will be confirmed by the conference Committee on Education.

2. The district chairperson of education together with the district superintendent, the district coordinators of children's ministry, youth ministry, adult ministry, and family ministry shall be responsible for recommending a program of Christian education. Recommendations shall be made to the district Council on Ministries where such exists (¶ 835).

3. The district chairperson of education and the age level coordinators shall serve as an education committee to assist local churches (or to make recommendations to the district Council on Ministries

where one exists) in designing a program of Christian education, developing leadership, interpreting resources, evaluating present programs and assessing needs.

4. The district chairperson of education shall in providing helps to local churches relate to the local church chairpersons of education and superintendents of study.

5. The district chairperson of education shall represent the district Council on Ministries, if any, by communicating district needs to the conference Committee on Education.

6. In each district the Annual Conference shall elect annually after consultation with the conference age level coordinators and district superintendents, a **district coordinator** of adult ministry, of youth ministry, of children's ministry and of family ministries; *provided* that, in the cases of the district coordinator of youth ministry, consultation shall also occur with the district council on youth ministry when such a council exists.

7. The district staff should consult with local churches, assisting them to design a program of Christian education, develop leadership, interpret resources, and evaluate local church activities.

¶ 1042. 1. The District or Annual Conference may constitute a **district Committee on Camps and Conferences** on recommendation of the district staff of Christian education, in cooperation with other district agencies. The chairperson shall be nominated and confirmed in the same manner as the district chairpersons (¶ 1041.1). The committee shall include the district superintendent and other members of the district staff, at least one camp director or institute dean representing each age group actively involved in camps and conferences and related enterprises in the district, and other persons to meet specific needs.

2. Its responsibilities shall be: (a) to cooperate with the conference Subcommittee on Camps and Conferences (¶ 1034.2); (b) to make available to pastors and superintendents of the local church study program information as to suitable locations and recommended guidance materials relating to camping, conferences, and retreats; (c) to encourage and initiate training for such enterprises; (d) to interpret and assist the local church in implementing standards relating to program and leadership and to the use and care of any sites

or facilities used for camping, planning conferences, and retreats; and (e) to refer to the district staff, for confirmation by the District Conference, nominations by the age-level directors of persons to serve as directors or deans of summer camps, institutes, or conferences sponsored by the district.

3. If the committee is charged with the development and/or operation of camp or conference facilities held in trust by the conference or district Board of Trustees, there shall be added to its membership a representative from such board. The selection, development, or improvement of any such properties, or of conference- or district-owned property, the title to which is vested in other incorporated boards but which is used primarily for Christian education enterprises of the district, shall be in harmony with the policies and standards of the conference Committee on Education and the general Board of Discipleship.

4. District property may be acquired for use in the program of camps and conferences when authorized by the District or Annual Conference on recommendation of the district staff of Christian education after consultation with the conference Board of Discipleship, the conference Committee on Education, or the conference Council on Ministries (*see* ¶¶ 1029-30, 31) and in keeping with the standards of the general Board of Discipleship.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM

¶ 1043. Each Annual Conference may elect for the quadrennium a **conference Committee on Evangelism**, which, if organized, shall plan and promote a program of evangelism throughout the conference in cooperation with the Annual Conference Council on Ministries. The committee shall endeavor to create an intelligent conception of, interest in, and passion for evangelism, and shall promote various types, phases, and methods of evangelism throughout the conference. It shall cooperate with the general and jurisdictional Boards of Discipleship. It shall seek to enlist the cooperation of ministers and lay persons throughout the Annual Conference in promoting the work of evangelism. It shall develop and promote a conference program of evangelism, which shall include the training of ministers and lay persons in that

program, the distribution of promotional literature, and the encouragement of local church participation in the year-round program of evangelism. It shall foster prayer, private devotions, and family worship services of the local church. It shall give guidance to the district committees on evangelism (if any; see ¶ 1045) and to local church Commissions on Evangelism in carrying out their purposes and responsibilities as outlined in ¶ 159.2.

¶ 1044. The committee may recommend to the Annual Conference and to the bishop in charge the appointment of certain effective members of the conference as **approved evangelists**; *provided* that such persons shall meet the standards set for approved evangelists by the general Board of Discipleship and the conference committee (¶¶ 1021.8-.9).

1. When an individual meets the standards for evangelists of The United Methodist Church, the Annual Conference, upon recommendation of the Committee on Evangelism, may vote the designation of approved evangelist and grant a certificate as such as an expression of confidence. Such certificate, to remain valid, must be renewed annually by vote of the Annual Conference upon recommendation of the Committee on Evangelism on the basis of review and approval of the individual's work methods and financial plans.

2. When an elder receives assignment as an evangelist in his or her own conference, the elder shall submit to the conference committee a complete annual report of work in triplicate, one for the district superintendent, one for the conference committee, and one for the general Board of Discipleship. These forms shall be prepared by the general board.

3. The committee shall assist ministers who may need help in planning their evangelistic programs for the year. It shall encourage ministers to be their own evangelists. It shall help plan for mutual pastoral exchanges in evangelistic endeavors when feasible. It shall assist the local church in the choice of recognized United Methodist evangelists.

4. No pastor shall engage for an evangelist any person who is not a conference evangelist, a regular member of an Annual Conference, a lay pastor, a local preacher, or a lay speaker in good standing

in The United Methodist Church without first obtaining written consent of the district superintendent.

## DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM

¶ 1045. *Purpose.*—In those Annual Conferences which are organized into districts there may be a **district Committee on Evangelism**, which shall promote the program of evangelism in cooperation with the conference Committee on Evangelism.

## LOCAL CHURCH COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

¶ 1046. Each local church may have a Commission on Evangelism. (See ¶ 159.2.)

¶ 1047. *Minister of Evangelism.*—1. If a **minister of evangelism** is desired in the local church, the Charge Conference shall request through the district superintendent that the bishop appoint such minister, and shall fix the salary.

2. If the employment of a lay person as director of evangelism is desired, the pastor, in consultation with the district superintendent and with the concurrence of the Commission on Evangelism, shall recommend a proper person to the Charge Conference which shall have the power to employ, fix salary, and terminate service.

3. The minister or director of evangelism shall be administratively responsible to the pastor and, in cooperation with the pastor and the chairperson of the commission, shall guide the evangelistic program of the church.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON LAY LIFE AND WORK

¶ 1048. *Name.*—There may be in each Annual Conference a **Committee on Lay Life and Work** which, if organized, shall be auxiliary to the general Board of Discipleship. It shall cooperate with the Annual Conference Council on Ministries.

¶ 1049. *Objective and Scope of Work.*—The objective and scope of work of the conference Committee on Lay Life and Work shall

be related to those set forth for the Division of Evangelism, Worship and Stewardship, and the Division of Lay Life and Work of the general Board of Discipleship.

¶ 1050. *Officers.*—The conference lay leader (¶ 1051) shall be elected annually by the Annual Conference on nomination of the committee. The nomination shall be by written ballot. The associate conference lay leader for lay life and work, the associate conference lay leader for stewardship and finance, the secretary, the treasurer, and such other officers as the conference committee may authorize, shall be elected annually by the Annual Conference or the committee.

¶ 1051. *Conference Lay Leader.*—The conference lay leader is the designated leader of the conference laity, with responsibility for becoming increasingly aware of the work of the laity in achieving the mission of the Church. The conference lay leader shall guide the deliberations of the committee in developing long-range and annual objectives, direct the implementation of these objectives, and represent the committee in other conference agencies as determined by the Discipline. The lay leader shall guide the work of the committee so that it will be coordinated with the comprehensive program of the conference. The lay leader shall present a written report annually to the committee and to the Annual Conference. The conference lay leader shall be seated in the Annual Conference as a voting member.

¶ 1052. *Commission on Lay Life and Work.*—There may be an Annual Conference **Commission on Lay Life and Work**.

1. *Officers.*—The associate conference lay leader for lay life and work shall serve as chairperson of the commission. The commission may elect annually a vice-chairperson and a recording secretary.

2. *Committee on United Methodist Men.*—There may be a **conference Committee on United Methodist Men**, whose objective and scope of work shall be related to those set forth for the area of men's work of the General Board of Discipleship. The committee shall be composed of the district directors of United Methodist Men. The chairman, who shall be nominated by the Committee on United Methodist Men and elected by the Committee on Lay Life and Work, shall serve as the conference director or president of United Methodist Men. The committee shall elect its vice-chairman and recording secre-

tary and shall function as authorized by the conference Committee on Lay Life and Work.

3. *Additional Committees.*—There may be such additional committees as the Commission on Lay Life and Work deems necessary.

4. *Meetings.*—The commission shall meet during the annual sessions of the conference Board of Discipleship. Additional meetings may be held when authorized by the conference committee or its executive committee.

5. *Finance.*—The commission shall present annually its proposed budget to the conference Committee on Lay Life and Work.

¶ 1053. *Commission on Stewardship and Finance.*—There may be an Annual Conference **Commission on Stewardship and Finance**.

1. *Objective and Scope of Work.*—The objective and scope of work of the Commission on Stewardship and Finance shall be related to those set forth for the Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship of the General Board of Discipleship in ¶¶ 1019–23.

2. *Officers.*—The associate conference lay leader for stewardship and finance shall serve as chairperson of the commission. The commission shall elect annually a vice-chairperson and a recording secretary.

3. *Function of the Commission.*—The commission, under the leadership of the associate conference lay leader of stewardship and finance, and in consultation with the conference director of stewardship, shall be responsible for developing the basic policy of the Committee on Lay Life and Work in the area of stewardship and finance.

4. *Conference Director of Stewardship.*—Each conference Committee on Lay Life and Work, if organized, shall elect a **conference director of stewardship**, on nomination of the Commission on Stewardship and Finance, to perform such functions with respect to stewardship elements of the coordinated conference program as the commission with the approval of the Committee on Lay Life and Work shall determine.

In the event this director is employed by, or amenable to, any other board or agency of the Annual Conference, the performance of such work shall be in consultation with the commission and to the extent feasible shall involve and utilize the existing lay structure at Annual Conference and district levels.

The director may be a full-time or a part-time employee, or may serve on a voluntary basis, and may be either lay or clergy.

#### DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON LAY LIFE AND WORK

¶ 1054. *Name.*—There may be in every district a **district Committee on Lay Life and Work**, which, if organized, shall be auxiliary to the Division of Lay Life and work of the General Board of Discipleship, and Annual Conference committees on lay life and work.

¶ 1055. *Objective and Scope of Work.*—The objective and scope of work of the district Committee on Lay Life and Work shall be related to those adopted by the General Board of Discipleship.

¶ 1056. *Membership.*—The committee shall be composed of the district lay leader, who shall be chairperson, the associate district lay leaders, program directors elected by the district committee, local church lay leaders, the district superintendent, one or more pastors selected by the committee, the district director of United Methodist Men, the district president of United Methodist Women, and the district president of United Methodist Youth.

¶ 1057. *Officers.*—The district lay leader shall be elected annually by the Annual Conference on nomination of the district committee. The associate district lay leader for lay life and work, the associate district lay leader for stewardship and finance, the district director of United Methodist Men, other directors as authorized by the conference committee, the recording secretary, and the treasurer shall be elected annually by the district committee.

¶ 1058. *Tenure and Vacancies.*—All elections of committee members shall be for the term of one year. Any vacancy occurring in the district committee shall be filled by the committee.

¶ 1059. *Executive Committee.*—There shall be an executive committee, consisting of the district lay leader, who shall be chairperson, the associate district lay leaders, district directors of special program activities selected by the committee, the district director of United Methodist Men, the district superintendent, and the elected officers.

¶ 1060. *Sections and Subcommittees.*—The district committee may function through two sections: the **Section on Lay Life and Work** and the **Section on Stewardship and Finance**. A subcommittee on

United Methodist Men may be formed as part of the Commission on Lay Life and Work, with the district director of United Methodist Men as chairman. Other subcommittees may be formed as the district committee deems advisable. The scope of work shall be related to that described for the general division and conference commissions or committees on lay life and work and stewardship and finance. (See ¶¶ 1024-27, 1049, 1052-53.) A **Subcommittee on Lay Speaking** may be organized for the purpose of screening and certifying lay speakers recommended by local churches. The subcommittee, when organized, shall be composed of the district director of lay speaking, the district superintendent, and such other persons as needed. (See also ¶¶ 1067-70.)

¶ 1061. *Meetings.*—The committee and/or its executive committee shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties.

¶ 1062. *Finances.*—The committee, through its duly elected officers, shall cooperate with the conference Committee on Lay Life and Work to obtain from its allocated funds such sums as may be necessary to carry on its proposed program of work.

¶ 1063. *District Lay Leader and Associates.*—The work of the district lay leader and associates is related to that of their conference counterparts, described in ¶ 1051.

¶ 1064. *District Director of United Methodist Men.*—The **district director of United Methodist Men** is expected to keep himself informed about the potential ministries of United Methodist Men, to encourage and support men in local congregations as they seek to be on mission, and to serve as chairman of the district Committee on United Methodist Men when such committee is formed. He shall maintain liaison with the Jurisdictional and Annual Conference organizations and with the area on men's work of the Division of Lay Life and Work of the General Board of Discipleship.

¶ 1065. *Local Fellowships of United Methodist Men.* See ¶¶ 160.4.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMISSION ON WORSHIP

¶ 1066. 1. Each Annual Conference may constitute a **conference Commission on Worship**, to report each year to the conference in such manner as the conference may direct. If organized, it shall be

composed of at least one ministerial and one lay member from each district.

2. The commission, if organized, shall meet at least once before each regular conference session. It may organize with a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary.

3. The duties of the commission shall be to act in cooperation with the Annual Conference Council on Ministries:

- a) To promote the interests of worship within the bounds of the conference.
- b) To foster the use of the best resources for worship at conference meetings and in all the churches of the conference.
- c) To promote the use of *The Book of Worship for Church and Home* and *The Book of Hymns* in all the churches of the conference.
- d) To plan and promote seminars and demonstrations on ways of worship and the use of hymns, within the bounds of the conference.
- e) To provide exhibits at the conference sessions in such fields as architecture, church appointments, etc.
- f) To cooperate with the Board of Discipleship and the Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians of The United Methodist Church in promoting seminars and all other conferences on church music.

#### LAY SPEAKER

¶ 1067. *Lay Speaker*.—A lay speaker is a member of a local church qualified to perform the following duties, subject to the consent and direction of the pastor:

1. To serve the church in any way in which the witness of the spoken word inspires the laity to better churchmanship, to give assistance and support to the program emphases of the church, and to assist in giving better leadership to the work of the church.
2. To conduct services of worship and hold meetings for prayer and exhortation when requested by the pastor or district superintendent.

¶ 1068. *Character*.—A candidate recommended for lay speaker shall be a person of evident Christian character, conduct, and concern, shall have potential natural gifts and grace, a willingness to seek to

improve in knowledge and understanding of the Bible, and a desire to grow in Christian grace.

¶ 1069. *Requirements*.—1. To become a lay speaker the candidate shall:

- a) Be recommended by the Administrative Board of the church or the Charge Conference (¶ 145.8).
- b) Be certified by the district Subcommittee on Lay Speaking (¶ 1060) preferably on completion of the training course for lay speakers recommended by the General Board of Discipleship. (See ¶ 1027.7, .8.)

2. It is recommended that a consecration service be held in the district on an appropriate occasion.

¶ 1070. *Reporting*.—A lay speaker shall report to the Charge Conference and be subject to an annual examination by it of character, gifts, labors, and usefulness, and a renewal of certificate, to be signed by the president thereof.

#### UNITED METHODIST COUNCIL ON YOUTH MINISTRY

¶ 1071. *Purpose and Functions*.—The United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry (UMCYM) shall be responsible for unifying the ministry of youth throughout the Church. The functions of the council shall be:

1. To initiate and support special plans and projects which are of particular interest to youth.
2. To be an advocate for the free expression of the convictions of youth on issues vital to them.
3. To make recommendations to the Council on Ministries and/or other appropriate boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church.
4. To recommend youth to nominating committees of general boards and agencies, considering suggestions from Annual Conference Councils on Youth Ministry (¶ 836) and other youth organizations.
5. To call together when necessary, groups of concerned youth to study and take action on vital issues that need the support of or demand a change in existing socioeconomic and cultural conditions and in theological points of view.

6. To effect participation of youth in appropriate denominational and ecumenical enterprises and deliberations.

7. To empower youth throughout the Church, through the support of and communication with Annual Conference and jurisdictional youth ministries.

8. To support and facilitate renewal in the Church.

9. To support and facilitate the formation of minority youth caucuses on the Annual, Jurisdictional, and General Conference levels of the Church.

¶ 1072. *Membership.*—The United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry shall consist of twenty youth (it is recommended that at least ten shall be from ethnic minorities), and one staff or board member from each of the following agencies, to be chosen by that agency: the Board of Church and Society; the Division of Education and Cultivation of the Board of Global Ministries; the Division of Education of the Board of Discipleship; the Division of Lay Life and Work of the Board of Discipleship; the Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship of the Board of Discipleship; the Office of Personnel of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry; the Commission on Religion and Race; and one Annual Conference coordinator of youth ministry from each jurisdiction.

The twenty youth shall be elected by the presidents or elected representatives of each Annual Conference Council on Youth Ministry (¶ 836) in a caucus on the jurisdictional level Youth shall be as defined in ¶ 160.2 of the Discipline (persons from the seventh grade through senior high school, approximately twelve through eighteen years of age) at the time of their election. Youth elected shall not serve beyond their first year in college. Four shall be from each jurisdiction, at least two of whom shall be from ethnic minorities, so elected that each minority group will be represented so far as possible. Nominations shall be encouraged from local churches, from subdistricts, and from districts, names being carried to the caucus by the conference representative. The jurisdictional caucuses shall elect two youth each year, with a total of ten youth members being elected each year for two-year terms. The one Annual Conference coordinator of youth ministry from each jurisdiction shall be selected by a method to be determined by the coordinators of youth ministry in each jurisdiction. Each co-

ordinator shall be elected for a two-year term. The expenses of the jurisdictional caucuses shall be borne by the participating Annual Conferences.

¶ 1073. For administrative purposes, the council and staff (if any) shall be related to the Board of Discipleship. (See ¶ 1025.)

¶ 1074. There shall be a **Youth Service Fund** which shall be the major financial cultivation of youth groups within The United Methodist Church. As a part of its cultivation the youth shall have been challenged to assume their financial responsibilities in connection with the total program and budget of the local church of which they are a member. In the discharge of its responsibility for Ministry of Youth in The United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry shall establish and provide for participation of youth in local churches and on every level of youth ministry in the Youth Service Fund. Local church treasurers shall send the full amount of Youth Service Fund offerings to the treasurer of the Annual Conference who shall send monthly the full amount received to the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration to be directed toward the ministry of youth as follows: 70 percent to Annual Conference Councils on Youth Ministry and 30 percent to the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry effective Jan. 1, 1973.

¶ 1075. The United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry shall be responsible for the administration of the Youth Service Fund. In the carrying out of this function, the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry shall constitute a **Project Review Committee** to serve as an advisory committee, to be composed of four youth from the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry and three adults not related to any general agency.

¶ 1076. The United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry shall set the policy and the criteria for the distribution of the Youth Service Fund. The council shall also establish the policy for Youth Service Fund education and shall be responsible for its promotion throughout the Church, in cooperation with the Annual Conference Council on Youth Ministry.

#### Section VIII. Board of Global Ministries.

¶ 1077. There shall be a **Board of Global Ministries**. Within the

expression of the total mission of the Church outlined in the aims of mission, the Board of Global Ministries exists to proclaim and witness as the Church corporately in mission to the liberating and saving Word of Jesus Christ which calls persons to respond in faith and discipleship. It is a missional instrument of The United Methodist Church, its Annual Conferences, and local congregations in the context of a global setting.

¶ 1078. The functions of the board are:

1. To discern those places throughout the world where the Word has not been heard or heeded and to witness to its meaning on all six continents through a program of global ministries.
2. To provide opportunities for persons to be involved in expressing the mission of the church across racial, cultural, national, and political boundaries and to enrich the Church through the sending and receiving of such persons.
3. To plan with others and to establish and strengthen Christian congregations where opportunities and needs are found, so that these congregations may be units of mission in their places and partners with others in the worldwide mission of the Christian church.
4. To advocate and work for the unity of Christ's Church through witness and service with other Christian churches and through ecumenical councils.
5. To engage in dialogue with persons of other faiths and with persons of differing colors, custom, and culture, and to join with them where possible in action on common concerns.
6. To assist local congregations and Annual Conferences in mission both in their own communities and across the globe by raising awareness of the claims of global mission and by providing channels for participation.
7. To express the concerns of women organized for mission and to help equip women for full participation both locally and globally in Church and world.
8. To engage in direct ministries to human need, both emergency and continuing, institutional and noninstitutional, however caused.
9. To engage in building societies and systems where full human potential is liberated and to work toward the transformation of demonic forces which distort life.

10. To identify with all who are alienated and dispossessed and to assist them in achieving their full human development—body, mind, and spirit.

11. To envision and engage in imaginative new forms of mission appropriate to changing human needs and to share the results of experimentation with the entire Church.

¶ 1079. *Organizational Responsibilities.*—1. The organizational responsibilities of the Board of Global Ministries shall be:

- a) To establish and review the objectives of the Board of Global Ministries and the work in mission of The United Methodist Church.
- b) To establish appropriate organization of board and staff to accomplish its program and achieve established objectives, including writing bylaws, electing officers, establishing committees for its work, and filling vacancies in accord with ¶ 816.
- c) To determine, in cooperation with the divisions and agencies, the areas to be served and the nature of the work to be undertaken.
- d) To determine policy and program, to establish goals and priorities, to project long-range plans, to evaluate the program and services of the Board of Global Ministries and its divisions as to the progress made in fulfilling its purpose, and to seek to achieve its objectives through the programs of the divisions and agencies of the Board of Global Ministries.
- e) To coordinate and harmonize the work of the various units.
- f) To elect, on nomination of the divisions and agencies, the staff of the respective divisions and agencies, to evaluate staff performance, to remove staff for cause, and to fill vacancies. (See ¶ 819.)
- g) To give direction to the Board of Global Ministries staff and its work through the assignment of responsibility and the delegation of authority to the executives and through general oversight of the administration.
- h) To receive and properly administer all properties and trust funds, permanent funds, annuity funds, and other special funds coming into the possession of the board as a board for missionary and other purposes in accordance with ¶¶ 842.6, 8, 843.2.
- i) To secure, appropriate, and spend money to underwrite its program and achieve its objectives.
- j) To receive and act upon the reports of the divisions and

their staff, the treasurers, the official reports from all its committees, and all other reports related to its program.

*k)* To make a report of its activities during the quadrennium to the General Conference and the Jurisdictional Conferences.

*l)* To assist the organization and maintenance of cooperative relations with boards, committees, and other agencies of the General Conference, and with the Jurisdictional, Central, and Annual Conference boards and committees.

*m)* To develop and maintain cooperative relationships with ecumenical agencies, other denominations, interdenominational agencies, United Churches, and Methodist Churches necessary for the full discharge of the above functions.

2. The board shall cooperate with the Division of Education of the Board of Discipleship in carrying on the residual functions of the former Interboard Committee on Christian Education and of the former Interboard Committee on Missionary Education.

#### CONSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATION

¶ 1080. *Name.*—The name of this organization shall be the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, hereinafter called the board.

¶ 1081. *Incorporation.*—1. The Board of Global Ministries shall be incorporated and shall function through its divisions and/or units of service. Within the board there shall be seven divisions—namely: the Division of Education and Cultivation, the National Division, the Division for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the Women's Division, the World Division, the Division of Health and Welfare Ministries, and the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns—which may each also be incorporated if required. These divisions shall be the corporate successors, respectively, of the Joint Commission on Education and Cultivation, the National Division, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the Women's Division, the World Division of the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church, and the corporate successor of the Board of Missions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, The Board of Missions of The United Methodist Church, and the General Board of Health and Welfare

Ministries of The United Methodist Church. The board and its divisions shall be incorporated in such state or states as the board may elect.

2. The Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church shall be the successor to the following corporations: The Board of Missions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Home Missions and Church Erection Society of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the Foreign Missionary Society of the United Brethren in Christ, the Women's Missionary Association of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the Missionary Society of the Evangelical Church, and the Board of Church Extension of the Evangelical Church, and as such successor it shall be and is authorized and empowered to receive from its said predecessor corporations all trust funds and assets of every kind and character, real, personal, or mixed, held by them, and it shall and hereby is authorized to administer such trusts and funds in accordance with the conditions under which they have been previously received and administered by the said predecessor corporations.

3. It shall have control of all the work formerly controlled and administered by the following: the Board of Health and Welfare Ministries; the Commission on Ecumenical Affairs; the Board of Missions of The United Methodist Church; the Board of Missions and Church Extension of The Methodist Church; the Missionary Society, the Board of Foreign Missions, the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Woman's Home Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Service Guild, and the Ladies' Aid Societies of the Methodist Episcopal Church; the Board of Missions, including the Woman's Missionary Society, the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, the Woman's Board of Home Missions, the Woman's Missionary Council, and the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; the Board of Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church; and such other corporations or agencies of the General Conference as do similar work; but this list shall not be construed as exclusive.

4. Subject to the limitations hereinafter specified, each of the incorporated divisions shall be subject to the supervision and control of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church in all

things not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the states of incorporation.

¶ 1082. *Membership.*—The policies, plans of work, management, business, and all affairs of the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church shall be governed and administered by the board, which shall be composed according to the conditions defined in ¶¶ 803-804 of the general provisions, with the following conditions:

1. The basic members (clergy, laymen, and laywomen) are elected by the jurisdiction upon the nomination of the Annual Conferences in accord with ¶ 803.1. The at-large members of the board are nominated by a committee composed of three persons from each jurisdiction—a clergyman, a layman, and a laywoman—elected within each jurisdiction. The committee is to be convened by the president of the board, or if there be none, the secretary of the Council of Bishops.

2. The Women's Division membership procedures are an exception to those described in ¶¶ 803-804 of the general provisions. This formula is defined in ¶ 1145. These persons may also serve on the membership of other divisions of the board.

3. The composition of the board and its divisions and units should reflect the major recognized categories of church members. One-half of the nonepiscopal members should be women; not less than one-quarter should be clergy; and not less than one-quarter should be laymen. One-fifth should be under 35 years of age (of whom one-half should be under 25 divided equally between those over 18 and those 18 and under at the time of election); membership among all age categories to be balanced between men and women and among ethnic groups. One-fifth should represent minority interests and one-tenth youth and young adult interests. Any overseas representatives should also be selected through the at-large nomination process. These are not mutually exclusive or exhaustive categories.

4. Members of the board shall be distributed across the component divisions of the board in accord with ¶ 804.

5. The term of office of all members whose election is provided for in this paragraph shall begin and the board shall organize at a meeting to be held within ninety days after the adjournment of the

last meeting of the several Jurisdictional Conferences held after the adjournment of the General Conference.

6. In addition to the episcopal members provided for by ¶ 803, the Council of Bishops shall elect three bishops from Central Conferences who shall be members of the board and who may attend at the time of their presence in the United States.

7. The general secretary and treasurer of the board and the associate general secretaries of the seven divisions shall be members without vote.

¶ 1083. *General Executive Committee.*—There shall be a **general executive committee** whose powers shall be determined by the board. It shall be composed of the members of the executive committees of the divisions and service units. The president of the board shall serve as chairperson. One-half of the members shall be women.

¶ 1084. 1. *The Board, Divisions, and Other Service Units.*—The Board of Global Ministries shall function through divisions and/or units of service, the relationships of which are identified in sections which follow outlining the organization and functioning of each unit. The divisions and units are: the Division of Education and Cultivation, the National Division, the Division for the United Methodist Committee on Relief, the Women's Division, the World Division, the Division of Health and Welfare Ministries, the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns, the Crusade Scholarship Committee, and the Office of Missionary Personnel. These divisions and/or other units of the board shall report regularly to the board and its executive committee to keep the same fully informed concerning their plans and activities.

2. The board and its divisions shall have the power to create those subsidiary units, sections, or departments needed in the fulfillment of designated functions, upon approval of the board.

#### OFFICERS AND STAFF

¶ 1085. *Corporate Officers.*—1. *Board Officers.*—The board shall elect as its corporate officers a president, six vice-presidents who shall be the chairpersons of the divisions, a treasurer, a recording secretary, and such other officers as it shall deem necessary. The board shall

determine the powers and duties of its officers. The Women's Division shall elect its chairperson, who shall be a vice-president of the board.

2. *Division Officers.*—Each division shall elect one or more vice-presidents, a treasurer, a recording secretary, and such other officers as it shall deem necessary. Vacancies shall be filled by the divisions or their executive committees. The divisions shall determine the powers and duties of their officers.

¶ 1086. *Elected Staff.*—1. *Board Staff.*—The board, through a personnel committee, shall make nominations to the Council on Ministries for the office of general secretary (¶ 809). The board shall select, by whatever process it chooses, the additional staff needed to assist the general secretary to carry out the work assigned.

2. *Division Staff.*—The board shall elect associate general secretaries of the Board of Global Ministries, who shall have administrative responsibility for the divisions and shall be responsible to the division and to the general secretary. The Women's Division is exempt from compliance with the above procedure and shall elect its associate general secretary after consultation with the president and general secretary of the board.

3. The president, general secretary, and treasurer of the board are ex officio members of the divisions and their executive committees, without vote.

The board shall elect, on nomination of each division and in consultation with the general secretary, an associate treasurer of the Board of Global Ministries, who shall have fiscal responsibility for the divisions. He or she shall be responsible to the treasurer of the Board of Global Ministries for fiscal procedures and to the associate general secretary for all administrative procedures. (¶ 842.3)

¶ 1087. *Personnel.*—1. *Selection.*—The board and its divisions shall engage and elect staff on the basis of competency and with representation of ethnic and racial minorities, youth, young adults, and women.

2. *Staff Participation of Women.*—a) Of the following staff positions within the board—namely the general secretary, the treasurer of the board, and the associate general secretaries, and of the total elected and executive staff positions of the board—a minimum of 40 percent shall be occupied by women.

b) Of the following staff positions of each division within the board—namely the associate general secretary, assistant general secretaries, and associate treasurers—a minimum of one-third of the total of each division shall be women.

#### PROPERTIES, FUNDS, AND ENDOWMENTS

¶ 1088. 1. All properties, trust funds, annuity funds, permanent funds, and endowments now held and administered by the Board of Missions, the Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief of The United Methodist Church; the Board of Missions of The Methodist Church; the Board of Missions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church; and their respective divisions shall be carefully safeguarded. The Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church and its divisions shall endeavor to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the social principles of The United Methodist Church and to administer such investments in the interest of those persons and causes for which said funds were established. Such properties, trust funds, annuity funds, permanent funds, and endowments shall be transferred to the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church or its respective divisions from merged boards and societies only when such transfers can be made in accordance with the laws of the states where the several boards and societies are chartered and on the recommendation of the respective divisions and the approval of such boards and societies. Funds of the administrative divisions and their preceding corporations and societies which are subject to appropriation shall be appropriated only on recommendation of the respective divisions (¶ 842.6, 8).

2. The financial affairs of the board shall be as follows:

a) The income of the divisions of the board, exclusive of the Women's Division, shall be derived from apportionments, assessments, or askings distributed to jurisdictions, Annual Conferences, and pastoral charges by the budget-making process of the General Conference in such manner as the General Conference may prescribe, and from church schools, gifts, donations, freewill offerings, annuities, bequests,

specials, and other sources from which missionary and benevolence funds are usually derived, in harmony with the Discipline of The United Methodist Church and actions of the General Conference. Funds for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the Women's Division shall be derived from annual voluntary pledges, offerings, gifts, devises, bequests, annuities, or money received through special emphases and from meetings held in the interest of the division.

b) Cultivation for Advance specials shall be through channels of the Church other than United Methodist Women.

c) All contributions to and income on all funds of the Board of Global Ministries or its respective divisions should be used for current expenses and annual appropriations unless otherwise designated by the donor.

3. Askings shall be received from the fields, and budgets shall be prepared by the divisions in such manner as the board may prescribe, consistent with its constitution and charter, and this combined budget shall be presented to the General Council on Ministries in accord with ¶ 842.

4. The board shall not appropriate for the regular maintenance of its work in any one year more money than was received by it for appropriation the previous fiscal year, except as provided in consultation with the General Council on Ministries.

#### AUTHORITY

¶ 1089. *Board.*—The Board of Global Ministries shall have authority to make bylaws and regulate its proceedings in harmony with the Discipline of The United Methodist Church. Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting thereon at a regular or special meeting, *provided* that notice of such amendment has previously been given to the members. The board shall have the power and right to do any and all things which shall be authorized by its charter. It shall have authority to develop and carry out its functions as described in ¶ 1078; to buy, acquire, or receive by gift, devise, or bequest property, real, personal, and mixed; to hold, mortgage, sell, and dispose of property; to sue and be sued; to borrow money in case of necessity in a manner harmonious with

¶¶ 842-843; to develop and maintain ecumenical relations to carry out its responsibilities; and to administer its affairs through its respective divisions and joint agencies.

¶ 1090. *Divisions.*—The divisions shall have authority to make bylaws and to regulate their proceedings in harmony with the charter and constitution of the board and, with its approval, to develop and carry out the functions of the divisions; to buy and sell property; to solicit and accept contributions, subject to annuity under the board's regulations and ¶¶ 842-843; and to recommend the appropriation of their funds for the work of the joint agencies of the board.

#### DIVISION ON ECUMENICAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS CONCERNS

¶ 1091. The United Methodist Church, through its Board of Global Ministries, in response to the given unity of God's people and to the needs of the world, shall advocate and work for the unity of the Christian church in every aspect of the Church's life. It shall provide nurture for ecumenical understanding and action, initiate plans for publication and distribution of ecumenical literature and other resources, enable representation of The United Methodist Church to ecumenical studies and consultation, and review and interpret ecumenical education, experience, and action. It shall seek to initiate, maintain, and strengthen our relations with other Christian churches, with councils and other forms of cooperation, with world confessional associations, with the Jewish communities, and with other religious communities.

¶ 1092. To fulfill these responsibilities there shall be a **Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns**. There shall be four episcopal members, one with residence outside the United States. The membership shall be composed of ten basic members, who shall be an exception to the provisions of ¶ 804; a maximum of 11 division members at large; and eight additional persons who are members of other divisions, nominated by the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns and elected with a view to representation from those who have particular interest and competence with respect to ecumenical concerns. Members at large of the division shall be elected by the board on recommendation of the division, also with a view to repre-

resentation from those who have particular interest and competence with respect to ecumenical concerns. Bishops, pastors, professors, campus chaplains, seminarians, laymen, laywomen, and youth aged twenty-two or less at the time of election (nominated by the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry) are among the categories from which at-large members may be chosen. Representation as at-large members may include one each from other boards: Discipleship, Higher Education and Ministry, and Church and Society. The division may co-opt consultants from time to time as needed for its concerns. In addition, the division may request other churches to appoint fraternal delegates to this division. Ex officio members shall include the associate general secretary and treasurer of the division and officers of the board as defined in ¶ 1086.3.

¶ 1093. The Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns shall elect its officers from among those who constitute its membership at the time of organization. It shall elect vice-presidents from among its membership to preside over the business of subcommittees needed for its work, a treasurer, a recording secretary, and such other officers as it shall deem necessary. The division may create additional ad hoc or permanent committees as are necessary. The meetings of the division shall be held prior to the meetings of the board, and as otherwise deemed necessary.

¶ 1094. An executive committee consisting of the president, vice-presidents, secretary, and other members of the division to a total of nine, plus the associate general secretary without vote, shall be elected by the division. The division, subject to approval of the board, shall determine the powers of the executive committee. The executive committee shall meet at stated times and as deemed necessary on call of the president and associate general secretary. The executive committee shall represent the division on the executive committee of the board.

¶ 1095. The administrative officer of the division shall be an associate general secretary of the Board of Global Ministries. In conformity with common practice in other churches, the associate general secretary may be referred to as the "ecumenical staff officer" in the performance of administrative responsibilities. The associate general secretary shall be an ex officio member of the Board of Global Minis-

tries, of its cabinet, and of the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns. The division shall nominate for election by the board: the associate general secretary, who shall be responsible to the general secretary of the board, and other staff persons as the division shall deem necessary, who shall be responsible to the associate general secretary.

¶ 1096. The role of the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns shall relate not only to the Board of Global Ministries but to other boards and councils and committees of The United Methodist Church. Within the Board of Global Ministries, the division shall assist the other divisions:

1. In furthering the organization and maintenance of cooperative relationships with other boards and agencies and with interdenominational and other missionary agencies.

2. In developing and maintaining the ecumenical relations necessary for the full discharge of functions of the board.

3. In the fostering of sound relationships with colleague churches outside the United States and in encouraging among them sound interrelationships in the interest of unity and mission.

4. In fostering throughout the Church an ecumenical understanding and involvement in the unity and mission of the Christian church.

5. In developing practical application of ecumenical principles of administration of the institutions under their control or review.

¶ 1097. Included in the functions of the division are the roles of liaison and dialogue with other churches and with worldwide and national ecumenical organizations, and organizations involved in education and enabling, counseling, experimentation, review, research, church union relationships, representation and reporting. Specifically, in addition to the responsibilities implicit in ¶¶ 1091, 1096, the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns shall:

1. Interpret The United Methodist Church in the light of the biblical definitions of the Church, in the light of church history, and in its relationships to the ecumenical councils, agencies, and movements and to other religious communities.

2. Consider the relationship of The United Methodist Church to the resolutions, pronouncements, and actions of the ecumenical councils and agencies and see that response is made by appropriate bodies

and publicize the same. It shall channel materials coming from ecumenical bodies to the proper agencies of the Church, and materials coming from the Church and its agencies to the proper sections of the ecumenical bodies.

3. Provide liaison, initiative for dialogue with and in response to the initiatives from other Christian churches, with Jewish communities, and with other world religions (whenever appropriate, in consultation or company with concerned divisions of the board).

4. Provide resources and counsel to the Board of Global Ministries and to other agencies of The United Methodist Church and to those concerned with ecumenical experimental ministries.

5. Provide resources and counsel to conference and district units on ecumenical concerns, Council on Ministries representatives assigned to this area, and to local churches through the pastor and the work area chairperson for ecumenical concerns.

6. Explore, receive, assist in developing plans for, study, evaluate, and recommend directly to the General Conference action on proposals for union of The United Methodist Church with other denominations (such as the Consultation on Church Union).

7. In the area of ecumenical funding, the division shall:

a) At the request of the Council on Ministries, the Council of Bishops, or the Council on Finance and Administration provide an overview of the financial support given by all United Methodist sources for ecumenical, conciliar, confessional, and union conversation bodies and agencies; reviewing as necessary records of all payments made.

b) Review expenditures by all United Methodist Church agencies to conciliar, confessional, or other ecumenical bodies in the light of changing needs and maximum effectiveness.

c) Review budget requests from ecumenical, conciliar, confessional, and union conversation bodies and agencies which are directed to the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.

d) Make such recommendations as seem appropriate to the agencies involved, to the Council on Ministries, and to the Council on Finance and Administration.

8. Recommend to the Council of Bishops qualified members of The United Methodist Church for representation on ecumenical coun-

cils and agencies and at ecumenical meetings. (For nominations for representation to the ecumenical agencies, see ¶¶ 1284-89.)

9. Hold occasional consultations on ecumenical themes involving representatives of the Annual Conferences and other agencies.

10. Report to the General Conference, to the Council of Bishops, and to the General Council on Ministries and regularly to inform the Church at large on the participation of The United Methodist Church in the various aspects of the ecumenical movement.

11. Make an annual report to the Council of Bishops concerning new developments in ecumenical and interreligious relations.

12. Care for such other matters as may from time to time be assigned to it by the General Conference, the Council of Bishops, the Council on Ministries, and by the Board of Global Ministries.

¶ 1098. The division shall give attention to the responsibility for the continuing effective relationship of The United Methodist Church to ecumenical organizations such as the World Council of Churches, regional councils of churches, the National Council of Churches, Consultation on Church Union, and the World Methodist Council, to united churches which include a former Methodist or Evangelical United Brethren-related church, or to autonomous churches formerly related to The United Methodist Church; and to otherwise serve the ecumenical interests and responsibilities of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1099. When responsible conversations are initiated with other Christian churches concerning church union (e.g., Consultation on Church Union), the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns shall create a committee for such purpose, which shall be presided over by a member of the division, with the provision that one-half its membership shall derive from the division and one-half shall be named from the Church at large on the basis of special competence for the negotiations in view. Provision shall be made for the ad hoc committee in the course of its work to report to and consult with the division.

¶ 1100. The division shall propose a budget for its work through the Board of Global Ministries in such manner as is prescribed in ¶ 842, to be presented with the proposals from other divisions to the General Council on Ministries.

*ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION*  
 CONFERENCE COMMISSIONS ON ECUMENICAL AND  
 INTERRELIGIOUS CONCERNS

¶ 1101. 1. Each Annual Conference shall create a **conference Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns**, or designate this responsibility to the conference Council on Ministries, which shall be coordinate with the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns. The commission will report each year to the conference in such manner as the conference may direct.

2. The commission shall be composed of at least one ministerial and one lay member from each district, one of whom shall be **district coordinator for ecumenical concerns**, and a member of the district staff of the Council on Ministries. Other members may be added to provide expertise and useful interchange with other agencies, as the conference directs. Any member of the division residing within the conference bounds shall be an *ex officio* member.

3. The commission shall meet at least twice between conference sessions. It shall organize with a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and, if desired, a treasurer. The chairperson shall be a member of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries, and shall be an *ex officio* member of the conference representation to state councils or conferences of churches, and shall represent the Annual Conference at all national conferences or workshops sponsored or approved by the division.

4. The duties of the commission shall be to act in cooperation with the Annual Conference Council on Ministries, in coordination with the division duties as outlined in ¶¶ 1091-1100 and as the division may recommend and to take initiative in ecumenical and interreligious concerns as follows:

a) To guide the conference in developing understanding of the nature of the ecumenical movement and its implications for United Methodists.

b) To nominate, in cooperation with the conference nominating committee, for conference election the delegates to state councils or conferences of churches and to select representatives to district, area, and regional ecumenical task groups and workshops.

c) To relate the conference, in cooperation with the bishops and

Cabinet, to the judicatories of other denominations, particularly those participating in union consultations with The United Methodist Church.

d) To stimulate conference, district, and congregational participation in councils, conferences, or federations of churches, in interfaith studies, and in the use of jointly approved curriculum resources.

e) To stimulate participation in and evaluation of missional programs ecumenically planned and implemented, such as experimental parishes, cluster groups, task forces, ecumenical work camps, campus ministries, various modes of interchurch cooperation, and union congregations.

f) To cooperate in and provide leadership for specific ecumenical experiences in worship and celebration, such as World Communion Sunday, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Pentecost Sunday, and other appropriate occasions.

g) To foster and give guidance to the development of systematic interim eucharistic fellowship among Christian churches, particularly those participating in the Consultation on Church Union.

h) To stimulate understanding and conversations with all Christian bodies, to encourage continuing dialogue with Jewish communities, and to encourage an openness of mind toward and understanding of other major world religions.

i) To fulfill other functions assigned by the Annual Conference and to respond to such requests as may be made by its leadership.

THE DIVISION OF EDUCATION AND CULTIVATION

¶ 1102. The **Division of Education and Cultivation** shall be composed of twenty-one members, consistent with ¶ 1082.3: eight persons; one bishop; and twelve persons, two each who are members of each of the other six divisions. One of the twelve must be a bishop. In addition, eight members at large of the division shall be elected in such manner as the division shall determine for their special competencies. The associate general secretary and treasurer of the division, and the officers of the board as defined in ¶ 1086.3, shall be members *ex officio*.

¶ 1103. There shall be an **executive committee**, whose powers

shall be determined by the division, subject to the approval of the board. It shall be composed of the president, vice-president and secretary of the division and six members of the division; the associate general secretary and the treasurer of the division, ex officio without vote. One-half the members shall be women, elected by the Women's Division in accordance with ¶ 1082.3.

¶ 1104. The Division of Education and Cultivation shall have authority to make bylaws and to regulate its proceedings in harmony with the charter and constitution of the board, and with the approval of the board to develop and carry out the functions described in ¶ 1107; to recommend to the board and the Women's Division appropriations for its work, and to receive and administer funds allocated to it by the board and by the Women's Division; and to solicit Advance special funds for the work of the World, National, and United Methodist Committee on Relief divisions, in cooperation with the Council on Finance and Administration.

¶ 1105. *Officers.*—The Division of Education and Cultivation shall elect as its officers a vice-president, and such officers as it shall deem necessary. Vacancies shall be filled by the division or its executive committee. The division shall determine the powers and duties of its officers.

¶ 1106. *Elected Staff.*—The board shall elect, on nomination of the division in consultation with the general secretary of the board, an associate general secretary of the Board of Global Ministries who shall have administrative responsibility for the division and shall be responsible to the division and the general secretary of the board.

¶ 1107. The functions of the Division of Education and Cultivation shall be:

1. To undergird with education, communication, and cultivation the total program of the Board of Global Ministries.
2. To initiate and develop programs and resources through which individuals and groups may understand the biblical background and theological basis for the Christian world mission, the involvement of The United Methodist Church in global ministries, the special concerns of women in mission, and the possibilities for personal witness, involvement in, and support of these ministries.

3. To help foster throughout the Church an ecumenical understanding and involvement in Christian world mission and service and to encourage the unity of the Church.

4. To cooperate with the Board of Discipleship through its units, and with ecumenical agencies, in leadership and curriculum development subject to provisions of ¶ ¶ 990-91.

5. To encourage, in cooperation with the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, an emphasis on the concerns of global ministries and opportunities for mission involvement at all age levels, including colleges, universities, and schools of theology.

6. To cooperate with the Joint Committee on Communications in all ways as mutually agreed upon.

7. To initiate, prepare, sell, and distribute printed and audiovisual resources and periodicals for the Board of Global Ministries.

8. To plan and promote various kinds of meetings and experiences throughout the Church for the purpose of developing a spirit of mission and participation in global ministries and for training mission leadership on all levels, and to interpret to and acquaint the Church with the programs, plans, and policies of the board.

9. To plan and promote emphases on global ministries.

10. To cultivate, through channels of the Church other than United Methodist Women, the Advance special gifts for national and overseas ministries administered by the National, World, and United Methodist Committee on Relief divisions, in accordance with the Council on Finance and Administration, assuming responsibility for providing information to the donors.

11. To develop and coordinate the plans for cultivating mission giving in consultation with the other divisions of the Board of Global Ministries, the Board of Discipleship, the Council on Finance and Administration, and the Joint Committee on Communications, subject to and in harmony with the general financial system of The United Methodist Church as adopted by the General Conference.

¶ 1108. In fulfilling these functions the division shall seek the cooperation of Jurisdictional and Annual Conferences, district superintendents, pastors, local churches, United Methodist Women, men's groups, and other groups within the Church.

## DIVISION OF HEALTH AND WELFARE MINISTRIES

¶ 1109. *Purpose.*—The purpose of this division shall be:

To assist the Church and its people to become involved in direct service to persons in need, through health and welfare ministries, both institutional and noninstitutional; to insure that all direct service programs which operate in the name of The United Methodist Church globally, or look to United Methodist constituency for support, shall be professionally competent and Christian in their service. The division shall guide and serve the Church on all levels: General, Jurisdictional, and Annual Conferences, district, and local church. It shall work with the World, National, and Women's divisions to achieve under one administration and with a wholistic view of mission the function of health and welfare direct service ministries. It is understood that the two homes for retired workers would continue their relationship with the Women's Division.

¶ 1110. Functions of this division shall be:

1. To maintain a continuing relationship to all United Methodist direct service institutional ministries in health and welfare by:
  - a) Establishing standard-setting, consultation services, and regular program review for all institutional ministries.
  - b) Evaluating new plans for institutional ministries and advising areas, conferences, districts, and local churches regarding their feasibility.
  - c) Administrative involvement in selected institutions and projects when presently established relationships so require.
2. To encourage the local church and its members to enter the field of direct service ministry through noninstitutional projects and volunteer service and to support ongoing projects both institutional and noninstitutional.
3. To participate in the process of policy-making and to support efforts for social change. When these functions are related to health and welfare issues the division shall also be responsible for educational and interpretive efforts.
4. To explore and propose new methods, programs, and service opportunities for the Church as changing conditions and societal forms demand.

5. To formulate standards to implement the aims and ideals of The United Methodist Church and encourage and assist institutions in attaining those standards. To accomplish this purpose the division is authorized to establish a **Certification Council**, under such rules and regulations as it may determine, to develop criteria and to implement a program of affiliation and certification of health and welfare institutions, agencies, and other programs of service related to The United Methodist Church. Any hospital, home, or other health and welfare service program that is known as an institution or agency of The United Methodist Church, or looks to the United Methodist constituency for support, or uses the United Methodist name, shall be expected to actively relate to the division and the Certification Council under such rules and regulations as the council may determine.

6. To provide a continuing consultation service to all existing health and welfare agencies and direct service programs and to jurisdictional Boards, and conference boards, district committees, and local church programs of health and welfare ministry. It shall also assist these institutions, boards, and committees of the Church in the planning and development of new health and welfare services and the expansion or revision of current services to children, youth, and adults. It shall relate to a local church through the missions work area and the health and welfare representative on the Council on Ministries. It shall suggest plans to Annual Conferences regarding their religious ministry to governmental and non-United Methodist hospitals and homes needing such ministry, and relate these programs to the national program of the Church. It shall make appraisals and advise as to the validity and wisdom of accepting or rejecting institutions or plans for the development of institutions such as hospitals, homes, and child care services which may benefit in any way from the approval or support of The United Methodist Church. It may make surveys, disseminate information, suggest plans for securing funds, assist in the securing of experts in all lines of work, provide architectural data, and render assistance in the promotion and establishment of new institutional and noninstitutional health and welfare services. Any new hospital, home, child care service, housing project, or other health and welfare ministry using the United Methodist name or property, or placing the Church under financial obligation, including ecumenical

ventures, to be established, or any existing facility or service desiring to alter its major purpose or function or make a major expansion of its present facilities or add any new facility, shall first submit drafts of its charter, constitution, and bylaws and its plan of development, financing, and service to the division for consultation, review, and recommendation. The plan of development, financing, and service shall then be submitted to the Annual Conference to which it is related for approval before finalizing and proceeding with the project. The charter, constitution, and bylaws of any proposed new institution or agency, and in due course of time the architectural plans, program of financing, and program of service shall follow the same procedure for approval. All health and welfare agencies and programs operated by, or under the auspices of, or related to any connectional unit of, The United Methodist Church shall (a) recruit, employ, utilize, recompense, and promote their professional staff and other personnel without regard to race, creed, color, or sex; (b) fulfill their duties and responsibilities in a manner which does not involve racial segregation or discrimination; and (c) secure adequate representation by laymen and laywomen on their staffs and boards of directors or other governing bodies.

7. To assist United Methodist health and welfare institutions, agencies, and services in attracting adequately trained Christian personnel and to provide a program of continuing leadership training and enrichment for administrators, board members, and key staff of such institutions. The division shall maintain a personnel service to assist institutions and agencies in finding management-level personnel. The division shall also be responsible for the training of Annual Conference, district, and local church boards, committees, and personnel assigned to leadership tasks in health and welfare ministry.

8. There shall be organized a **National Association of Health and Welfare Ministries** of The United Methodist Church. The association shall have its own constitution and bylaws. It shall establish its own membership requirements and dues. Under the general direction of the division it shall foster a program of leadership development, including conventions, seminars, and workshops, and shall cooperate with the division to help lift the religious, professional, and financial standards of our church-related health and welfare ministries.

9. To foster a program of Golden Cross ministry throughout the Church (¶ 1118) which shall symbolize the ministry of Christian compassion through contributions and deeds of love, care, help, and service by the Church through its members, its congregations, and its health and welfare institutions, agencies, and services. The purpose of the Golden Cross program shall be to promote the work of health and welfare ministries and to collect moneys and provide other material assistance in providing care for the sick, older persons, children, and youth. There shall be an annual offering received in every local church on a day designated by the General Council on Ministries of The United Methodist Church. Moneys received through this offering shall be used as determined by the Annual Conference on recommendation of its Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, if any (*see* ¶ ¶ 1117, 1120), with special emphasis being given to supporting those ministries which provide direct financial assistance to persons unable to pay for the cost of care.

10. To consult with health and welfare agencies and institutions and United Methodist conferences in establishing programs of financial support for United Methodist-related services. No United Methodist hospital, home, housing project, or other health and welfare service institution shall attempt to solicit funds from among the United Methodist constituency or allow any of its agents, representatives, or employees to attempt to solicit funds outside the Annual Conference or Annual Conferences to which it is related before receiving formal approval from the Annual Conferences where solicitation of funds is desired. This does not prohibit the sale of bonds to financial institutions.

11. The division shall not be responsible, legally or morally, for the debts, contracts, or obligations or for any other financial commitments of any character or description created, undertaken, or assumed by any institution, agency, or interest of The United Methodist Church, whether or not such institution, agency, or interest shall be approved, accepted, or recognized by the division, or shall be affiliated with the division, or whether or not the promotion or establishment of the same shall be approved by the constitution of the division. No such institution, agency, or interest of The United Methodist Church and no officer or member of this division shall have any authority

whatsoever to take any action directly or by implication at variance with, or deviating from, the limitation contained in the preceding sentence hereof, except as the division may directly own and manage an institution in its own name.

¶ 1111. *Membership.*—The Division of Health and Welfare Ministries shall be composed of thirty-five board members as follows:

1) At least two bishops, two laymen, two laywomen, and two clergy in full connection assigned by the general board, at least two of which must be minority persons;

2) Three persons elected to serve on both the general board and the division by each jurisdiction from nominations provided by Annual Conferences. Of this number there shall be one layman, one laywoman, and one clergy in full connection, at least one of whom, and not more than one, is the administrator of a United Methodist-related health and welfare agency;

3) Twelve persons at large elected by the division to serve on the division for the purpose of perfecting the representation of youth, young adults, retired persons, women, men, ethnic minorities, and to provide special expertise in related fields.

The officers of the board, as specified in ¶ 1086.3, and the associate general secretary and treasurer of the division shall be eligible to attend all meetings of the division and its committees, ex officio and without vote.

¶ 1112. *Meetings.*—The division shall meet annually at the time of the meeting of the board and at such other times as it shall deem necessary. Written notice stating the place and purpose of all meetings must be given all members at least ten days prior to the meeting. A majority of the members of the division shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 1113. *Officers.*—The division shall elect as its officers a vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and such other officers as it shall deem necessary. Vacancies shall be filled by the division. Vacancies occurring between meetings shall be filled by the executive committee. The division shall determine the powers and duties of its officers.

¶ 1114. *Executive Committee.*—There shall be an executive committee of the division, whose powers shall be determined by the division subject to the approval of the board. It shall be composed of nine persons: the officers of the division and five other persons elected

by the division. The executive committee shall include one clergy in full connection, two laymen, two from ethnic and minority groups, and one from the youth or young adult category. At least three of the above named persons shall be administrators of United Methodist health and welfare agencies. The associate general secretary shall be a member of the executive committee, ex officio without vote.

¶ 1115. *Financial Support.*—The division shall derive its financial support from such share of the general benevolences of the Church as the General Conference may determine and from gifts, devises, wills, and bequests and from the administration of trust funds. It is authorized to receive financial grants and trusts from private foundations and funds from public agencies, and is empowered to act as trustee for the administration of bequests or endowments for institutions of the Church, and as a result of said trusts to assist designated Christian social welfare work. This shall include the Kendall Fund and other trust funds related to the former Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, and the management of these funds shall be in harmony with ¶ 842.6.

¶ 1116. *Organization and Staff.*—The division shall be duly incorporated under the laws of the state or states in which its headquarters are established. It is authorized to make bylaws and to regulate its proceedings for the purpose and functions as defined in the Discipline of The United Methodist Church. The division shall determine the sections, units, or departments necessary to carry forth its designated functions. The division shall nominate an associate general secretary, in consultation with the general secretary of the Board of Global Ministries, for election by the board. The associate general secretary shall be the chief administrative officer of the division. There shall be a **personnel committee** of the division, which shall consult with the personnel committee of the board concerning the nomination of an associate general secretary for election by the board. The division shall also elect a treasurer of the division who shall be nominated for election, in consultation with the associate general secretary, as an associate treasurer of the Board of Global Ministries. The division shall engage and elect staff with representation of ethnic minorities, youth, young adults, and women to carry out its designated functions, upon recommendation of the associate general secretary.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOARDS

¶ 1117. 1. Each Annual Conference may promote within its bounds a **conference Board of Health and Welfare Ministries**, composed as follows: (a) at least one ministerial and one lay member, elected from each district of the conference; *provided* that there shall be a minimum of four ministers and four lay members; (b) any member of the general board within the conference, *ex officio*; and (c) administrators of hospitals and homes related to the conference, *ex officio*, without vote.

2. The board in former Annual Conferences of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and in united Annual Conferences shall assume responsibility for the continued support of the homes of the former Evangelical United Brethren Church until such time as it shall be released from this responsibility by the General Board of Global Ministries. The Annual Conference shall channel money raised for the support of these homes through the Central Treasury of the Council on Finance and Administration.

3. The board shall meet at least once before or during each regular conference session and shall act in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries and the Annual Conference Council on Ministries to promote the interests of the hospitals and homes, for which the conference has responsibility, within the bounds of the conference. It may aid in planning and developing a religious ministry, wherever practicable, in state and non-United Methodist hospitals and homes needing such ministry. Where civil law requires the election of Boards of Trustees or managers by the Annual Conference, it may nominate the persons for such election.

4. The board, in cooperation with the General Board of Global Ministries, shall help lift spiritual, financial, and scientific standards in United Methodist health and welfare ministries in the Annual Conference. It shall seek to strengthen the ties between related hospitals and homes and the Church. It shall make recommendations to the Annual Conference regarding establishment of new institutions and changes in existing institutions. In so doing it shall use the consultative services of the general board. The charter, constitution, and bylaws of any proposed new institution or agency, and in due course

of time the architectural plans and program of financing, shall first be submitted to the general board for suggestions before Annual Conference approval and action are requested.

5. The board shall organize with a chairperson, who may become a voting member of the National Association (¶ 1110.8). The chairperson shall be expected to take as much interest as possible in the program of Christian philanthropy in United Methodism as represented by the association.

## GOLDEN CROSS

¶ 1118. The Golden Cross symbolizes the ministry with Christian compassion to persons in need through deeds of love, care, help, and service by The United Methodist Church, its members, its congregations, and its health and welfare institutions and agencies.

¶ 1119. There shall be a **Golden Cross Society** of The United Methodist Church, which shall promote the work of health and welfare ministries under the direction of the Division of Health and Welfare Ministries and which shall collect moneys and afford other material assistance in providing care for the sick, older persons, children, and youth. The enrollment in the Golden Cross Society shall be held annually in order to secure interest in, and support of, health and welfare ministries in every congregation in such manner and on such date as determined by the General Council on Ministries of The United Methodist Church. The week following Golden Cross Enrollment Sunday shall be known as **Health and Welfare Ministries Week**. Funds raised through this enrollment shall be used as directed by the Annual Conference through its Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, in keeping with the policies of the society.

¶ 1120. Each Annual Conference may employ such methods for financing its philanthropic institutions as it may decide upon recommendation of the Annual Conference board (¶ 1117). The Annual Conference board may promote a **Golden Cross Fund**, which shall support the work of health and welfare ministries for which the conference has responsibility. An annual offering shall be received on a Sunday (to be known as **Golden Cross Sunday**) to be determined by the General Council on Ministries.

¶ 1121. There shall be a **Golden Cross Fellowship** of The United Methodist Church, membership in which shall be open to all Methodists who are seeking to fulfill their Christian vocation through a life of service in one of the helping and healing occupations. It shall be auxiliary to the Division of Health and Welfare Ministries and shall have as its purposes: (1) in cooperation with Annual Conference Committees on Enlistment for Church Occupations, the recruitment and guidance of others into the helping and healing professions as an expression of Christian vocation; (2) the provision of a questing fellowship which seeks to clarify and deepen the understanding of how the Christian faith relates to the healing process and of how the theological dimensions of United Methodist belief relate to the life of service; and (3) the provision of a place where lay and professional persons may exchange dialogue to the end that a better understanding of the helping and healing process in its relation to faith may be the result for both. There may be student membership in each Annual Conference chapter of the fellowship.

¶ 1122. **Women's auxiliaries** connected with the various philanthropic institutions of United Methodism may be organized under, or given approval on compliance with, established standard requirements and procedures, such as the adoption of a constitution and bylaws fixing the identity, responsibility, and relationship of such organization as an auxiliary of a United Methodist institution. Such an auxiliary, when so organized and when request is made by the Board of Trustees of the institution which it represents, shall be granted a certificate of recognition from the Division of Health and Welfare Ministries.

#### NATIONAL DIVISION

¶ 1123. 1. The **National Division** shall be composed of thirty members as follows: twenty-seven persons named in a manner consistent with ¶ 1082.3, and three bishops. In addition fifteen members at large of the division shall be elected in such manner as the division may determine. These should include men, women, clergy in full connection, youth (under nineteen years of age), young adults (nineteen to thirty-five years of age), ethnic and minority representatives,

all of whom are to be selected so as to maintain the ratio distribution of membership as adopted by the Board of Global Ministries in accord with ¶ 1082.3. The division may have members at large to bring into the division special knowledge or background in accord with ¶ 804; officers of the board in accord with ¶ 1086; and the associate general secretary and treasurer of the division. The division shall meet annually at the time of the meeting of the board and at such other times as it shall deem necessary. The board shall elect the associate general secretary upon the nomination of the National Division (¶ 809).

2. There shall be an **executive committee** of the division whose powers shall be determined by the division, subject to the approval of the board. It shall be composed of fifteen persons including the chairperson of the division, one clergy in full connection, two laymen, two from ethnic and minority groups, and one from youth or young adult. One-half of the nonepiscopal members shall be women, elected by the Women's Division in accordance with ¶ 1146.

¶ 1124. The functions of the National Division shall be:

1. To, develop, administer, and supervise the program within the context of the aims and functions of the Board of Global Ministries in areas within the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

2. To formulate the objectives and strategies for the national mission of The United Methodist Church, consulting with the constituents to be served and the church in the vicinity; determine the fields of service and the nature of the work; establish governing policies; and enable community services and programs.

3. To study and establish a division strategy for the implementation of new forms of mission to deal with national mission concerns and issues.

4. To give special attention to enabling, encouraging, and supporting the development of congregations, cooperative parishes, community centers, health, educational, and social welfare ministries in urban and rural areas; to develop strategies in response to critical community issues, with special attention to the needs of ethnic and language minorities, people in transitional relationships, and those living under repressive systems.

5. To consult with local churches, cooperative parishes, confer-

ences, and other units of The United Methodist Church, and prepare self-study and guidance materials to assist in identifying needs of the community and the congregation, building needs, financial planning, and implementing both national and local mission responsibilities.

6. To develop task forces on training opportunities and joint planning committees with churches, districts, conferences, areas, jurisdictions, and other units of The United Methodist Church for the study, planning and strategy, goal setting, and evaluation of mission needs and objectives.

7. To facilitate the development of ethnic and language ministries and relationships with mission and missionary conferences.

8. To develop and participate in joint efforts with other divisions and boards and ecumenical coalitions, as the National Division carries out its responsibilities in mission.

9. To recommend for assignment to various fields of service deaconesses and home missionaries, and other workers who have been approved by the Board of Global Ministries.

10. To cooperate with the World Division, the Committee on Personnel in Mission, and other related agencies in recommending and facilitating the placement of deaconesses, missionaries, and other workers.

11. To make annual reports to the Board of Global Ministries.

12. To recommend an annual budget to the Board of Global Ministries.

13. To receive and administer the World Service and other designated funds for the program of the National Division; receive and administer the Advance special gifts for National Division work cultivated through the Division of Education and Cultivation; administer all donation aid, loan funds, and endowments, contributed and established for the work of church extension, except such as may be administered by the Jurisdictional and Annual Conferences; and receive and administer funds allocated by the Women's Division, keeping in mind the special concerns of women.

14. To encourage and assist ecumenical planning and the establishment of Christian congregations where opportunities and needs exist.

15. To incorporate and have administrative jurisdiction for the

United Methodist Development Fund. The purpose of the United Methodist Development Fund shall be to extend the mission of the Church through the granting of loans for construction and major improvements of churches, parsonages, and mission buildings.

16. To cooperate with the Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship and the Division of Education of the Board of Discipleship in jointly developing and recommending architectural standards for facilities needed to house the Church's program of worship, education, and fellowship, and for parsonages, and to cooperate in recommending training ventures to interpret those recommended standards.

17. To provide counsel and field consultation for the community centers, children's homes, residences, medical services, and schools related to the National Division.

18. To relate to Goodwill Industries.

¶ 1125. The associate general secretary of the National Division shall communicate to the bishops such information as may be available concerning missions and the appointment of workers in their respective areas.

¶ 1126. The National Division shall give special attention to enabling, encouraging, and supporting the development of community services in urban and rural areas and in ethnic and language minority ministries. It shall organize such programs and conduct such activities as the development of the work may require, with special attention to the needs of people in transitional relationships and those living under repressive systems. It shall assign staff members to develop these programs. They shall administer such appropriations as are committed to them. They shall cooperate with other divisions within the board and other boards and agencies as their work may affect the group involved.

¶ 1127. The National Division shall have the power to determine the sections, units, or departments necessary to carry forth its designated functions. They shall be established and their functions shall be defined and approved by the Board of Global Ministries. The Board of Global Ministries shall engage and elect staff with representation of ethnic minorities, youth, young adults, and women to carry out these responsibilities. It shall assign staff members to develop these programs. They shall administer such appropriations as are committed

to them. They shall cooperate with other divisions within the board, other boards and agencies, as their work may affect the group involved.

¶ 1128. *City, Metropolitan, District Mission Structures.*—The National Division shall promote the organization of city, metropolitan, or district mission structures, which shall be amenable to the Annual Conference. These may be United Methodist or ecumenical.

1. Such structures may be organized, under such names as may be determined, wherever, in the judgment of the bishop or bishops and district superintendents concerned, it is deemed advisable. When two or more districts, conferences, episcopal areas or jurisdictions have churches in the same city or metropolitan area, it is recommended that the structure be so organized as to include all United Methodist churches. "Metropolitan" shall be defined with sufficient flexibility to include separate communities which are economically or socially related.

2. It is recommended that a majority of the governing body be from the laity, men and women. All bishops, district superintendents, and superintendents of ethnic and minority ministries having jurisdiction within the geographical territory served by the structure may be ex officio members of the organization. Membership may also include representation from conference Boards of Global Ministries, conference or district United Methodist Women, city and suburban parish churches, community centers and other nonparish urban ministries, poverty communities, youth, and racial and ethnic minorities.

3. The purpose of such a structure shall be to promote and coordinate the work of the Church in metropolitan areas. It may:

a) Develop special ministries and new forms of mission appropriate to new metropolitan needs, including recruitment, training, and involvement of clergy and laity.

b) Promote long-term regional planning and provide coordinating framework for metropolitan mission strategy for United Methodism.

c) Enable and support central city and suburban church extension, including research, organization (but not the constituting) of churches, acquisition of real estate, and the erection and maintenance of buildings (having first secured the approval of the district Board of Church Locations and Buildings). Wherever possible, consideration

should be given to new concepts of church extension, such as leased space, shared facilities, and other experimental styles.

d) Help to initiate and participate in urban coalition and other association with leaders in business, finance, industry, labor, education, welfare, etc., to work cooperatively for mutually desired social change.

e) Encourage and support the development of effective community organizations in inner-city and suburban communities, to the end that people may share in the decision-making processes, and open more effective channels of communication between all peoples in the metropolitan area.

f) Participate with federal, state, and local governments in programs of urban renewal and development, with special reference to protection and enhancement of human values.

g) Cooperate with representatives of other churches and faiths in developing, implementing, and funding new patterns of joint mission.

h) Raise funds for the support of its work in cooperation with the Annual Conference Council on Finance and Administration, including the securing and holding of endowments for general purposes and for designated churches, institutions, or types of mission.

¶ 1129. In order to receive financial assistance from the division the structure shall meet the following conditions:

1. It shall be organized according to the Discipline.

2. It shall have a governing board or executive committee meeting at least once each quarter.

3. It shall be actively at work.

4. It shall have made a report to the division in the prescribed form provided for that purpose.

¶ 1130. Each Annual Conference shall promote the work of such mission structures within its boundaries and receive annual reports through the Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries. All moneys received shall be reported in the conference journal.

¶ 1131. If a full-time executive officer is employed, it is recommended that he or she be invited into consultation with the bishop and district superintendents in the consideration of the appointments that affect missions or churches administered or aided by the organization which he or she represents.

¶ 1132. Each such mission organization shall, in cooperation with the Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries, annually present its financial needs to the Annual Conference Council on Finance and Administration of the conference to which it is related, to determine how the needs shall be met, including possible apportionments to the churches in its geographic area.

¶ 1133. All pastors whose charges lie within the territory of the mission organization shall each year present the interests of the organization to their congregations, taking an offering or otherwise promoting support of its work.

¶ 1134. Any local church expecting to receive aid from the mission organization for building or improvement shall be required, as a condition of receiving such aid, to secure its approval with respect to location, plans, and methods of financing.

¶ 1135. In a metropolitan area the National Division may cooperate, with the approval of the bishops and the conferences, in the organization of a **Metropolitan Commission**, which may be composed of bishops and district superintendents involved and a selected group of ministers, laymen, and laywomen, representing Annual Conference Boards of Global Ministries, Committees on Urban Ministries, Annual Conference United Methodist Women, city missionary societies, local churches, representatives of other boards and agencies, and others who have skills and experience enabling them to fulfill creative planning and strategy functions for United Methodism in the metropolitan area.

The purpose of such a commission is to promote long-term planning and to provide a coordinating framework for United Methodism's metropolitan mission strategy. These functions may be fulfilled by other city, metropolitan, or district mission structures as deemed appropriate.

¶ 1136. *Administration of a Mission.*—1. Administration of a mission in the United States or its territories shall be in the National Division until requirements have been met for the organization of a Provisional or an Annual Conference.

2. The mission shall meet annually and shall be composed of all regularly appointed missionaries, both lay and clerical, mission traveling preachers, and other lay members. The number of lay members

and the method of their appointment shall be determined by the mission.<sup>28</sup>

3. The bishop in charge of a mission may appoint a superintendent of the mission or as many superintendents of the mission as may be wise and for whom support has been provided. The bishop shall determine the groups or charges over which the respective superintendents shall have supervision.

4. A bishop or, in the absence of a bishop, one of the superintendents chosen by ballot by the mission, shall preside at the annual meeting. This meeting shall exercise, in a general way, the functions of a District Conference. It shall have the power to license persons to preach, to pass on the character of preachers not members of an Annual Conference, to receive on trial mission traveling preachers, and to recommend to an Annual Conference proper persons for deacon's orders. The bishop shall, at the annual meeting, assign the missionaries and mission traveling preachers to the several charges for the ensuing year; *provided* that no missionary shall be transferred to or from a mission without previous consultation with the National Division.

5. Examination of lay pastors and traveling preachers shall be held by the mission and certified to an Annual Conference. The mission also shall make recommendations for reception on trial in an Annual Conference.

#### COMMITTEE ON DEACONESS/HOME MISSIONARY SERVICE

¶ 1137. *Office of Deaconess and Office of Home Missionary.*—1. There shall be in The United Methodist Church the office of **deaconess** and the office of **home missionary** to which persons are constituted whose quality of commitment and missional service are affirmed and supported by the act of commissioning and the continuing relationship with the Board of Global Ministries through the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service. They may serve in any agency of The United Methodist Church in the United States and/or its dependencies. They may also serve in agencies or work outside The

<sup>28</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 341.

United Methodist Church, *provided* that such work is approved by the National Division upon recommendation of the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service in consultation with the bishop of the area.

2. The appointment of deaconesses and home missionaries shall be made as follows:

- a) Worker and agency participate in the statement of preference.
- b) Recommendation to an appointment by the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service after consultation with the bishop of the area.
- c) Confirmation of the appointment by the National Division. The appointment shall be reviewed by the Cabinet and made by the bishop of the Annual Conference and printed in the Annual Conference journal.

3. Deaconesses/home missionaries shall hold church membership in a local church within the conference where their appointment is located and shall be voting members of the Charge Conference of that church. Those holding staff positions with a general board or a connectional agency of The United Methodist Church may hold church membership in an Annual Conference within reasonable distance of the headquarters of the board or agency served.

4. Deaconesses and home missionaries shall be seated at the sessions of the Annual Conference with the privilege of the floor but without vote, unless they are duly elected delegates.

5. Deaconesses and home missionaries shall be subject to the administrative authority of the agency to which they are appointed. In matters of their appointment they shall be finally subject to the authority of the National Division through the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service and shall, therefore, enter into no contract for service which would nullify this authority.

6. A pension shall be provided for deaconesses.

a) For all deaconesses commissioned on or after July 24, 1940, there shall be a contributory plan, with the employing agency and the deaconess sharing contributions as determined from time to time by actuarial studies.

b) For deaconesses commissioned or consecrated previous to July

24, 1940, former agreements are continued and the administrations with which they were connected are responsible for the pensions.

c) For home missionaries of the uniting churches, previous agreements shall be continued.

d) Deaconesses and home missionaries employed by a church or agency having its own pension plan shall participate in that plan during the term of service with that church or agency.

7. Deaconesses and home missionaries shall surrender their credentials when they are no longer available for appointment by The United Methodist Church. Persons may be reinstated on recommendation of the Committee on Deaconesses/Home Missionary Service and with the approval of the National Division.

¶ 1138. *Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service.*—1. There shall be a **Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service**, which shall be advisory to the Board of Global Ministries and shall make recommendations to it.

2. The Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service shall be composed of one bishop who is a member of the Board of Global Ministries, chosen by the Council of Bishops; three members of the office of deaconess or the office of home missionary and one minister, chosen by each jurisdiction Association of Deaconesses/Home Missionaries; the president of each jurisdiction United Methodist Women; three representatives, including at least one man, chosen by the National Division, one of whom shall be a member of the Committee on Personnel in Mission; the president of the Women's Division; and one staff representative of the Office of Missionary Personnel. The committee may co-opt others as needed. The executive secretary of the Department of Deaconess/Home Missionary Service shall be a member without vote.

3. The committee shall meet annually. Its officers shall be elected quadrennially.

4. There shall be an executive committee and other committees as necessary for carrying out the duties of the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service.

¶ 1139. *Functions of the Committee.*—1. To seek to provide the Church with a corps of committed and professionally competent workers.

2. To recommend new channels and fields of service for deaconesses and home missionaries.

3. To study and recommend, through the National Division, to the Board of Global Ministries policies and procedures, including standards, relative to the office of deaconess and the office of home missionary and their relationships to the Church and society.

4. To facilitate the placement of deaconesses and home missionaries, and to recommend to the bishops the appointments of deaconesses and home missionaries and to seek confirmation of such appointments with the National Division.

5. To initiate and recommend programs of continuing education and pastoral care for members of the office of deaconess and office of home missionary that will contribute to their spiritual, professional, and emotional growth and to their corporate participation in mission.

6. To initiate, recommend and cooperate with agencies and boards in interpreting the office of deaconess and the office of home missionary.

7. To establish and maintain international and ecumenical relationships in the diaconate.

8. To cooperate with the Women's Division and other bodies in administering properties, trust funds, permanent funds, other special funds, pension programs, and employment benefits and endowments now held and administered by and for the several forms of administration related to the deaconess and home missionary.

¶ 1140. 1. There shall be a **Department of Deaconess/Home Missionary Service** administratively related to the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries fulfilling the functions of the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service and caring for the office of deaconess and the office of home missionary.

2. The Board of Global Ministries shall elect an executive secretary of the Department of Deaconess/Home Missionary Service who shall be a member of the office of deaconess or the office of home missionary. Nomination shall be by the National Division in consultation with the executive committee of the Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service.

3. In each jurisdiction there shall be a **jurisdiction Association**

of **Deaconesses/Home Missionaries** whose membership and functions are described in the bylaws of the Board of Global Ministries.

UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF

¶ 1141. There shall be a **United Methodist Committee on Relief** with the status of a division within the Board of Global Ministries. It shall be composed of twenty-one board members, as follows: nineteen persons named in a manner consistent with ¶ 1082.3 and two bishops. In addition, seven members at large of the division shall be elected in such manner as the division may determine, whose special knowledge or experience would increase the competence of the committee. The associate general secretary and treasurer of the division, the officers of the board as defined in ¶ 1086.3 and four additional staff members of the Board of Global Ministries, named by the board, shall be members *ex officio*.

¶ 1142. The United Methodist Committee on Relief is authorized to elect its own officers, other than its president; to appoint subcommittees as desired; to employ such staff as the committee may deem necessary; and to provide for its necessary expense of administration and promotion out of undesignated receipts. Committee and staff members shall be bonded.

The associate general secretary shall be elected by the Board of Global Ministries on nomination of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (¶ 809).

¶ 1143. 1. The United Methodist Committee on Relief shall have the authority to incorporate, to make bylaws, and to regulate its proceedings for the purposes and functions as defined in the Discipline of The United Methodist Church in the fields of relief, of rehabilitation for victims of disaster and endemic circumstance, and of services to refugees. Involvement in and response to programs of The United Methodist Church shall be limited by these purposes and functions in consultation with other divisions and units of service of the Board of Global Ministries.

2. The United Methodist Committee on Relief shall elect an **executive committee**, which shall have the powers granted to it by the division. It shall be composed of nine members, including the presi-

dent, vice-president, and secretary of the division. The associate general secretary and the treasurer of the division and the officers of the board as defined in ¶ 1086 shall be members *ex officio*. One-half of the nonepiscopal members shall be women. The executive committee shall meet as determined by the division or on call of the president.

¶ 1144. 1. The functions of the United Methodist Committee on Relief shall be:

a) To minister in the spirit of Jesus Christ to persons in need without regard to their religion, race, or nationality.

b) To give assistance for a limited period to the national workers and the people of colleague churches overseas who are in need because of war or other disasters. In overseas countries where the Board of Global Ministries is at work, it is expected that the administration of specifically United Methodist relief be through the representative of the board and the chief executive officers of colleague churches.

c) At the request of the appropriate body of The United Methodist Church to respond to the suffering of persons in the United States caused primarily by natural disaster, recognizing that interdenominational resources other than funds may be called upon, the major cost of the repair and reconstruction of the churches and other church property is assumed by an Annual Conference or other permanent bodies, if necessary on the strength of initial funding by the United Methodist Committee on Relief, in accordance with agreements or plans made prior to the raising of designated funds.

d) In the relief of human suffering to cooperate with Church World Service, the Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee, and World Service of the World Council of Churches, and other relief agencies as the committee may deem wise.

e) To transmit to the Church appeals for help to receive and allocate funds contributed by churches, groups, or individuals for the purposes stated above; *provided* that no churchwide appeal for funds shall be made without the approval of the Council of Bishops and the Council on Finance and Administration.

f) To acknowledge gifts by its own vouchers.

2. In order to provide adequate means for the prosecution of its work, the committee, in addition to those receipts from voluntary gifts and the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, shall be included

in any churchwide appeal to meet emergencies growing out of war, internal strife, or natural disaster. Financial responsibility for administrative functions of the Board of Global Ministries shall not be a claim against funds designated for the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Financial promotion shall be by the Advance Committee (¶¶ 849-850) and by the Council on Finance and Administration in consultation with the associate general secretary of the committee.

#### WOMEN'S DIVISION

¶ 1145. The Women's Division shall be composed of board members as follows: one of the episcopal members of the board, with residence in the United States; six basic members of the board; two clergy in full connection; two laymen and two laywomen; and fifty-eight women, forty of whom shall be nominated by the jurisdiction organizations of United Methodist Women and elected by the Jurisdictional Conferences (¶ 1153.4), five shall be the jurisdictional presidents of United Methodist Women, and thirteen shall be elected by the division to board membership. Officers of the board (¶ 1086.3) and the associate general secretary of the division shall be *ex officio* members. The division shall meet annually at the time of the meeting of the board and at such other times as it shall deem necessary.

¶ 1146. The Women's Division shall elect an executive committee which shall exercise the powers of the division *ad interim*. It shall be composed of nineteen members, of whom the division shall elect six to serve on the executive committee of the World Division, six to serve on the executive committee of the National Division, two to serve on the executive committee of the Division of Education and Cultivation. Members of the executive committee may also be named by the division to serve on other divisional executive committees. The associate general secretary and treasurer of the division and the officers of the board as defined in ¶ 1086.3 shall be members *ex officio*.

¶ 1147. 1. The Women's Division shall have the authority to make bylaws and to regulate its proceedings in harmony with the charter and constitution of the board and, with its approval, to develop and carry out the functions of the board as described in ¶ 1078; to buy and sell property; to solicit and accept contributions, subject to an-

nity under the board's regulations; and to recommend the appropriation of division funds for the work of the joint agencies of the board.

2. The Women's Division shall have the authority:

a) To organize jurisdiction, conference, district, and local church organizations of United Methodist Women which shall be auxiliary to the Board of Global Ministries, through the Women's Division, of The United Methodist Church.

b) To recommend constitutions and make bylaws for United Methodist Women.

c) To appropriate its funds.

d) To serve as the national official policy-making body of United Methodist Women with the officers of the Women's Division designated as the national officers.

¶ 1148. The functions of the Women's Division shall be:

1. To recommend program and policies to United Methodist Women.

2. To interpret the mission of Christ and his Church as stated in The Purpose of United Methodist Women.

3. To provide resources and opportunities for women that enrich their spiritual life and increase their knowledge and understanding of the needs of the world and their responsibility in meeting those needs.

4. To secure funds through the channels of United Methodist Women for the support of the program of the Church through the Board of Global Ministries, with special concern for the needs and responsibilities of women.

5. To project plans specially directed toward leadership development of women through appropriate planning with the other divisions and agencies of the board.

6. To strengthen the Church's challenge to women to enlist in the diaconate as missionaries and deaconesses at home and as missionaries abroad.

7. To enlist women in activities that have a moral and religious significance for the public welfare and that contribute to the establishment of a Christian social order around the world.

8. To plan with the other agencies of the Church and community in areas of common concern and responsibility.

9. To give visible evidence of oneness in Christ by uniting in fellowship and service with other Christians, including the World Federation of Methodist Women, Church Women United, and other similar groups, thereby strengthening the ecumenical witness and program of the Church.

¶ 1149. *Responsibilities and Scope.*—1. The Women's Division shall include in its responsibilities those formerly carried by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of The Methodist Church and the Women's Society of World Service of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Women's Society of Christian Service of The United Methodist Church, and those other organizations of women of similar purposes which have operated in the churches forming the United Methodist tradition.

2. The scope of the division shall be rooted in the concerns and responsibilities of the Church in today's world, including the special needs and interests of women. It shall foster spiritual growth, missionary outreach and service, and Christian social witness through United Methodist Women.

¶ 1150. *Sections.*—The Women's Division shall be organized into such sections as the division shall determine, including a United Nations Office conducted in cooperation with the Board of Church and Society.

¶ 1151. *Finances.*—The funds for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the Women's Division shall be derived from annual voluntary pledges, offerings, gifts, devises, bequests, annuities, or money received through special emphases and meetings held in the interest of the division. All funds, except those designated for local purposes, shall be forwarded through the channels of finance of United Methodist Women to the treasurer of the division. Undesignated funds received by the Women's Division shall be allocated by the division, on recommendation of the appropriate section or committee, for the work of the several sections of the Women's Division and to such other divisions and agencies of the Board of Global Ministries as the division shall determine for the fulfillment of the responsibilities of the division. Funds appropriated for the work of the other divisions and agencies of the board may be given with specific designations and

time limits, after which unspent funds are to be returned to the division.

¶ 1152. *Assembly.*—There may be an assembly of United Methodist Women, including a delegated body termed the **Assembly**. The division shall determine the time and place of meeting and the purpose, composition, functions, and power of the Assembly. It may speak as an assembly on major issues of concern to women and may make recommendations to the Women's Division.

¶ 1153. *Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Jurisdiction.*—*Article 1. Name.*—In each jurisdiction there shall be a jurisdiction organization named United Methodist Women, auxiliary to the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.

*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 Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.

*Article 3. Membership.*—The jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of the members of the Core Planning Group; six delegates from each conference organization, all of whom shall be conference officers; members of the Women's Division living within the jurisdiction; a representative of the Jurisdiction Association of Deaconesses and Home Missionaries; and all the 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 women nominees to the Board of Global Ministries shall be elected according to the Discipline (¶ ¶ 1154.6 d, 1145), and the president and any other officers shall also be elected.

*b)* There may be other meetings as needed.

*Article 5. Amendments.*—Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be sent to the recording secretary of the Women's Division prior to the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium.

¶ 1154. *Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Conference.*—*Article 1. Name.*—In each Annual Conference there shall be a conference organization named United Methodist Women, auxil-

ary to the jurisdiction organization of United Methodist Women and to the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.

*Article 2. Function.*—The function of the conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with the district organizations and the local units of United Methodist Women in developing 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 Women's Division.

*Article 3. Authority.*—Each conference organization of United Methodist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.

*Article 4. Membership.*—The conference organization of United Methodist Women shall be composed of all members of local units within the bounds of the conference. The resident bishop shall be a member of the conference organization of United Methodist Women and of its executive committee.

*Article 5. Officers and Committees.*—The conference organization shall elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a Committee on Nominations. Additional officers and committees shall be elected or appointed in accordance with the plans of the Women's Division 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 which time there shall be presented a program designed to meet the needs of the women of the conference in harmony with The Purpose and the plans and responsibilities of the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries. Officers and the Committee on Nominations shall be elected, the necessary business transacted, and pledges made for the ensuing year.

*b)* The voting body of the annual meeting of the conference organization shall be composed of representatives from units in local churches as determined by the conference organization; such district officers as the conference organization may determine; the conference

officers and chairpersons of committees; members of the Women's Division and officers of the jurisdiction organization residing within the bounds of the conference.

c) At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction organization, six conference officers shall be elected according to provisions in ¶ 1153.3 for membership in the jurisdiction organization.

d) At the annual meeting of the conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction organization, the conference organization shall nominate three women for membership on the Board of Global Ministries, the names to be sent to the jurisdiction organization according to the instructions in ¶ 1153.4.

*Article 7. Relationships.*—a) The president of the conference organization of United Methodist Women is a member of the Annual Conference, as set forth in ¶ 36.

b) Designated officers shall represent the conference organization on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the conference as the constitutions and bylaws of such agencies provide.

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 responsibilities and leadership.

*Article 8. Amendments.*—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the Women's Division prior to the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium.

¶ 1155. *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 organization of United Methodist Women and the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.

*Article 2. Function.*—The function of the district organization of United Methodist Women shall be to work with local units in developing 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 Women's Division and the conference organization of United Methodist Women.

*Article 3. Authority.*—Each district organization of United Meth-

odist Women shall have authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the conference organization and the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.

*Article 4. Membership.*—All members of organized units of United Methodist Women in the local churches of the district shall be considered members of the district organization. The district superintendent shall be a member of the district organization of United Methodist Women and of its executive committee.

*Article 5. Officers and Committees.*—The district organization shall elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a Committee on Nominations. Additional officers and committees shall be elected or appointed in accordance with the plans of the Women's Division as set forth in the bylaws for the district organization of United Methodist Women.

*Article 6. Meetings and Elections.*—There shall be an annual meeting of the district organization of United Methodist Women, at which time there shall be presented a program designed to meet the needs of the women of the district in harmony with The Purpose and the plans and the responsibilities of the conference organization and the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries. Officers and the Committee on Nominations shall be elected, the necessary business transacted, and pledges made for the ensuing year.

*Article 7. Relationships.*—a) Designated officers shall represent the district organization of United Methodist Women on the various boards, councils, commissions, and committees of the district as the constitution and bylaws of such agencies provide.

b) The district president shall be the only district representative with vote on the conference executive committee.

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 Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries prior to the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium.

¶ 1156. *Constitution of United Methodist Women in the Local*

*Church.*—In every local church there shall be an organized unit of United Methodist Women.

*Article 1. Name.*—The name of this organization shall be United Methodist Women.

*Article 2. Relationships.*—The unit of United Methodist Women in the local church is directly related to the district and conference organizations of United Methodist Women and to the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.

*Article 3. Purpose.*—The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the Church.

*Article 4. Membership.*—Membership shall be open to any woman who indicates her desire to belong and to participate in the global mission of the Church through United Methodist Women. The pastor (s) shall be an ex officio member.

*Article 5. Officers and Committees.*—The local unit shall elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a Committee on Nominations. Additional officers and committees shall be elected or appointed, as needed, in accordance with the plans of the Women's Division as set forth in the bylaws for the local unit of United Methodist Women.

*Article 6. Funds—*a) The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall secure funds for the fulfillment of its purpose.

b) All funds, from whatsoever source secured by the unit of United Methodist Women, belong to the organization and shall be disbursed only in accordance with its constitution and by its order.

c) The total budget secured and administered by the organized unit in the local church shall include: (1) pledges and other moneys for the programs and responsibilities of the Women's Division, to be directed through regular channels of finance of United Methodist Women; and (2) funds to be used in mission locally, which shall include amounts for administration and membership development.

d) The organized unit in the local church shall make an annual

pledge to the total budget of the district or conference organization of United Methodist Women.

e) All undesignated funds channeled to the Women's Division shall be appropriated by the division.

*Article 7. Meetings.*—The organized unit in the local church shall hold such meetings for implementing The Purpose and transacting its business as the unit itself shall decide.

*Article 8. Relationships in the Local Church.*—The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall encourage all women to participate in the total life and work of the Church, and shall support them in assuming positions of responsibility and leadership.

*Article 9. Amendments.*—Proposed amendments to this constitution may be sent to the recording secretary of the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries before the last annual meeting of the division in the quadrennium.

#### WORLD DIVISION

¶ 1157. 1. The **World Division** shall be composed of thirty board members as follows: twenty-seven persons named in a manner consistent with ¶ 1082.3 and three bishops. In addition, fifteen members at large of the division only shall be elected in such manner as the division shall determine. The associate general secretary and treasurer of the division and the officers of the board as defined in ¶ 1085 shall be members ex officio.

2. The division shall meet annually at the time of the meeting of the board and at such other times as it shall deem necessary.

3. There shall be an executive committee, whose powers shall be determined by the division with the approval of the board. It shall be composed of fifteen members, including two bishops. The associate general secretary and treasurer of the division and the officers of the board as defined in ¶ 1085 shall be members ex officio. One-half of the nonepiscopal members shall be women.

¶ 1158. The functions of the World Division shall be:

1. To administer the program of The United Methodist Church as it relates to areas outside the United States and its dependencies, including such programs previously administered by The Methodist

Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church, and to supervise the work of the various departments of the division.

2. To foster sound relationships with colleague churches outside the United States and to encourage among them interrelationships in mission.

3. To establish goals, priorities, and long-range plans which will enable the division to achieve its objectives and those of the Board of Global Ministries, and to review and evaluate its program in terms of these objectives.

4. To receive and administer funds to be used by The United Methodist Church outside the United States in its general mission activity.

5. To receive and administer funds allocated by the Women's Division, keeping in mind the special concerns of women.

6. To assign missionaries who have been approved by the Board of Global Ministries to their fields of service, and to provide personnel services for them while they are in active service.

7. To make annual reports to the Board of Global Ministries.

¶ 1159. *Liaison Committee*.—1. The Board of Global Ministries, through its World Division, shall request each Central Conference and its conferences, both annual and provisional, each affiliated autonomous Methodist church, or united church, where applicable, to make provision for liaison functions with the board through a committee which is representative of all phases of the world mission, particularly of the needs and responsibilities of women. The World Division shall develop with colleague churches such administrative and fiscal relationships as will stimulate partnership in mission and determine the particular role of each in the joint commitment.

2. There may be a subcommittee on women's work of the committee, which shall deal with all the concerns of women in the Church appropriate to the committee. This subcommittee may be composed of all women members of the committee and additional co-opted members as desired. It shall be chaired by the bishop or officer of the area.

¶ 1160. In a Central Conference in which there is an executive board or council of cooperation constituted, the estimates for the maintenance and development of the work, prepared by the various

liaison committees, may be presented to the World Division after approval by such board or council. The estimates shall be presented conference by conference, and by projects within the conferences.

¶ 1161. In a Central or Provisional Central Conference where there is no executive board or council of cooperation, the estimates shall be sent directly to the World Division from the liaison committee or each Annual or Provisional Annual Conference.

¶ 1162. *Administration of New Commitments*.—Where the World Division, with the approval of the Board of Global Ministries, plans to open work in countries beyond its present commitments, the division shall do so either through a working agreement negotiated with the church or churches already in the area or a united mission organization. Only where neither of these approaches is possible should a United Methodist mission be organized. Such a mission organization shall be structured in accordance with local conditions and administered by the World Division.

¶ 1163. *Missionaries*.—Ordained missionaries who serve in Annual Conferences related to a Central Conference may retain their memberships in their home Annual Conferences; and without impairing their relationships with their home Annual Conferences may, while serving in such fields, be free to accept such rights and privileges as may be offered them by the overseas Annual Conferences, except membership, or they may arrange with the bishops involved for a transfer of membership.

All lay missionaries who serve in such Central Conferences should transfer their memberships to the overseas local churches.

¶ 1164. *Missionaries Serving Other Churches*.—1. Missionaries of The United Methodist Church, on action of the Board of Global Ministries, may be assigned to serve in affiliated autonomous churches, in independent churches, in churches resulting from the union of Methodist churches and other communions, or in other evangelical denominations.

2. Such missionaries, while retaining their memberships in their home local churches or Annual Conferences, and without impairing their relationships to the Board of Global Ministries, shall, while on service in such fields, be free to accept such rights and privileges as may be offered to them by such churches.

¶ 1165. *Authority for Work Overseas.*—Other agencies of The United Methodist Church shall conduct work outside the United States only after prior consultation and with the approval of the Board of Global Ministries.

#### CRUSADE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

¶ 1166. 1. There shall be a program of scholarships and fellowships to provide assistance for the training of leaders for mission, enabling persons from churches abroad and from ethnic and language minorities in the United States to obtain preparation in their respective fields for service to the Church and society. The program shall be structurally related to the Board of Global Ministries.

2. There shall be a **Crusade Scholarship Committee**, composed of twenty-two members elected quadrennially as follows: sixteen from the Board of Global Ministries, four of whom shall be elected by the World Division, four of whom shall be elected by the Women's Division, four of whom shall be elected by the National Division, two of whom shall be elected by the Division of Education and Cultivation, and two of whom shall be elected by the Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns; six members at large, four of whom shall be elected by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and two of whom shall be elected by the Council on Finance and Administration. The general secretary of the Board of Global Ministries shall be a member ex officio of the committee, without vote. Vacancies shall be filled as early as possible by the agency in which they occur.

3. The committee shall elect its officers quadrennially.

¶ 1167. The functions of the committee shall include the following:

1. To set broad policies.
2. To receive report of and monitor administration of funds.
3. To plan for promotion and cultivation through the Advance Committee and the Council on Finance and Administration (¶¶ 849, 850).

¶ 1168. The Crusade Scholarship Committee, through the authority given to it by the Board of Global Ministries, shall be responsible for the selection of persons for scholarships and fellowships provided

by the World Communion offering and by other grants received for the Crusade Scholarship program.

¶ 1169. The staff shall be nominated by the Crusade Scholarship Committee and elected by the Board of Global Ministries. The Board of Global Ministries shall provide for the administration of the program, including the provision of an office and the approval of a budget for administration.

#### OFFICE OF MISSIONARY PERSONNEL

¶ 1170. *The Personnel Functions of the Board of Global Ministries.*—1. The Board of Global Ministries shall facilitate the involvement of people in mission service.

2. The Board of Global Ministries shall have the authority:

- a) To set standards and qualifications of missionary candidates, including deaconesses, for service in the United States and overseas.
- b) To constitute the relationship of deaconess and missionary through the act of commissioning.

3. There shall be a **Committee on Personnel in Mission**, which shall give final approval of candidates and oversight to the Board of Global Ministries personnel functions. This committee shall be constituted by sixteen members of the Board of Managers, including representatives from the personnel-deploying units of the board. One-half of the board members of the committee shall be women. Three additional members at large may be selected for their professional competence.

4. There shall be an **Office of Missionary Personnel** in the Board of Global Ministries, which shall serve as liaison with the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and which shall carry forward the personnel functions of the Board of Global Ministries in cooperation with its personnel-deploying units, including those related to missionaries, deaconesses, voluntary service, and emergency relief.

5. The Board of Global Ministries shall elect an executive secretary of the Office of Missionary Personnel who shall be administratively responsible to the general secretary. The board shall elect additional staff members as needed who shall also have a functional relationship with the personnel-deploying units of the board.

6. It shall be the responsibility of the Office of Missionary Personnel, in consultation with the appropriate divisions and the Office of Personnel of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, to provide reorientation and counseling for missionary personnel, including deaconesses, upon their leaving the service of the Board of Global Ministries.

#### JURISDICTIONAL BOARDS

¶ 1171. In each jurisdiction there may be a **jurisdictional Board of Global Ministries**, auxiliary to the general board, as the Jurisdictional Conference may determine.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOARDS

¶ 1172. The Annual Conference shall determine the necessity for a **conference Board of Global Ministries**. Should the conference determine not to create such a board, it shall be the responsibility of the conference Council on Ministries to provide for the connectional relationships between the general board and conference, district, and local church organizations.

¶ 1173. *Composition and Purpose.*—1. The **conference Board of Global Ministries** shall if organized be auxiliary to the general and jurisdictional boards, shall represent the general board in all its promotional activities within the bounds of the Annual Conferences and shall cooperate with the Annual Conference Council on Ministries. It shall be composed of the following members, elected quadrennially: one or more lay members and an equal number of ministers from each district; five members at large, to include one young adult lay person (eighteen to thirty years of age), nominated by the conference nominating committee and elected quadrennially by the Annual Conference; a representative of the conference Board of Discipleship; the chairperson of Christian outreach and one other representative, eighteen years of age or younger, elected by the conference Council on Youth Ministry; one student chosen by the state or regional student organization operating within the conference territory; and the conference and district missionary secretaries, the conference lay leader,

the conference secretary of evangelism, the president and the chairperson of missionary education of the conference United Methodist Women, the executive secretary and the chairperson of the Commission on Town and Country Ministries, the chairperson of the Advisory Committee related to church and community workers, the presidents and full-time executives of city, metropolitan and district missionary societies, the chairperson of the Committee on Urban Ministries, the chairperson of the Commission on Equitable Salaries (¶ 892.2), and any members of the general board residing within the bounds of the conference. The district superintendents may be members of the board at the discretion of the Annual Conference.

2. Every effort shall be exercised to make the membership of the board and of the committees of the board broadly inclusive.

¶ 1174. 1. The board shall elect its own officers and two representatives to each city (metropolitan) or district missionary society organized within the bounds of the conference.

2. It shall hold its annual meeting at the call of the president or any three members, on due notice. The transactions for the year shall be reported by the president to the Annual Conference, and a detailed statement of all disbursements of missionary and church-extension aid within the conference shall be printed in the conference journal. It shall receive reports from missionaries who have gone out from the conference.

3. It may hold a midyear meeting, at which time necessary business may be transacted and open meetings planned for a general and public discussion of all matters pertaining to home and foreign missions and church extension.

¶ 1175. The officers and three additional members elected by the board shall constitute an executive committee, which shall exercise the powers of the board ad interim. The president of the Annual Conference United Methodist Women shall be a member of the executive committee.

¶ 1176. The board shall make nominations in accordance with ¶ 1082 for membership on the general board.

¶ 1177. The board shall cooperate with the general board and the Annual Conference Council on Ministries in carrying out the policies and promoting all phases of the work of missions and church

extension. It shall also represent the interests of the United Methodist Committee on Relief and shall promote its projects in the conference. It shall cooperate with the Division of Education and Cultivation in developing an effective program of education and cultivation within the conference. To expedite this program there shall be created a **Committee on Education and Cultivation**, of which the conference missionary secretary shall be chairperson and all district missionary secretaries shall be members. There shall also be on the committee at least one layman and one laywoman elected by the board and one district superintendent selected by the Cabinet.

¶ 1178. *Secretaries.*—1. The Annual Conference, on nomination of the board and in consultation with the Cabinet, may elect annually an **executive secretary** of the board, who, if he or she is a ministerial member of the conference, shall be appointed by the bishop. The executive secretary shall be a member of the board without vote and shall perform such duties in the field of missions and church extension as may be assigned by the board. The expense of the salary of the office of executive secretary shall be included in the budget of the board.

2. The Annual Conference, on nomination of the board, shall elect annually a **conference missionary secretary**, to be publicly assigned by the bishop. A vacancy in this office during the conference year may be filled by the executive committee. This secretary shall promote the policies and plans of the board, and shall be its representative in the conference. The secretary shall work in full cooperation with the conference council director of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries. The Annual Conference may fulfill this requirement by assigning the function of the conference mission secretary to a Council on Ministries staff person, appointed according to the processes of the Annual Conference.

¶ 1179. *Budget.*—The promotional work of the board shall be included in the conference benevolence budget.

¶ 1180. *Missions Anniversary.*—The board shall cooperate with the Annual Conference program committee in arranging for a **missions anniversary** at each conference session, in which the work of the General Board of Global Ministries shall be presented. The president of the conference board shall have charge of such anniversary.

¶ 1181. *Home Missions and Church Extension.*—In the program of home missions and church extension within the bounds of the Annual Conference the board shall act as follows:

1. After consultation with the bishops, the district superintendents, the city (metropolitan) or district missionary societies, the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (where organized), the Committee on Urban Ministries, and the Commission on Town and Country Ministries, the board shall develop and recommend to the Annual Conference a conference-wide plan for home missions and church extension within the bounds of the conference. It shall give due consideration to the missionary and church-extension needs of the several districts, placing special emphasis on the unchurched areas and the population and other community changes, including a strategy for cooperative parish development. Priority lists shall be developed when feasible.

With the district superintendents it shall also give due consideration to the responsibilities and resources of the National Division in home missions work and support, and in church-extension planning and assistance in the fields of survey, site selection, architecture, fund raising, and loans for new churches, including a strategy for cooperative parish development.

2. It shall coordinate and/or make such studies and surveys as are needed for the development of such a conference-wide strategy and program, including a strategy for cooperative parish development. Priority lists shall be developed when feasible.

3. In order to help provide adequate financial resources for the conference-wide program of home missions and church extension, the board shall, at least quadrennially, in consultation with the Cabinet and, where advisable, with city (metropolitan) or district missionary boards or societies, provide for a survey of the missionary and church-extension needs of the several districts, placing special emphasis on the unchurched areas and the population and other community changes with a view to determining in each what should be the overall financial objective. From this study an adequate conference-initiated financial program shall be formulated with a view to meeting these needs. A priority list of projects to be developed shall be pre-

pared. The list and all revisions shall be filed with the National Division.

4. On recommendation of its executive committee or its Committee on Home Missions the board shall review and approve or adjust the askings of the district superintendents for the mission aid program before they are presented to the general board, keeping in mind that in making the final decision on all askings from the several conferences the National Division must take into account the comparative missionary needs of each project and its permanent value of service to the entire Church.

5. It may estimate annually the amount necessary for the support of conference missionary work and also the amount necessary for conference church extension and shall report both estimates to the Commission on Finance and Administration of the conference. The amount raised on these apportionments shall be administered by the board and applied respectively to missions and to church extension. The work of the board shall be subject to the approval of the Annual Conference. The board shall seek to cover all unoccupied territory in the conference by the establishment and support of missions, but missions shall be established only with the consent of the bishop in charge and the Cabinet and with due consideration to the board's quadrennial plan of survey and strategy.

6. The board, its executive committee, or its Section of Church Extension, composed of not less than one third of its members, shall review, approve or adjust, and certify the applications to the National Division for loans and donations. Through such committee or section it shall administer such funds as come into its possession for church extension within the conference; *provided* that it may turn over all its church-extension funds to the National Division, which shall expend them within the bounds of the conference under the direction of the conference board. It shall provide for consultation between city (metropolitan) and district missionary societies, district Boards of Church Location and Building, and the National Division in the development of standards and procedures for local-church building projects in the fields of site selection, study and approval of architectural plans, and financial programs.

7. In the administration of such funds as come into its possession for church-extension purposes within the conference, it shall have authority to lend or donate any part thereof, whichever in its judgment will better accomplish the desired end. When funds lent or donated are returned, it shall administer them as a portion of the total church-extension funds at its disposal. The foregoing shall not apply to conference board loan funds administered prior to the General Conference of 1948 by the Section of Church Extension of the former Division of National Missions of The Methodist Church. If, however, an Annual Conference so elects, funds lent may become a part of the conference board loan fund, to be administered by the National Division on the same terms, conditions, and policies used by the division.

¶ 1182. *Committee on Research and Survey.*—The board may appoint a **Committee on Research and Survey**, which shall conduct surveys and make research studies within the bounds of the conference and shall cooperate with the National Division in its work of research and survey.

¶ 1183. *Church and Community Committee.*—1. The board may form, in consultation with the Cabinet and the chairpersons of other boards to be represented a **Church and Community Committee**. The committee shall be composed of such members as the conference Board of Global Ministries may determine, including the chairperson of the advisory committee related to church and community workers and all church and community workers in the conference. The bishops and district superintendents are *ex officio* members of the committee.

2. The Church and Community Committee shall work with appropriate representatives of community agencies, other denominations and interdenominational and interfaith bodies, and other boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church in the execution of the following responsibilities:

a) The regular performance of research studies and community surveys essential for planning and decision-making on the church and community concerns of the conference, and especially for cooperative parish development.

b) The development and utilization of long-term planning and

strategy resources for the home mission and extension work of the conference Board of Global Ministries across both rural and urban areas in cooperation with the Cabinet and appropriate council boards and agencies. This assumes a regularized appraisal and definition of needs, resources, objectives, programs, and evaluation processes.

c) The development of church and community programs which will improve the effectiveness of urban and town and country ministries, including joint endeavors with other denominations and with social agencies similarly involved in community planning and problems.

d) The facilitation of communication and joint action on community concerns with the National Division and local or district societies, commissions, or committees.

3. The committee may elect such officers and appoint such subcommittees as deemed necessary for the conduct of its responsibilities. The committee, which provides an integrating church and community alternative to the Committee on Urban Ministries and the Committee on Town and Country Ministries, may have subcommittees on specific rural or urban concerns.

¶ 1184. *Urban and Town and Country Ministries.*—A separate Committee on Urban Ministries and a separate Committee on Town and Country Ministries may be established as an alternate to the Church and Community Committee.

1. *Committee on Urban Ministries.*—(a) The board may appoint, in consultation with the Cabinet, a **Committee on Urban Ministries** to function as a subcommittee of the Board of Global Ministries. The committee shall be composed of clergy and laity currently involved in significant types of urban ministry, including metropolitan strategy and action, action training, community development (community organization, economic development, etc.), local church community outreach, specialized ministries (ministries to business and industry, youth and young adults, joint urban-university ministries, and other emerging mission opportunities in specialized areas), and special issue-oriented social justice programs; representatives of such church agencies as church-extension and research committees, city (metropolitan) and district missionary societies, Board of Discipleship, United Methodist Women, and Commission on Town and Country Minis-

tries; at-large community representatives, including both indigenous target area group leadership and agency leadership involved in such metropolitan sectors as education, employment, and economic development, housing and urban renewal, health, welfare, law enforcement, and criminal justice, government and politics, arts, culture, and recreation.

Special attention in every category should be given to adequate representation of ethnic groups, youth and young adults, and women.

b) The committee may work with lay and clergy leaders on the conference, district, and local-church level to: (1) help initiate and participate in urban coalitions and other associations with leaders in business, finance, industry, labor, education, and welfare in cities all across the nation; (2) help develop effective community organizations of residents in inner-city communities and the suburbs to the end that people may share in the decision-making processes on matters which vitally affect them and will open and use more channels of communication between all people in the metropolitan areas; (3) participate in new creative forms of planning, living, working, and worshiping under new concepts which can be made possible through the development of federal, state, and local efforts such as the Model Cities program; (4) develop the special ministries and new structures, including recruitment, training, and use of lay persons and clergy, appropriate to new metropolitan needs; (5) encourage provision on the Annual Conference, district, and local-church levels for substantial new funds with which the above-mentioned and other desired measures may be undertaken; and (6) cooperate with representatives of other churches and faiths in developing and implementing plans, programs, and funding for these new efforts.

2. *Committee on Town and Country Ministries.*—(a) The board may appoint, in consultation with the Cabinet, a **Committee on Town and Country Ministries** to function as a subcommittee of the Board of Global Ministries. The committee shall be composed of such members as the conference Board of Global Ministries may determine. The chairperson of the advisory committee related to church and community workers, and all church and community workers and other special workers in the conference employed by The United Methodist

Church in town and country communities shall be members of the committee.

b) The functions of the committee shall be to work with the conference and its agencies in program areas of town and country responsibility in all places of less than fifty thousand population. It shall conduct surveys and research studies of town and country areas within the bounds of the conference; develop cooperative procedures between the Church and social and governmental agencies, and with the town and country departments of state councils of churches, and with the churches of other denominations in local communities; work to improve the effectiveness of town and country churches and pastors; recommend a program to coordinate the work of the participating boards and agencies in this program area; lend support and involvement to creative ministries through the church and community program of the National Division; and outline a program of town and country ministries to be presented to the participating agencies and to the conference. In program areas of town and country ministries the conference shall consult with the committee or its executive committee.

3. *Commission on Town and Country Ministries.*—As a further alternative, each Annual Conference may set up quadrennially a **Commission on Town and Country Ministries**, composed of such members as the conference may determine, including the chairperson of the advisory committee related to church and community workers and all church and community workers in the conference. The commission shall be charged with the responsibility to recommend to the Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries and to the Annual Conference strategies for mission and ministry for all communities of less than fifty thousand population. The commission shall be amenable to the Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries.

¶ 1185. *Committee on Parish and Community Development.*—The board may appoint, in consultation with the Cabinet, a **Committee on Parish and Community Development** in place of a Committee on Urban Ministries and a Commission on Town and Country Ministries. It shall have the combined responsibilities and representative composition as set forth in ¶¶ 1183-84.

## DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

¶ 1186. *District Missionary Secretary.*—There shall be a **district missionary secretary** in each district, appointed by the district superintendent after consultation with the conference missionary secretary and publicly assigned by the bishop. A vacancy in this office during the conference year may be filled by appointment by the district superintendent. This secretary shall work in cooperation with the district superintendent and conference missionary secretary.

¶ 1187. *District Missionary Institute.*—There shall be held annually in each district a training program which may be a **district missionary institute**, workshop, missionary festival, or rally. It shall be for the purpose of informing, training, and motivating the pastors and members of Commissions on Missions and other lay persons of local churches within the whole district. The board, through its Committee on Education and Cultivation, shall project conference-wide plans for education and cultivation. The district superintendents and district missionary secretaries shall promote and conduct the program in their respective districts. They shall consult with the chairperson of missionary education of the district United Methodist Women and the district lay leader. The Division of Education and Cultivation shall cooperate with them in furnishing recommendations and resources for the program, including current study books, literature, audio-visual aids, speakers, and methods. Plans should include adequate time and number of meetings to reach all churches effectively.

¶ 1188. *District Secretary of Town and Country Ministries.*—A **district secretary of town and country ministries** may be elected for each district by the conference Commission on Town and Country Ministries, on nomination by the district superintendent after consultation with the executive secretary of the commission. The district secretary shall work in close cooperation with the executive secretary of the commission in all phases of the town and country program. The chief functions shall be to expedite all program aspects in the district, to assist the district superintendent in implementing the program, and to serve as liaison between the district and conference programs. (See ¶ 1184.)

**Note:** For other district agencies in the field of missions see

¶ 1128, city or district missionary societies, and ¶ 1155, district United Methodist Women.

For a description of the organization and duties of the Commission on Missions in the local church see ¶ 159.3.

### Section IX. Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

¶ 1189. There shall be a **Board of Higher Education and Ministry**.

¶ 1190. Within the expression of the total mission of the Church outlined in the aims of mission of the Council on Ministries, the Board of Higher Education and Ministry exists for the specific purpose of preparing and assisting persons to fulfill their ministry in Christ as this has been historically understood by United Methodism. Ministry in the Christian tradition is derived from the ministry of Christ. It is a ministry bestowed upon and required of the entire Church. All Christians are called to ministry, and theirs is a ministry of the people of God within the community of faith and in the world. Members of The United Methodist Church receive this gift of ministry in company with all Christians. (See ¶ 301.)

¶ 1191. The function of this board is to assist in the preparation for, and the fulfillment of, that general ministry to which we are all called as United Methodists, through institutions of higher education, and to give guidance, counsel, and assistance to those desiring to enter any one of several special ministries of the Church.

¶ 1192. The board shall be incorporated and shall be the corporate successor to: the Board of Education of The United Methodist Church, as it was the successor to the Board of Education of The Methodist Church; the Board of Education for Negroes of the Methodist Episcopal Church; and the Freedman's Aid Society.

¶ 1193. *Organization.*—The membership of this board shall be constituted in accordance with ¶¶ 803-804 of the general provisions. If a vacancy occurs in the board, it shall be filled in accordance with ¶ 816.

¶ 1194. The board shall be organized into four divisions: the Division of Higher Education, the Division of the Ordained Ministry, the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries, the Division of Lay Ministries; and an Office of Personnel.

### DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

¶ 1195. 1. Higher education is part of both our Wesleyan heritage and our present task. In establishing and maintaining educational institutions and in ministering to students without respect to race or national origin, the Church continues its historic work of uniting knowledge and vital piety.

2. There shall be a **Division of Higher Education**, which shall represent The United Methodist Church in all activities connected with secondary and higher education and campus ministry. The division shall have responsibility for establishing and coordinating denominational policy for higher education, and shall have an advisory relationship to all educational institutions in the United States affiliated with The United Methodist Church: universities, colleges, secondary schools, Wesley Foundations, and similar units, and the regularly organized interdenominational campus ministry groups. On request, it may serve in an advisory capacity to the several agencies of the Church owning or administering educational institutions.

3. Its principal objectives shall be:

a) To develop an educational plan and purpose which shall definitely relate the educational institutions of the Church to the Church;

b) To foster within them the highest educational standards and soundest business practices;

c) To interpret to them their place and function in the life and work of the Church;

d) To encourage them in their commitment to Christian standards and ideals in their teaching, policies, and practices;

e) To interpret to the membership of the Church the distinctive services rendered by these educational institutions and their functions in the Church and society;

f) To lead the Church in a program designed to assure their permanence, efficiency, academic excellence, and Christian commitment.

4. It shall operate through three constituent sections: the Section of Schools, Colleges, and Universities; the Section of Campus Ministry; and the Section of Loans and Scholarships.

5. It shall engage personnel and appoint such commissions and committees and adopt such regulations as necessary for the discharge of its responsibilities.

¶ 1196. The specific responsibilities of the Division of Higher Education are:

1. To devise ways and means to interpret and aid the higher education program of the Church. (See ¶ 1200.1.)

2. To cooperate with Annual Conferences in establishing and conducting institutions of higher education in the United States in areas in which facilities for Christian higher education are not adequately provided. (See ¶ 1220.1.)

3. To promote Christian instruction, afford opportunities for Christian service, and offer guidance in church occupations for students at educational institutions of The United Methodist Church and for United Methodist students at tax-supported and other institutions not related to The United Methodist Church.

4. To make use, insofar as is practicable, of the existing church organization and publications for carrying out its work of interpretation, setting up such conferences and producing such materials as will strengthen the interrelation of the Church, its educational institutions, and its campus ministry units.

5. To study the financial status of United Methodist educational institutions, encourage the Church to give them continuing and conscientious support, provide guidance and leadership in their special financial campaigns, and formulate procedures by which they can approach United Methodist members and constituents for gifts and bequests.

6. To direct attention to the work and needs of educational institutions which stand in special relationship to the Church at large and to request support for them, with due recognition of the needs of schools and colleges historically related to education for Negroes.

7. To furnish guidance, plans for procedure, personal leadership, and plans for special gifts to be known as educational specials in the promotion of the work of higher education in the Annual Conferences and in the local churches.

8. To devise methods of credit for local church giving to educational institutions and campus ministry units related to the division,

including the listing of all such giving in appropriate columns in the statistical reports of the Annual Conference Minutes.

¶ 1197. The Section of Schools, Colleges, and Universities shall have primary responsibility for the work of the division as outlined in ¶ ¶ 1195-96 and hereafter described in ¶ ¶ 1198-1203 insofar as the provisions thereof relate to the universities, colleges, secondary, and other schools of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1198. 1. The section, on behalf of the division, shall appropriate such funds as are available for the support of educational institutions related to The United Methodist Church, under such rules as it may adopt.

2. In making appropriations for the support of educational institutions, the section, on behalf of the division, shall give due consideration to their financial needs as shown in carefully prepared reports presented by them on forms provided. Appropriations to institutions from funds at the disposal of the division shall not bar those institutions from soliciting aid from their supporting conferences or from other sources. (See ¶ 1231.2.)

3. The section, on behalf of the division, shall cooperate with the General and Annual Conferences in their efforts to provide the institutions related to them adequate financial income for the operation of accredited educational programs.

4. The section, on behalf of the division, shall recommend to Jurisdictional and Annual Conference Committees on Education concerned with the appropriation of conference funds those institutions whose educational and religious aims and programs are in active accord with the policies of the Church as expressed in the Discipline and through special General Conference enactments. (¶ ¶ 1208-09.)

5. The section, on behalf of the division, shall have power to administer under the rules and regulations of the board any and all funds, gifts, and bequests which have been or may be committed to it, and subject to the approval of the board, it may solicit or create special funds for its projects. The division is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the social principles of our Church. The purposes for which the funds are given and accepted shall be faithfully observed.

6. The section, on behalf of the division, shall take such action as is necessary to protect or recover the investment which it or any Annual Conference has made in capital funds to any institution founded, organized, developed, or assisted under the direction or with the cooperation of The United Methodist Church, should any such institution discontinue operation or move to sever or to modify its connection with the Church or violate the terms of any such grant of new capital funds made by The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1199. 1. The section, on behalf of the division, shall, in cooperation with the University Senate, study population growth and trends and make recommendations to the Annual Conferences concerning the need for new institutions of learning and the discontinuance, reopening, relocation, and merger of existing institutions.

2. No educational institution hereafter established or acquired shall be qualified for classification as an institution related to The United Methodist Church or be aided by the section or the division unless the division shall have been consulted and shall have approved the expenditures involved in the establishment or acquisition of such institutions. (See ¶ ¶ 1208, 1220).

3. When any change in sponsorship or in cooperating territory and relationships is desired relative to any of these institutions, such proposed change shall be subject to approval by the section or division.

¶ 1200. 1. The section, on behalf of the division, through such officers, committees, and commissions as it may deem necessary, shall provide for the cooperative study of plans for maximum coordination of the work of United Methodist educational institutions with the Church's entire program of Christian education.

2. In cooperation with the Annual Conferences and the pastors and commissions on education of local churches, the section, on behalf of the division, shall bring to the attention of church members the contribution of United Methodist educational institutions to the life and character of youth and the place the institutions have in the preservation and propagation of Christianity. (See ¶ 1196.1.)

¶ 1201. 1. The section, on behalf of the division, shall foster and aid through a special apportionment the United Methodist institutions historically related to education for Negroes. It shall have au-

thority to institute plans by which schools sponsored by the division may cooperate with or may unite with schools of other denominations or under independent control, *provided* that the interests of The United Methodist Church are adequately protected.

2. The section, on behalf of the division, shall encourage such schools to secure adequate endowments for their support and maintenance. Whenever the division is assured that their support will be adequate and the property will be conserved and perpetuated for Christian education under the auspices and control of The United Methodist Church, it may transfer the schools to Boards of Trustees under such conditions as the Board of Higher Education and Ministry may prescribe, including the right of reversion to the board.

¶ 1202. 1. The Section of Loans and Scholarships shall have administrative responsibility for the work of the division in promoting and administering the United Methodist Student Loan Fund, the United Methodist Scholarship Fund, and other grants and bequests made to the division for the aid of students in accordance with regulations recommended by the division and adopted by the board. The division shall have the right to borrow funds from other boards and agencies to provide loan funds.

2. The section, on behalf of the division, shall be responsible for promoting United Methodist Student Day.

3. The section, on behalf of the division, is authorized to participate in the Crusade Scholarship program.

¶ 1203. Educational societies or foundations created by Annual Conferences for the promotion of work in Christian higher education may be recognized as auxiliaries of the Division of Higher Education when their objectives and purposes, their articles of incorporation, and their methods of administration shall have been approved by the Annual Conference within whose bounds they are incorporated. All auxiliaries thus approved may be required to make an annual report of their fiscal and administrative affairs to the division.

¶ 1204. 1. The Section of Campus Ministry shall have administrative responsibility for the work of the division in promoting a campus Christian movement and a ministry to the educational community as defined by the division and in accordance with policies and

procedures of the board. It shall also adopt whatever administrative and program relationships with the Young Adult Ministry as may seem desirable.

2. Among the purposes of the campus ministry of The United Methodist Church shall be:

- a) To serve persons engaged in higher education;
- b) To witness in the campus community to the mission, message, and life of Jesus Christ; to deepen, enrich, and mature the Christian faith of college and university men and women through commitment to Jesus Christ and his Church and to assist them in their service and leadership to the world, in and through the Church;
- c) To help the agencies of the Church and higher education participate in the greater realization of a fully humane society committed to freedom and truth, brotherhood, justice, peace, and personal integrity;
- d) To help people experience release from enslavement, fear, and violence; and to help people live in love;
- e) To be at one with those who are committed to achieving these goals.

3. The United Methodist Church affirms its commitment to an ecumenical approach to campus ministry. It urges local, campus, state, and regional units of that ministry to work toward such ecumenical programming and structures as may most fully express this commitment.

¶ 1205. The Section of Campus Ministry shall give direction and encouragement to local churches, Annual Conferences, and church-related educational institutions in the establishment and expansion of an effective policy and program with regard to the campus Christian movement of the Church and the concern for the mission of the Church within all campus communities.

The responsibility of the section for the campus Christian movement and for the campus ministry shall include the following:

1. It shall describe the general nature and purpose and assist the functioning of the several expressions of movement and ministry related to the division, including: (a) the local church Commission on Education, (b) the Annual Conference and interconference Commit-

tee/Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, (c) the United Methodist related colleges and universities, (d) colleges and universities not related to The United Methodist Church, (e) the Wesley Foundations, (f) the intercollegiate campus Christian movement, and (g) such other expressions of movement and ministry as shall be approved by the division.

2. It shall provide for necessary representation in such agencies as the National Commission of United Ministries in Higher Education, the National Staff of United Ministries in Higher Education, and the Department of Higher Education of the National Council of Churches and its related units.

¶ 1206. There shall be a governing body for the campus ministry in every college community where The United Methodist Church is at work, as follows:

1. For each Wesley Foundation and ecumenical campus ministry related to The United Methodist Church there shall be a board of directors (see ¶ 1251).

2. The division shall encourage each United Methodist-related college or university to establish a Committee on Campus Religious Life, which may serve also as a Campus-Church Relations Committee, and to state qualifications and define duties of the committee in consultation with the division.

3. For each other institution there shall be a Campus-Church Relations Committee, nominated by a local United Methodist body and elected by the conference Committee on Education.

4. The governing body for the campus ministry on a local campus, in cooperation with the Annual Conference, may unify its ministry with others in ecumenical organization, program, and procedure.

¶ 1207. A Wesley Foundation or a regularly organized ecumenical campus ministry unit is the form through which The United Methodist Church makes possible a unified ministry to the tax-supported or independent college or university. The nature of such ministry shall be defined and evaluated by the division.

¶ 1208. 1. The division's evaluation of the ministry of a Wesley Foundation and of ecumenical campus ministries related to The United Methodist Church shall be the responsibility of the Section of Campus Ministry in cooperation with the conference, area, or regional

committee or commission on Christian higher education and campus ministry or appropriate ecumenical agency.<sup>29</sup>

2. Each Wesley Foundation and comparable ministry receiving financial support from The United Methodist Church shall submit annually to the Section of Campus Ministry reports of program and financial status.

¶ 1209. In carrying out its responsibility for the operation, support, and expansion of campus ministry among United Methodists and other persons involved in institutions of higher education, the Section of Campus Ministry may seek to relate campus Christian organizations on Methodist campuses, Wesley Foundations at tax-supported and independent colleges and universities, and such other forms of ministry as may be developed, to the intercollegiate Christian movement.

¶ 1210. 1. The intercollegiate Christian movement represents an ecumenical approach to the campus ministry. The United Methodist Church recognizes this movement as represented internationally in the World Student Christian Federation.

2. In carrying on its work in national and international fields, the section recognizes the World Student Christian Federation as appropriate expression of the intercollegiate Christian movement.

3. The section shall cooperate with the Annual Conferences in serving United Methodist students through such state, area, or regional units as the Annual Conference desires to maintain.

#### UNIVERSITY SENATE

¶ 1211. The University Senate shall be the accrediting and standardizing agency for all the educational institutions related to The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1212. 1. The senate shall be composed of twenty-one persons, not members of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, who are actively engaged in the work of education and are fitted by training and experience for the technical work of establishing standards and evaluating educational institutions in accordance with such standards.

<sup>29</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 137.

Eleven of these members shall be elected quadrennially by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and ten shall be appointed by the Council of Bishops. Due regard shall be given to representation from the various types of institutions included in the senate's classification of educational institutions. If in consequence of the retirement of a member from educational work, or for any other cause a vacancy occurs during the quadrennium, it shall be filled by the agency by which the retiring member was elected at its next meeting. The general secretary of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the associate general secretaries of the Divisions of Higher Education and Ordained Ministry shall serve as ex officio members of the senate.

2. The associate general secretary of the Division of Higher Education shall be the executive secretary of the senate. The general secretary of the board shall convene it for organization at the beginning of each quadrennium. The senate shall elect its own officers, including a president, a vice-president, and a recording secretary, and may appoint such committees and delegate to them such powers as are incident to its work. Thereafter, it shall meet annually at such time and place as it may determine. Special meetings may be called on the written request of five members or at the discretion of the president and the executive secretary.

¶ 1213. The senate shall establish, and assist in maintaining, standards for the educational institutions related to The United Methodist Church and shall sustain an advisory relation to the Division of Higher Education in matters of educational institutions. It shall prepare and publish annually a proper classification of all educational institutions in the United States which are related to The United Methodist Church. Such classification shall comprise the official senate list of educational institutions related to the Church in the United States, and on the basis of this list the division shall be governed in its work.

¶ 1214. At its discretion the senate shall investigate the objectives, academic programs, educational standards, personnel, plant and equipment, business and management practices, financial program, public relations, student personnel services, religious life, and church relations of any designated educational institution claiming or adjudged to be related to The United Methodist Church, and shall report to the sponsoring board or agency through the Division of Higher Educa-

tion decisions as to whether or not the institution is such as to justify its official recognition and continued financial support by the Church.

¶ 1215. The senate shall act as consultant and counselor on all educational matters to all educational institutions related to the Church, and as it deems necessary, shall make to the sponsoring board or other agency of the Church through the Division of Higher Education, to the conference Committees on Education, or to other constituent bodies, recommendations leading to their improvement or accreditation. Failure of any educational institution to make reasonable progress in complying with said recommendations of the senate may render the institution ineligible for further support by the Division of Higher Education or by its related board or other agency, Annual Conference, or conferences.

¶ 1216. The senate, as the accrediting agent for all educational institutions of the Church, may investigate on its own initiative or at the written request of any general board of the Church, conference Committee on Education, or institutional Board of Trustees, the educational work of an institution related to said board and shall report to the board concerned its recommendations as to what specific changes or improvements should be made.

¶ 1217. After consultation with the officers of the senate the Division of Higher Education shall provide in its annual budget for the expense of the senate as it may deem sufficient, except that expenses incurred by the senate on behalf of any other board of the Church shall be borne by that board.

¶ 1218. It shall be the duty of the senate to classify educational institutions in the United States related to The United Methodist Church as follows:

1. Universities
2. Schools of theology
3. Four-year colleges
4. Two-year colleges
5. Secondary schools
6. Other schools.

The senate shall be consulted before any change in the classification of an institution is proposed.

¶ 1219. It shall be the duty of the executive secretary of the

senate to secure from each educational institution related to The United Methodist Church such information as may be needed by the senate for an understanding of the status, work, and progress of the institution. This information shall be supplied on forms approved by the senate.

¶ 1220. 1. In cooperation with the Division of Higher Education, the senate shall study population growth and trends and consider recommendations to the Annual Conferences concerning the need for new institutions of learning and the discontinuance, reopening, relocation, and merger of existing institutions. (See ¶ 1199.)

2. There shall be only as many institutions of higher education as can be supported adequately on a fully accredited basis, as determined by the University Senate.

3. All institutions of higher education shall be adequately endowed. Endowment funds shall be kept sacred for the purpose for which they are given.

4. Within the United States no educational institution or foundation of The United Methodist Church shall hereafter be established or reopened until its plans and organization shall have been approved by the senate. No Annual or Provisional Annual Conference shall acquire or affiliate with a school, college, university, or other educational institution through any board or society unless the approval of the senate shall have been obtained previously and unless in the judgment of the Division of Higher Education there is reasonable assurance of financial support sufficient to equip and maintain the institution in the classification approved for it by the senate. (See ¶ 1199.2.)

#### DIVISION OF THE ORDAINED MINISTRY

¶ 1221. 1. There shall be a **Division of the Ordained Ministry**, which shall have primary responsibility for the work of the board in relation to the schools of theology and the enlistment, preparation, continuing education, and career development of persons serving in the ordained ministries of the Church, and shall be responsible for promoting theological education and its support in the Church.

2. The nominating committee of the board, in carrying out its

responsibilities shall provide, insofar as possible, representation as follows for nomination as members of the Division of the Ordained Ministry: five bishops; nine lay persons, and ten ministers, five of whom shall be members of Annual Conference Boards of the Ministry.

¶ 1222. 1. The work and program of the Division of the Ordained Ministry shall be supported from the general benevolences of the Church and the Ministerial Education Fund. The associate general secretary shall recommend through the general secretary of the board to the Council on Finance and Administration the amount of financial support which should be allocated for the division. Specific provision shall be made by the Council on Finance and Administration from the general benevolences for the Office of Personnel Services.

2. Funds received by the board for the division from the Ministerial Education Fund shall be restricted to the support of the theological schools and the Division of the Ordained Ministry in the development of its program of enlistment, basic professional and continuing education.

¶ 1223. The Division of the Ordained Ministry shall be responsible for the work of the division that relates to persons preparing for service or serving under the appointment of a bishop of the Church.

¶ 1224. The purpose of the Division of the Ordained Ministry shall be:

1. To study ministerial needs and resources for The United Methodist Church, to cooperate with other denominational agencies in programs seeking to interpret the ministry as a vocation and educational preparation for it in an effort to enlist suitable persons, and to promote the observance of Ministry Sunday.

2. To study the needs of United Methodist ministry in the field of education and training and to make recommendations for meeting them.

3. To provide the ministerial courses of study.

4. To cooperate with the Boards of the Ministry of the Annual Conferences by providing guidance in the counseling and examination of ministerial students.

5. To recommend courses of reading and study for all the ministers subsequent to ordination and to devise means of in-service training.

6. To maintain the educational, moral, and religious standards of the ministry of The United Methodist Church and to study problems relating to ministerial ethics and moral principles.

7. To consider problems relating to the ecclesiastical status of ministers so far as these problems may affect denominational policies concerning the ministry and to make recommendations accordingly.

8. To provide for recruiting and preparing persons for ministry among minority groups, including the Black community, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, and those of various other national and ethnic origins; provision for special resources in pre-theological and theological education shall be undertaken as training for these distinctive minority ministries may require.

9. The division shall be responsible for a continuing study of the ministry, and its findings shall be reported to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and to the General Conference.

¶ 1225. The division shall be responsible for:

1. Primary relationships of the board to the schools of theology.

2. Maintenance of the educational standards for the ordained ministry. (See ¶¶ 301-81.)

3. Development and promotion of a program to interpret the appointive ministry as a vocation to suitable persons. (In cooperation with the Office of Personnel.)

4. The educational preparation of candidates for the ordained ministry.

5. The relationships with the Annual Conference Boards of the Ministry (¶ 665.4).

6. Schools and programs of continuing education and inspiration for ministers under appointment.

7. Supervision of the ministerial courses of study.

8. Interpretation and promotion of the Ministerial Education Fund.

9. Standards and procedures in regard to conference relations.

10. Interdenominational relationships that relate to the ordained ministry.

11. Participating in the Crusade Scholarship Program.

¶ 1226. 1. The division shall prescribe the ministerial courses of study, which shall include studies required for license to preach, and

the basic five-year course of study. It shall also provide advanced courses of study for preachers who have finished the above courses and meet requirements of ¶ 333.3.

2. It shall provide and administer special courses of study and examinations in United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity for candidates who are theological school graduates lacking seminary credits in these fields. (See ¶ 333.3.)

3. It shall cooperate with the Boards of the Ministry and other conference boards in organizing, financing, and conducting pastors' schools (short-term schools to provide programs of inspiration and instruction for all ministers) and in the development of other opportunities for continuing education.

4. All work in the ministerial courses of study for candidates for elder in full connection (¶ ¶ 331-37), renewal of license (¶ 320), associate member (¶ 323), probationary member (¶ 325), and lay pastors qualifying for appointment (¶ ¶ 348-49), shall be taken under the direction of the Division of the Ordained Ministry in an approved course of study school. (For exceptional provisions for taking the ministerial course of study by correspondence, see ¶ 348.1.)

¶ 1227. The division shall certify the course offerings in non-Methodist seminaries for meeting the requirements in United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity specified in ¶ 333.3 and shall provide the Boards of the Ministry with a list of the courses approved. It shall consult with the United Methodist schools of theology in regard to courses meeting these requirements. (¶ 1232.)

¶ 1228. The division shall develop and promote a program to interpret the ministry as a vocation to suitable persons for the ministry in cooperation with the Office of Personnel, the United Methodist schools of theology, the Boards of the Ministry, and the bishops, district superintendents, counselors with pre-ministerial students in the colleges and universities, and directors of Wesley Foundations. It shall also sponsor and promote conferences on the ministry in cooperation with the respective bishops, Annual Conference Commissions on Enlistment for Church Occupations, and the Committees or Commissions on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, conference Committees on Education, and Boards of the Ministry.

¶ 1229. 1. The division shall maintain active relationship with the

Boards of the Ministry of the Annual Conferences, jurisdictional Boards or Committees on the Ministry, and with the theological schools of The United Methodist Church.

2. It shall also be affiliated with the appropriate departments of interdenominational bodies.

¶ 1230. The division shall promote Ministry Sunday, which shall be annually observed in every church on the third Sunday in September or some other appropriate Sunday designated by the Annual Conference or the administrative board. The purpose of Ministry Sunday shall be to interpret the ministry as a vocation, the role and the function of the ordained minister in the Church and society, the sense of God's claim upon the minister for representative leadership in the Church, and education for ministry.

#### SCHOOLS OF THEOLOGY

¶ 1231. 1. The schools of theology of The United Methodist Church are established and maintained for the education of ministers. They exist for the benefit of the whole Church, and support shall be provided by the Church. They shall receive financial support for the current operating expenses from the Ministerial Education Fund. (See ¶ 856) They shall continue to receive support from the Church as part of its general benevolent giving (see ¶ 1222) as the Ministerial Education Fund gains support throughout the Church.

2. For the purpose of providing for the better support of these schools, the Division of the Ordained Ministry, in consultation with their administrative officers, shall establish budget askings for their adequate support, and the amount necessary for such support shall be added as a separate item in the askings of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry from the benevolence funds as determined by the authoritative body.

3. The Ministerial Education Fund shall be regarded by Annual Conferences as a priority to be met before any additional benevolences, grants, or funds, are allocated to a theological school or schools of religion in the conference's region.

4. No school of theology or department of theology in a college or university shall be established without first submitting its proposed

organization and classification to the University Senate for prior approval. (See also ¶ 1220.)

¶ 1232. United Methodist schools of theology, in addition to preparing their students for effective service for Christ and the Church, shall acquaint them with the current programs of The United Methodist Church, such as its educational, missionary, social, and other service programs, and with the organizations and terminology of the Church. Each school of theology, in consultation with the Division of the Ordained Ministry, shall provide in its curriculum the courses in United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity specified in ¶ 333 (3). (See also ¶ 1227.)

¶ 1233. The United Methodist schools of theology share with the Boards of the Ministry the responsibility for the selection and education of candidates for admission to the Annual Conferences.

#### DIVISION OF CHAPLAINS AND RELATED MINISTRIES

¶ 1234. There shall be a **Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries** of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The location of the division shall be determined by the Council on Ministries in consultation with the board.

¶ 1235. The Division of Chaplains shall represent The United Methodist Church: (a) in the recruitment, endorsement, and general oversight of all United Methodist ministers serving as chaplains in the U. S. armed forces and federal agencies; (b) in the recruitment, endorsement, and general oversight of all United Methodist ministers serving as chaplains in industry; in state and local, public and private institutions who have been endorsed by the division at their own request, or at the request of the institution in which they serve. Chaplains in similar institutions of The United Methodist Church may be included in the program at their own request when they have met the qualifications required by the division. The division shall render such other services to these chaplains and their constituencies as may be referred to it by the Council of Bishops; (c) in planning and implementing the ministry of the Church to its lay people who are in the military service and institutions. It shall work in cooperation with the Board of Discipleship and with other agencies of the Church in pre-

paring materials, planning programs, and otherwise providing a continuing ministry to these persons. It shall work in cooperation with the Board of Discipleship and with other agencies of the Church in preparing materials, planning programs, and otherwise providing a continuing ministry to these persons. It shall work with the local church in helping it to fulfill its responsibility of keeping in touch with its people who are away from home.

¶ 1236. The division shall be composed of bishops, ministers, and lay persons in accord with ¶¶ 803-804. The division shall elect not more than five representative chaplains as members who may serve a maximum of four years.

¶ 1237. The division is authorized to receive and distribute such share of the World Communion Offering as may be determined by the General Conference, and such other funds and special gifts as are or have been specifically given to the Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries.

¶ 1238. The division shall cooperate with the Council of Bishops in assisting chaplains to maintain their relationships with Annual Conferences.

#### DIVISION OF LAY MINISTRIES

¶ 1239. The **Division of Lay Ministries** shall be responsible for the work of the division that relates to persons in various occupations for which an agency of the Church has set professional standards, but not under the appointment of a bishop.

¶ 1240. The purpose of lay ministries shall be:

1. To study needs and standards for career workers in the lay ministries of The United Methodist Church.
2. To cooperate with denominational agencies in interpreting lay ministries as vocation, the educational preparation for it in an effort to enlist suitable persons, and to cooperate in the promotion of the observance of Ministry Sunday in regard to lay ministries.
3. To cooperate in the study of the needs of the United Methodist ministry, especially in regard to lay ministries, and to make recommendations for meeting them.
4. To provide the lay ministry courses of study.

5. To cooperate with appropriate agencies of the Annual Conferences in regard to the lay ministries by providing guidance in the counseling and examination of students for the lay ministries.

6. To recommend courses of reading and study for career workers in the lay ministries subsequent to their certification and consecration and to devise means of in-service training for them in the furtherance of their careers.

7. To recommend educational, moral, and religious standards for career workers in the lay ministry of The United Methodist Church and to study problems and provide guidance relating to ethics and moral problems in these careers.

8. To provide leadership in recruiting and preparing persons for lay ministries among minority groups.

9. To participate in the continuing study of the ministry, especially in regard to lay ministries and of its findings so as to include matters of importance to lay ministries in its report to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry and to the General Conference.

¶ 1241. This division shall:

1. Relate to the schools of theology and other graduate schools in regard to the lay ministries of Christian education, music, such others as may be assigned to this division.

2. After consultation with the agencies responsible for programs and areas of work affected by career workers in the lay ministry of the Church, recommend to the board and the General Conference the requirements and training policies that shall be minimal for certification and recognition as a career worker in specific categories of lay ministry.

3. Assist and encourage national and/or regional associations of career workers in lay ministry.

4. Relate to the Annual Conference Committees on the Lay Worker in regard to lay ministries in Christian education and music, and such others as may be assigned.

5. Be responsible for continuing education for careers in the lay ministries of the Church in cooperation with the agencies responsible for programs and areas of work affected by these career workers.

6. Be responsible for fostering cooperative relationships among

career workers in the lay ministry of the denomination, and with career workers in other denominations and other faiths.

7. Cooperate with the Christian Educators Fellowship and the Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians as may be mutually agreed.

8. Cooperate with Annual Conference boards, committees, or councils in their responsibilities for administering the certification standards and requirements for career workers in the lay ministries of the Church.

9. Encourage the study of career opportunities in the lay ministry of the Church and provide leadership for the recruitment of persons for careers in lay ministry.

10. Maintain a placement information service in cooperation with the Office of Personnel.

11. In cooperation with the Division of the Ordained Ministry relate to those Annual Conference Boards of Ministry which are organized to include responsibilities for ministries.

12. Cooperate with other agencies through the Program-Curriculum Committee in interpreting and encouraging support for career work in the lay ministries of the Church.

13. Encourage the recognition of workers at the time of their entrance into a career in the lay ministry of the Church and at the time of the completion of their service as a career worker in the lay ministries of the Church.

## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL

¶ 1242. There shall be an **Office of Personnel** within the Board of Higher Education and Ministry which shall have the following objectives and purposes:

1. It shall be responsible for leadership in:

a) Developing and interpreting understanding of vocation in Christian terms.

b) Encouraging appropriate nurturing processes leading to career decisions in church-related occupations.

c) Providing those educative or counseling processes which assist persons in occupational decisions in Christian terms.

d) Interpreting for the whole Church the personnel situation.

2. It shall be responsible for manpower planning for the Church and the carrying forward of such research as will facilitate a more effective stewardship of personnel resources.

3. It shall develop oversight of personnel policies of the various employing or appointing agencies of the Church, toward the end that just and humane conditions of employment will contribute to effective ministry.

4. It shall effect the coordination of the qualifications and standards for certification, endorsement, commissioning, ordination, in order that those standards most appropriate to effective service in particular ministries may be maintained, that unity in the diverse ministries may be realized, and that educative and training processes conducive to the meeting of these qualifications may most effectively be made available.

5. It shall cooperate with those agencies of the Church which seek to promote new forms of ministry and service in the Church in order that understanding throughout the Church may be enhanced and that appropriate involvement may be stimulated.

6. It shall encourage voluntary service programs and occupational intern programs and seek to nurture this service motivation and occupational interest in order that commitment to continuing ministries and professional service may be developed.

7. It shall be responsible for stimulating, making visible, and effecting the availability of career development, counseling, and continuing education processes toward the end that all lay and ordained persons in the Church's ministry may have opportunity for needed career services and continuing growth during their career.

8. It shall maintain for the Church a Personnel Information System which shall make visible to the church up-to-date opportunities for service and employment and shall make available to employing and appointing agencies that personnel information on prospective candidates as well as persons established in their ministry or profession which is appropriate for preliminary consideration of employment or appointment.

Whereas this office shall be responsible for recording the readiness and qualifications of personnel, the appointive and employing authorities and agencies of the Church shall be responsible for submitting

their personnel needs to this office in order that optimum processes of recruitment, selection, and appointment/employment may obtain.

¶ 1243. The Office of Personnel shall fulfill its purpose and objectives by establishing functional relationships of cooperation and service with:

a) The Board of Global Ministries in its relationships with missionaries, deaconesses, volunteers, and emergency personnel;

b) The Board of Discipleship in its relationships with personnel in educational ministries, evangelism, and church music; and in its offering of educational procedures, training courses, and other aids designed to provide a Christian perspective on vocation;

c) The Division of Higher Education in its relationships with campus ministers and college and university personnel;

d) The Division of the Ordained Ministry in its relationship with ordained ministers and lay pastors, and in its concern for the role of theological education in developing and interpreting an understanding of vocation, ministry and occupations;

e) The Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries.

f) The Council on Finance and Administration in its relationship with church business administrators.

¶ 1244. The office shall have responsibility for oversight and interpretation of the lay worker relationship, working with the appropriate body in the Annual Conference.

¶ 1245. The Office of Personnel shall provide resources and counsel to related units in Annual Conferences, districts, and local churches engaged in interpreting vocation and in enlisting persons in church occupations.

¶ 1246. The Office of Personnel shall organize itself and develop a budget with the Board of Higher Education and Ministry so as to fulfill the assignment given to it.

¶ 1247. The administrative staff officer of the Office of Personnel shall be an executive secretary of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

#### JURISDICTIONAL BOARDS

¶ 1248. In each jurisdiction there may be a jurisdictional Board

of Higher Education and Ministry, auxiliary to the general board, as the Jurisdictional Conference may determine.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

¶ 1249. The Annual Conference shall determine the necessity for a conference **Committee on Higher Education and Ministry**. Should the conference determine not to create such a committee, it shall be the responsibility of the Annual Conference Council on Ministries to provide for the connectional relationship between the general board and conference, district, and local church organizations.

¶ 1250. If such a committee is created, the chairperson, or someone designated by the chairperson, shall present to the Council on Finance and Administration of the conference the financial needs for adequate support of the schools, colleges, universities, seminaries, campus Christian movements, Wesley Foundations,<sup>30</sup> and other campus ministries related to the conference, as approved by the committee. If organized, the subcommittee or commission on Christian Higher Education and Ministry (¶ 1252) shall make recommendations to the committee concerning such financial needs. In accordance with the financial plan of the Church, an apportionment shall be allotted to the churches within the conference for the work of the conference Committee on Higher Education and Ministry. Other sources of income shall be gifts, returns from special days, and receipts from missionary offerings in the church school. The committee shall determine the distribution of the funds thus received to each of the general interests under its care. (For a description of the United Methodist Student Day offering, see ¶ 163.1e.)

¶ 1251. 1. A **Wesley Foundation**, as defined by the Committee on Higher Education and Ministry, shall have a **Board of Directors** composed of members from the local church and campus community and members at large representing the interests of the Annual Conference or Conferences. (See also ¶ 1206.1.) They shall be elected by the Annual Conference or Conferences on nomination of the conference Committee on Higher Education and Ministry.

<sup>30</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 191.

2. Wesley Foundation Boards of Directors and campus-church relations committees shall reflect in their membership appropriate racial and ethnic representations with due attention given to women and youth representatives in the membership.

3. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the direction and administration of the foundation in accordance with the policies and standards established by the conference committee or committees and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.<sup>31</sup> The foundation shall be related functionally and cooperatively through its Board of Directors to the United Methodist local church or churches in the immediate vicinity of the college or university. The Board of Directors, when incorporated, may hold property according to the laws of The United Methodist Church and the state in which the foundation is located.

¶ 1252. 1. The committee may constitute a **conference Subcommittee on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry**, composed of not fewer than eight of its members. This subcommittee shall have specific responsibility for developing knowledge of and support for the schools, colleges, universities, seminaries, Wesley Foundations, and other campus ministries related to The United Methodist Church and particularly those related to the conference.

2. An Annual Conference, at its discretion, may constitute a **conference Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry**, which shall include the members of the Subcommittee on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry (§ 1, above), the bishop, Cabinet representatives, the conference director of education, the secretary of the committee, the state or regional director of the student movement and/or campus ministry within the conference, and up to twenty members at large elected by the Annual Conference upon nomination of the conference Committee on Nominations for their experience and ability in the fields of education and campus ministry. They shall serve four years, except that ex officio membership shall coincide with term of office. The commission shall elect its officers quadrennially, and they shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified. It may employ such staff members as are deemed

<sup>31</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 175.

necessary for its work. The Annual Conference shall make provision for its expense as the conference may determine.

3. Two or more Annual Conferences may, on recommendation of their Committees on Higher Education and Ministry, join in constituting an area or regional Committee or Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, the membership of which shall be determined by the cooperating conferences, in consultation with their bishop or bishops, and shall include representatives of the conference Committee on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry.

4. The committee or commission shall, if organized:

a) Cooperate with the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry in the achievement of its objectives.

b) Make provision for such conferences, training courses, and study groups as will assist in meeting its responsibilities.

c) Report annually to the Committee on Higher Education and Ministry and the Annual Conference on the programs of those institutions of learning, Wesley Foundations, campus Christian movements, and campus ministries related to the conference and supported by it, including a statement concerning the capital and current needs of each and their program of service in behalf of The United Methodist Church.

d) Recommend annually to the Committee on Higher Education and Ministry, for presentation to the Annual Conference, a minimum goal for the support of educational institutions and Wesley Foundations, campus Christian movements and campus ministries or, if none are related to the conference, recommend the method of distributing to United Methodist educational institutions and campus ministries, either directly or through the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the funds raised for higher education and campus ministry.

e) The duties of the area or regional committee or commission with reference to the campus ministry shall be: (1) to evaluate the campus ministry within its region; (2) to report its evaluation to the conference Committee on Higher Education and Ministry; (3) to recommend improvements in facilities, program, finance, and personnel; (4) to approve the purchase or sale of property and the plans for any new building, including a parsonage, proposed by the Wesley Founda-

tion (or its equivalent) and the financial program covering the liquidation of its cost (where deemed advisable, the committee or commission may invite the chairperson of the district Board of Church Location and Building in which the foundation making the proposal is located to serve in an advisory capacity as the committee or commission studies the proposal and makes its recommendations); and (5) to cooperate in interpretation of the intercollegiate campus Christian movement. It shall be the task of this committee or commission to work with the Commission on Education of the local church to assist the latter commission in defining its duties and discharging its responsibilities.

5. One or more Annual Conferences may, on recommendation of the Committees on Higher Education and Ministry, join in a state or regional **United Ministries in Higher Education Commission**. The United Methodist representatives to that commission shall be elected by the conference or area Commission or Committee on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry. These United Methodist representatives shall encourage the state or regional United Ministries in Higher Education commissions to reflect in their membership appropriate racial and ethnic representation with due attention given to women and youth representatives in the membership.

¶ 1253. 1. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Higher Education and Ministry to determine whether applicants meet the standards of the general Board of Higher Education and Ministry for ministers, directors, and associates of Christian education; educational assistants; ministers, directors, and associates of music; and music assistants, and to certify and keep a record of those who do. The committee shall set up a subcommittee or subcommittees on these offices whose duties shall be (a) to review the credentials of candidates and make recommendations to the committee for certification in harmony with the said standards and (b) to recommend to the committee plans for institutes, conferences, and other occasions for fellowship and training for ministers, directors, and associates of Christian education, and educational assistants, for ministers, directors, and associates of music, music assistants, and others responsible for music in the local church. Whenever directors or ministers of Christian education and of music are

serving in the Annual Conference, they shall be represented on this subcommittee. All persons certified shall furnish to the committee, on blanks provided by the general Board of Higher Education and Ministry, information for purposes of annual review and approval of status.

2. A roster of certified ministers, directors, associates of Christian education, educational assistants, and certified ministers, directors, associates of music, and music assistants, shall be included in the annual report of the committee and published in the conference journal. A person so certified may move to another Annual Conference and be recorded there without reestablishing status.

3. Certified directors of Christian education and music, and associates in Christian education and music, who are approved for the lay relationship may be consecrated as lay workers and commissioned at a conference session or other suitable time.<sup>32</sup>

#### Section X. Board of Pensions.

##### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

¶ 1254. *Name, Corporations, and Locations of Offices.*—1. There shall be a **Board of Pensions** of The United Methodist Church, hereinafter called the board, having the general supervision and administration of the support, relief, and assistance and pensioning of ministers and their families, other church workers, and lay employees of The United Methodist Church, hereinafter referred to as beneficiaries, in succession to the Board of Pensions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and in succession to the General Board of Pensions of The Methodist Church. The Board of Pensions of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, which is incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio in that name, and the Board of Pensions of The Methodist Church, which is incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois in that name, and the Board of Pensions of The Methodist Church, which is incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland in that name, and the Board of Pensions of The Methodist Church, which is in-

<sup>32</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 331.

corporated under the laws of the State of Missouri in that name, shall be continued, subject to the direction, supervision, and control of the General Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church, but with their corporate names changed to and to be known as The Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Ohio, and The Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Illinois, and The Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Maryland, and The Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Missouri, respectively.

2. The general supervision and administration of the pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs of The United Methodist Church, subject to the direction, supervision, and control of the board, shall be conducted by and through the headquarters office.

3. The board shall have authority to establish, maintain, and discontinue from time to time such auxiliary offices as it shall deem proper and advisable.

¶ 1255. 1. *Membership.*—(a) The board shall be composed of one bishop, elected by the Council of Bishops; one minister, one layman and one laywoman from each jurisdiction, elected by the respective Jurisdictional Conferences; two clergy in full connection, two laymen and two laywomen with not more than two from the same jurisdiction, elected by the General Conference on nomination of the Council of Bishops; and eight members at large for the purpose of bringing to the board special knowledge or background, with consideration given to representation by minority groups, not more than two from the same jurisdiction, nominated and elected by the board in such manner as it shall provide in its bylaws.

b) The ministerial membership of the board shall be limited to ministerial members of an Annual Conference in full connection and in the effective relation.

c) The general secretary of the board shall be an ex officio member thereof, without vote.

d) The terms of all members so elected shall be four years, to take effect at the annual meeting of the board following the General Conference. Members shall serve during the terms for which they are elected and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

e) A vacancy in the membership shall be filled for the unexpired term by the board.

f) The members of the board shall constitute the membership of the respective Boards of Directors of the aforesaid four constituent corporations. The general secretary shall be an ex officio member of each, without vote.

2. *Meetings.*—The annual meetings of the board and of the Boards of Directors of the constituent corporations shall be held at the same date and place, at which time the board shall review and consider responsibilities committed to its care and take such action as it deems advisable in the furtherance of the best interest of the funds, plans, and programs administered by the board. Special meetings of the board may be called by any two of the officers hereinafter named in ¶ 1256.

3. *Quorum.*—A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 1256. 1. *Officers.*—The board shall elect at its annual meeting next following the General Conference a president, a vice-president, and a recording secretary, all of whom shall be members of the board, and shall also elect a general secretary and a treasurer, all for four-year terms. The officers so elected shall serve during the terms for which they were elected and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. The officers of the board shall also be elected by, and serve as the officers of, each of the four constituent corporations of the board. A vacancy in any of these offices may be filled by the board for the remainder of the unexpired term. Other offices that are deemed desirable and to the best interest of the board for carrying out its purposes may be created by the board, and persons may be elected or appointed to fill such offices.

2. *Executive Committee.*—An executive committee shall be elected by the board. The same committee shall also respectively be elected by, and serve as the executive committee of, each of the four constituent corporations unless otherwise required by applicable laws of the respective states of incorporations, in which case the board shall recognize such laws, and the board and the corporations shall have power to comply therewith.

3. *Committee on Rules and Regulations.*—The board shall elect

quadrennially from its membership a **Committee on Rules and Regulations**, which shall consist of the bishop, one minister, and one lay person from each jurisdiction and two ministers and two lay persons from the membership of the board at large, whose responsibility it shall be to study the operation of the several pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs administered by the board, to present its recommendations for revision of the rules and regulations of the said pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs for consideration and action by the board, under authority granted to the board by the General Conference, and to present to the General Conference such proposed revisions of the Discipline as may be recommended by the board.

¶ 1257. *General Authorizations.*—1. The General Board of Pensions is authorized to adopt and further any and all plans, to undertake any and all activities, and to create, obtain, accept, receive, manage, and administer any and all assets or property, absolute or in trust for specified purposes, for the purpose of increasing the revenues and of providing for, aiding in, and contributing to the support, relief, and assistance and pensioning of ministers and their families and other church workers and lay employees in The United Methodist Church and its constituent boards, organizations, and institutions; to do any and all acts and things deemed by the board to be necessary and convenient in connection therewith or incident thereto; and to perform any and all other duties and functions from time to time imposed, authorized, or directed by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. No proposal shall be made to the General Conference which changes a benefit presently in effect without first securing through the General Board of Pensions an actuarial opinion concerning the cost and other related aspects of the proposed change.

2. The board is authorized to manage, administer, revise, continue, discontinue, create, and consolidate pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs in such manner as may be deemed by the board to be reasonably necessary to achieve an efficient, equitable, and adequate operation; and to receive, hold, manage, and disburse the moneys related thereto in accordance with the provisions of the respective funds, plans, and programs.

3. The board is authorized to receive, hold, manage, merge, con-

solidate, administer, and invest and reinvest, by and through its constituent corporations, all connectional pension and benefit funds. The board is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the social principles of our Church, subject to other provisions of the Discipline, and with due regard to any and all special contracts, agreements, and laws applicable thereto.

4. The board is authorized to receive, hold, manage, administer, and invest and reinvest, by and through its constituent corporations, endowment funds belonging to Annual Conferences or other funds for pension and benefit purposes to be administered for such Annual Conferences. The board is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the social principles of our Church; *provided*, however, that at no time shall any part of the principal of the endowment funds be appropriated by the board for any other purpose. The net income of such funds shall be accounted for annually by the board and paid over to the Annual Conferences concerned.

5. The board is authorized, on request of an Annual Conference or conference organization or a board or agency of The United Methodist Church, to receive therefrom distributable and reserve pension funds and to make the periodic pension payments to the beneficiaries of such Annual Conference, conference organization, board, or agency, in accordance with a schedule of distribution which shall be provided for the guidance of the board in making such payments. The board shall report annually the details of transactions under this provision. The board shall be entitled to recover the cost of performing such services.

6. The board, by and through its constituent corporations, is authorized and empowered to receive any gift, devise, or bequest made or intended for beneficiaries of The United Methodist Church, being the legal successor to and vested with the legal title to any and all such gifts, devises, and bequests. If the language or terms of any gift, devise, or bequest are inexact or ambiguous, the board shall dispose of or administer the same in the manner deemed most equitable according to the apparent intent of the donor as determined by

the board after careful inquiry into the circumstances in connection with the making of such gift, devise, or bequest, and after granting full opportunity to all interested parties to be heard, after due and timely written notice of the time and place of hearing. Such notice shall be mailed to each and all interested parties through their respectively known representatives, at their last known addresses.

7. The four constituent corporations shall, until otherwise determined by the board, continue to collect, receive, and administer such gifts, devises, and bequests and other funds as may be specifically designated to them by donors, subject to the rules, regulations, and policies of the board with respect thereto. All undesignated gifts, devises, bequests, and donations shall be collected, received, and administered under the direction of the board.

8. The board shall share in the funds raised for the World Service budget of The United Methodist Church as provided for in ¶ 847 of the Discipline and in enabling acts.

9. The appropriations from the net earnings of the publishing interests which are contributed to the pension programs of The United Methodist Church, and of the several Annual Conferences, shall be distributed on the basis determined by the board.

10. The board shall compile and maintain complete service records of ministerial members in full connection, associate members, and probationary members of the Annual Conferences of The United Methodist Church and of lay pastors whose service may be related to potential annuity claims. Such service records shall be based on answers to the Disciplinary questions as published in the journals of the several Annual Conferences and in the General Minutes of The United Methodist Church, or in comparable publications of either or both of the uniting churches, and from information provided by Annual Conference Boards of Pensions.<sup>33</sup>

11. The board shall administer a clearinghouse for the allocation of pension responsibility among the several Annual Conferences, in accordance with the principle of divided annuity responsibility, and for the collection and distribution of pension funds related to such responsibility.

<sup>33</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 165.

a) For each beneficiary involved in the operation of the clearinghouse the board shall determine the division of responsibility on account of approved service rendered.

b) The board shall have authority to determine the pension responsibility of each Annual Conference, in accordance with the principle of divided annuity responsibility, and to collect from each Annual Conference, as determined on the basis of their respective pension programs, the amount required by the clearinghouse to provide the pension benefits related thereto. Each Annual Conference shall provide funds to meet its annuity responsibility to beneficiaries of other Annual Conferences on the same basis as it provides pension payments for beneficiaries related directly to itself.

c) The board is authorized and empowered to make all the rules concerning details that may be necessary to the operation of the clearinghouse.

12. The board is authorized and empowered to continue the operation, management, and administration of the following pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs for such time and in such manner as may be deemed by the board to be reasonably necessary to fulfill the purposes thereof; to merge, combine, or consolidate two or more such pension or benefit funds, plans, and programs as are under its jurisdiction, and to make rules and regulations necessary thereto if such action is deemed by the board to be consistent with and in furtherance of the purposes of the said funds, plans, and programs; these to include but not to be restricted to: The Senior Plan; Ministers Reserve Pension Fund; The Minister's Reserve Pension Plan; The Current Income Distribution Pension Plan; Joint Contributory Annuity Fund; Staff Pension Fund; The Pension Plan for Lay Employees; Lay Employees Pension Fund; Hospitalization and Medical Expense Program; Death Benefit Program; Bishops Reserve Pension and Benefit Fund, in consultation with the Council on Finance and Administration; The Printing Establishment of The United Brethren in Christ Fund; The Home Office Pension Fund of the Board of Global Ministries, in consultation with the Board of Global Ministries; Chaplains Pension Fund, in consultation with the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries; Retirement Allowance for Bishops, General Church Officers, and Staff Personnel Plan of the former Evangelical

United Brethren Church, with funds to be provided by the Council on Finance and Administration; Temporary General Aid Fund, in consultation with the Commission on Interjurisdictional Relations, or its successor, as determined by the General Conference, with funds to be provided by the Council on Finance and Administration.

13. The board is authorized to prepare and publish a pension manual related to the funds, plans, and programs administered by the General Board of Pensions, and such other materials not inconsistent with the Discipline as may be deemed reasonably necessary by the board to its efficient operation.

14. In all matters not specifically covered by General Conference legislation or by reasonable implication, the board shall have authority to adopt rules, regulations, and policies for the administration of the support of beneficiaries of The United Methodist Church.

15. Pension for service approved for pension credit by a general board or agency of The United Methodist Church receiving financial support from the World Service Fund, the General Administration Fund, the Episcopal Fund, or any authorized general benevolent or administrative fund shall be provided by the employing board or agency in uniformity with that provided by other boards and agencies under one of the pension funds, plans, or programs administered by the Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church; *provided*, however, that where service has been rendered in two or more boards or agencies, the total pension benefit shall be calculated as if all such service had been with one board or agency and the final board or agency shall provide any additional pension benefits necessary to accomplish this; furthermore, such board or agency may not make any arrangement with a life insurance company or any other entity for the purchase of annuities for the benefit of individual effective or retired employees or take any steps to nullify, in whole or in part, the pension plans or program of The United Methodist Church by making contracts with outside parties.

¶ 1258. *Permanent Funds*.—1. The **Chartered Fund** shall be administered by the General Board of Pensions for the benefit of all the Annual and Provisional Annual Conferences in The United Methodist Church, the boundaries of which are within the United States,

its territorial and insular possessions, and Cuba, unless the General Conference shall order otherwise. Once a year the net earnings of the fund, after provision for depreciation, shall be divided equally among such Annual and Provisional Annual Conferences in accordance with the restrictive rule contained in ¶ 20.

2. The General Board of Pensions shall order and direct that the income from the **General Endowment Fund for Conference Claimants** (formerly known as the General Endowment Fund for Superannuates of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South) held by The Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Missouri, shall be distributed on account of service of conference claimants rendered in an Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church; *provided*, however, that such distribution shall be restricted to Annual Conferences which, directly or through their predecessor Annual Conferences, participated in raising this fund, in proportion to the number of approved years of annuity responsibility of each Annual Conference as shall be determined by the General Board of Pensions.

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION

¶ 1259. *Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities.*—1. The Annual Conference, on recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions, shall determine the admissibility and validity of service approved for pension credit and the payments, disallowances, and deductions thereunder, subject to the provisions of the Discipline and the rules and regulations of the pension funds, plans, and programs of The United Methodist Church.<sup>34</sup>

2. Service rendered by a minister, in either or both of the uniting churches, prior to church union shall be approved for pension credit in accordance with provisions of the pension funds, plans, and programs of the respective churches pertaining thereto.

3. The following years of approved service in an Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church shall be counted for pension credit subject to the conditions stated in this paragraph:

<sup>34</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 81.

a) By a minister who is a probationary member or who is in the effective relation as an associate member or a member in full connection in the Annual Conference: (1) as pastor, associate or assistant pastor, or other minister in a pastoral charge; (2) as district superintendent, presiding elder, conference president, conference superintendent, or other full-time salaried official of the conference; (3) under special appointment to an institution, organization, or agency which in the judgment of the Annual Conference rendered to it some form of service, direct or indirect, sufficient to warrant pension credit, or to a community church, or as an evangelist; *provided*, however, that such institution, organization, agency, community church, or evangelist accepts and pays such apportionments as the conference may require, with the recommendation that this apportionment shall be not less than twelve times the annuity rate of the conference, and *provided* further, that pension related to such service may be arranged through one of the pension funds or plans administered by the General Board of Pensions; (4) as a student appointed to attend school, but only if the minister serves subsequently with pension credit in an Annual Conference or conferences for three or more years under appointment other than to attend school, such credit as a student not to exceed three years; *provided*, however, that all years for which pension credit was given under legislation in effect prior to the 1972 General Conference, on account of appointment to attend school, shall be counted in determining the pension claim thereon; and *provided* further that, if a ministerial member is again appointed to attend school after having served under appointment for six consecutive years as a minister in full connection with pension credit in an Annual Conference or conferences other than under appointment to attend school, pension credit shall be given for up to but not more than three additional years under appointment to attend school if the minister serves subsequently with pension credit on an Annual Conference or conferences for three or more additional years under appointment other than to attend school; (5) as a minister on sabbatical leave, *provided* that not less than five of the ten years just preceding the granting of such leave were served with pension credit on the Annual Conference which grants the sabbatical leave; and (6) as a minister on disability

leave subsequent to the 1968 Uniting Conference, not to exceed fifteen years.<sup>35</sup>

b) By a person classified by the Board of the Ministry as eligible to be appointed as a full-time lay pastor, and by an approved supply pastor prior to Church union in 1968, as a pastor or assistant pastor of a pastoral charge in full-time service under appointment; *provided* however, that such credit shall be conditional and subject to provisions hereinafter stated in this paragraph.<sup>36</sup>

c) By a minister from another Christian denomination who has not attained the age of mandatory retirement for a conference ministerial member, who has not retired from the denomination, and who is approved by the Annual Conference on recommendation of the Board of the Ministry as provided in ¶ 376.5, who renders full-time service under appointment as a pastor or assistant pastor subject to provisions hereinafter stated in this paragraph.

4. The following provisions shall apply in determining approval for pension credit, eligibility for pension, and allocation of responsibility:

a) Full-time service of a ministerial member or a lay pastor shall be required as a normal condition for pension credit; *provided*, however, that such credit may be granted for part-time service by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting in the Annual Conference, on recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions.

b) Full-time service shall mean that full time is devoted to the work of a pastor by one who has not attained the age of mandatory retirement for a conference member, who is not attending school as a regular student, who is not substantially employed in nonpastoral work, and whose cash support per annum from all church sources is not less than the minimum salary established by the conference for those in this person's classification.

c) Service as a chaplain on full-time duty prior to December 31, 1946, which previous legislation includes as eligible to be counted in determining the annuity claim on an Annual Conference, shall be so recognized.

<sup>35</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 180, 219.

<sup>36</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 73, 206.

d) Pension responsibility on account of the appointment of a ministerial member of an Annual Conference to attend school shall be allocated to the conference or conferences in which the minister shall first thereafter render six years of service under appointment with pension credit other than to attend school; *provided* that if the minister does not thereafter render as much as six years of approved service other than to attend school, the responsibility for periods under appointment to attend school shall be allocated on a pro rata basis to the conference or conferences in which the minister rendered approved service subsequent to the period of appointment to attend school. This provision shall apply irrespective of whether such periods under appointment were before or after its enactment; *provided*, however, that such allocation shall not apply in cases where pension payments were in effect prior to January 1, 1973, on the basis of the allocation of responsibility under previous legislation.

e) Service of a lay pastor may be approved for pension credit only by vote of the Annual Conference, on recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions, after consultation with the district superintendents. Such approval of service rendered in the year next preceding the session of the conference shall be recorded under the following Disciplinary question, which shall be included in the business of the conference: "What lay pastors are granted pension credit on account of approved full-time service during the past year?" If at any session the conference does not grant credit for such service, it may do so later under the Disciplinary question, "What other personal notation should be made?"

f) Upon recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions and by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting in the Annual Conference, pension credit may be granted to a ministerial member of the conference on account of full-time service previously rendered as an approved lay pastor or approved supply pastor to an institution, organization, or agency, which in the judgment of the Annual Conference rendered to it some form of service sufficient to warrant pension credit; *provided*, however, that such institution, organization, or agency shall accept and pay such apportionment as the conference may require.

g) A pension shall be payable on account of pension credit as a

full-time lay pastor or supply pastor if (1) the lay pastor shall have been admitted as a ministerial associate or probationary member or member in full connection in an Annual Conference and has subsequently been placed in the retired relation by the conference, or (2) the lay pastor shall have rendered no less than four consecutive years of full-time service with pension credit in one Annual Conference and has been recognized by an Annual Conference as a retired lay pastor.

*h)* On recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions, a pension shall be payable on account of pension credit for a minister from another Christian denomination who shall have rendered not less than four consecutive years of full-time service with pension credit in one Annual Conference while qualified under ¶ 376.5, who has attained the age of voluntary retirement for a conference ministerial member and who has been retired by the denomination, providing the minister is not receiving a pension for the same period of service from another denomination. (*See also* § 3*c*, above.)

5. On recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions and approval by the Annual Conference, special appointments shall be listed in the conference journal as follows: (*a*) with pension credit by the Annual Conference or (*b*) with pension responsibility on the institution or agency served. If at any session the conference fails to make such listing, it may be done subsequently, whenever desirable, under the Disciplinary question, "What other personal notation should be made?"<sup>37</sup>

6. The Annual Conference, on recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions, shall have the power to revise, correct, or adjust a minister's record of pension credit as set forth in the minister's service record. Prior to the revision of such record, the General Board of Pensions may be requested to review relevant data and report its findings thereon. Such revisions, corrections, and adjustments shall be published in the journal of the Annual Conference in answer to Business of the Annual Conference questions and shall be reported to the General Board of Pensions by the conference Board of Pensions.

7. The annuity rate for approved service of conference members shall be determined each year by the Annual Conference without

<sup>37</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 95.

restriction, but it is recommended that such rate be not less than 1 percent of the average salary of the conference as computed by the General Board of Pensions. The annuity rate for approved service of lay pastors and (former) approved supply pastors shall also be determined by the conference each year and may be the same as the rate for service of conference members, but it shall be no less than 75 percent of that rate. A successor conference resulting from a merger involving a former Central Jurisdictional Conference shall establish for all for whom it has pension responsibility the same rate for past service of conference members in the Central Jurisdiction as for service in a geographic former Methodist jurisdiction and the same rate for past service of lay pastors and (former) approved supply pastors, regardless of the jurisdiction in which the service was rendered.

8. The Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries may provide a pension through the Chaplains Pension Fund, if not otherwise provided, on account of service rendered by a chaplain on full-time duty with the armed forces of the United States or to an institution, organization, or agency, in accordance with rules and regulations determined jointly by the General Board of Pensions and the Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries.

9. The responsibility for pension for service approved for pension credit shall rest with the Annual Conference in which the service was rendered or its legal successor, according to the principle of divided pension responsibility.<sup>38</sup>

10. Pension for service approved for pension credit by an Annual Conference shall be provided by the Annual Conference under one of the pension funds, plans, or programs administered by the General Board of Pensions of The United Methodist Church.

11. An Annual Conference may not make any arrangement with a life insurance company for the purchase of annuities for the benefit of individual effective or retired ministers or take any steps to nullify, in whole or in part, the pension plans and programs of The United Methodist Church by making contracts with outside parties.

12. The Annual Conference shall be responsible for annually providing moneys in the amount necessary to meet the requirements

<sup>38</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 203.

of the pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs of the conference.

13. At the time of retirement a beneficiary shall receive benefits in accordance with the provisions of the pension or benefit fund, plan, or program in effect at the time retirement takes place. If retirement takes place prior to the age of voluntary retirement, payments of grants, in the form of relief or other assistance, for the period from the time of retirement until such beneficiary qualifies for benefits provided by the fund, plan, or program in which the beneficiary participated prior to the time of retirement, may be approved on the recommendation of the conference Board of Pensions by a three-fourths vote of those present and voting in the Annual Conference.

14. A former ministerial member of an Annual Conference whose membership was terminated on or after January 1, 1973, after the completion of ten or more years of service with pension credit in an Annual Conference or conferences, shall retain the right to receive a pension subsequent to the close of the Annual Conference session in which the minister last held membership which follows attainment of age sixty-five based on the years of service approved for pension credit. Such former minister's pension shall be based on all years of service with pension credit if the minister had twenty or more such years. If less than twenty such years but at least ten such years, the benefit shall be determined by multiplying the credited years by 5 percent, resulting in 50 percent of such years for ten years of credited service and 100 percent for twenty years of such service.

15. The responsibility for providing pension on account of service rendered in a Mission or Provisional Annual Conference within the United States, which has been approved for pension credit, shall rest jointly with (a) the Mission or Provisional Annual Conference concerned, (b) the General Board of Pensions, and (c) the National Division of the Board of Global Ministries. The revenue for pension purposes covering such service shall be provided by the aforesaid parties in accordance with such plan or plans as may be mutually agreed to by them.

¶ 1260. *Conference Board of Pensions.*—1. *Authorization.*—There shall be organized in each Annual Conference a conference board, auxiliary to the General Board of Pensions, to be known as the con-

*ference Board of Pensions*, hereinafter called the board, which shall have charge of the interests and work of providing for and contributing to the support, relief, assistance, and pensioning of ministers and their families, other church workers, and lay employees of The United Methodist Church, its institutions, organizations, and agencies within the Annual Conference, except as otherwise provided for by the general board.

2. *Membership.*—(a) The board shall be composed of not less than twelve members not indebted to pension and benefit funds, plans, and programs or receiving pensions therefrom; ministers in the effective relation and lay persons in equal number, elected for a term of eight years and arranged in classes as determined by the Annual Conference; in addition thereto, any ministerial member of the conference or lay member of a church within the conference who is a member of the General Board of Pensions. 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 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. *Financing Pension and Benefit Programs.*—(a) The board

shall compute the amount to be apportioned annually to meet the requirements of the pension and benefit programs of the conference.

b) The conference Commission on Finance and Administration shall include in its recommendations to the Annual Conference the amounts computed by the board which are required to meet the needs of the pension, benefit, and relief programs of the conference.

c) Distributable pension funds from all sources, unless restricted by specific provisions or limitations, shall be disbursed by, or under the direction of, the conference Board of Pensions.

d) The board may accumulate a fund from the income for pension purposes, in order to stabilize the pension program of the conference.<sup>39</sup>

5. *Reports to the Annual Conference and the General Board.*—

a) The board shall report to the Annual Conference and to the General Board of Pensions the names, addresses, and years of service approved for pension credit of the annuitants of the conference, the names of those who have died during the year, and the names of dependent children of deceased ministerial members of the conference, and shall show separately the amount paid to each beneficiary by the conference from the annuity and necessitous funds.

b) The board shall report to the General Board of Pensions immediately following the session of the conference, on forms provided for that purpose by the general board, and shall report also the names and addresses of ministers who are members of funds, plans, or programs administered by the general board.

6. *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 ministers of the conference who have failed to observe the following provisions pertaining to proportional payment, and shall render annually to each minister who is in default a statement of the amounts in default for that and preceding years.

a) When the apportionment to the pastoral charges for the pension and benefit program of the Annual Conference has been deter-

<sup>39</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 50.

mined, payments made thereon by each pastoral charge shall be exactly proportionate to payments made on the salary or salaries of the minister or ministers 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) On retirement, the amount that a pastor is in default shall be subject to deduction from the pastor's pension, in accordance with rules and regulations of the specific program or programs under which the pension is provided.

e) If a retired minister, while serving as a supply pastor, fails to observe the provisions of this paragraph pertaining to proportional payment in any conference year, the amount of such default shall be deducted from the minister's pension the ensuing conference year.

f) It shall not be permissible for a pastor to receive a bonus of other supplementary compensation tending to defeat proportional payment. The board may recommend to the conference that the pastor's pension credit be disallowed for the year during which such bonus or supplementary compensation was so received.<sup>40</sup>

7. *Depositories and Bonding.*—(a) The conference Board of Pensions shall designate a bank or banks or other depository or depositories for deposit of the funds held by the board and may require a depository bond from such depository or depositories.

b) The board, through the conference Commission on Finance and Administration, shall provide a fidelity bond in suitable amount for all persons handling its funds.

¶ 1261. *Other Annual Conference Organizations.*—1. Annual Conferences, hereafter in this section called conferences, are authorized to establish, incorporate, and maintain investment funds, preachers

<sup>40</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 51, 151.

aid societies, and organizations and funds of similar character, under such names, plans, rules, and regulations as they may determine, the directors of which shall be elected or otherwise designated by the conference, where permissible under the laws of the state of incorporation, and the income from which shall be applied to the support of the pension program through the conference Board of Pensions.<sup>41</sup>

2. Distributable pension funds from all sources shall be disbursed by or under the direction of the conference Board of Pensions, excepting only such funds as are otherwise restricted by specific provisions or limitations in gifts, devises, bequests, trusts, pledges, deeds, or other similar instruments, which restrictions and limitations shall be observed.

3. It shall not be permissible for any conference or permanent fund organization thereof to deprive its beneficiaries who are beneficiaries in other conferences of the privilege of sharing in the distribution of the earned income of such funds through the clearinghouse administered by the General Board of Pensions.

4. A conference subject to the laws of the state in which it is incorporated shall have power to require from its ministerial members and lay pastors who are serving with pension credit from the conference an annual contribution to either its permanent or reserve fund or for current distribution or to a preachers aid society for the benefit of its beneficiaries, subject to the following provisions:<sup>42</sup>

a) The annual payment may be made in installments as provided by the conference.

b) The making of such payment shall not be used as the ground of contractual obligations upon the part of the conference or as the ground of any special or additional annuity claim of a member against the conference; neither shall it prevent disallowance of a member's annuity claim by conference action.

c) The conference may fix a financial penalty for failure of the member to pay.

d) In case membership in the conference is terminated under the provisions of the Discipline, the conference may refund the amount

<sup>41</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 218.

<sup>42</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 181.

so paid, in whole or in part, after hearing has been given to the member, in case such hearing is requested.

e) Ministers entering a conference shall not be charged an initial entry fee by any organization mentioned in § 1 above; furthermore, the annual contribution required from a ministerial member of the conference or a lay pastor shall not exceed an amount equal to 3 percent of the minister's or lay pastor's support.<sup>43</sup>

f) If a minister is required to make a contribution to one of the pension funds, plans, or programs administered by the General Board of Pensions, the minister shall not be required by the conference or by any organization thereof related to the support of beneficiaries to make any other contribution for pension purposes.

5. Each conference, on recommendation of its conference Board of Pensions or one of the organizations mentioned in § 1 above, shall select a Sunday in each year to be observed in the churches as **Retired Ministers Day**, in honor of the retired ministers, their spouses, and the widows surviving spouses of ministers and in recognition of the Church's responsibility for their support. The bishop shall request each conference in the area to insert a Retired Ministers Day in its calendar, and shall diligently promote the observance of it.

¶ 1262. *Financial Policy.*—The following rules shall apply to the financial administration of Annual Conference pension and pension-related funds:

1. A member of the board connected or interested in any way with the securities, real estate, or other forms of investment sold to or purchased from such funds, or with an insurance program or a contract under consideration by the board, shall be ineligible to participate in the deliberation of the investment committee or of the board or to vote in connection therewith.

2. No officer or member of a conference agency handling such funds shall receive a personal commission, bonus, or remuneration, direct or indirect, in connection with the purchase or sale of any property, the loan of any money, the letting of any annuity or insurance contract, the making or acceptance of any assignment, pledge, or mortgage to secure the payment of any loan, or for the purchase or

<sup>43</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 304.

sale of any securities or other properties from or to that agency, or be eligible to obtain a loan in any amount from funds committed to the care of that agency. No investment shall be purchased from or sold to any member of the board or any member of the family of a member of the board.

3. To prevent development of any conflict of interest or preferential treatment and to preserve good will and confidence throughout the Church, no local church, church-related institution, or organization thereof shall be eligible to obtain a loan in any amount from such funds.<sup>44</sup>

4. The principle of diversification of investments shall be observed with the agency encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the social principles of our Church, however with primary consideration given to the soundness and safety of such investments.

5. Real property may hereafter be accepted as consideration for gift annuity agreements only with the stipulation that the annuity shall not exceed the net income from the property until such property shall have been liquidated. Upon liquidation, the annuity shall be paid upon the net proceeds at the established annuity rate.

6. An Annual Conference agency handling such funds shall not offer higher rates of annuity than those listed in the annuity schedule approved by the Council on Finance and Administration.

7. On order of the Annual Conference, there shall be printed in the journal a list of the investments held by each agency handling such funds directly or indirectly under the control of the Annual Conference, or such list may be distributed directly to the members of the Annual Conference at their request. A copy of all such lists of investments shall be filed annually with the General Board of Pensions.

8. The borrowing of money in any conference year by a conference corporation or organization to enable the conference Board of Pensions to meet the requirements of the pension and benefit pro-

<sup>44</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 145.

grams shall be done only on authority of the conference granted by three-fourths vote of the members present and voting.

¶ 1263. *Joint Distributing Committees.*—1. *Authorizations.*—Whenever two or more Annual or Provisional Annual Conferences are to be merged, in whole or in part, there shall be elected by each conference affected a Distributing Committee of three members and three alternates, which shall act jointly with similar committees from the other conference or conferences. The **Joint Distributing Committee** thus formed shall have power and authority: (a) to allocate the pension responsibility involved; (b) to distribute equitably the permanent funds and other pension assets of the conference or conferences affected, taking into consideration the pension responsibility involved; (c) to the extent not otherwise previously provided for by the conference or conferences involved, to apportion or distribute equitably any other assets or property and any other liabilities or obligations. It shall be governed by the legal restrictions or limitations of any contract, trust agreement, pledge, deed, will, or other legal instrument.

2. *Organization.*—The committee shall be convened by the general secretary of the General Board of Pensions, or by some other officer of that board designated by the general secretary in writing, and shall elect from its membership a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a secretary.

3. *Powers, Duties, and Responsibilities.*—(a) The committee shall determine the number of years of service approved for pension credit rendered in the conferences which will lose their identity in the merging of conference territories, and the findings of the committee shall be final unless substantial evidence to the contrary is presented, and the annuity payments by the continuing conference or conferences shall be made accordingly. The determination of pension benefits in The United Methodist Church shall recognize all pension rights to which ministers are entitled under the pension plans in existence at the time of church union and shall recognize all approved service which has been rendered in The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church prior to the date of church union.

b) The committee shall keep complete minutes of its transactions, and a copy thereof shall be filed with the secretary of each Annual Conference involved and with the General Board of Pensions.

c) Until the committee's work shall have been completed, the corporate organization of each conference in the process of merger shall be maintained. After the committee shall have completed its work, the officers of such corporation, subject to the completion of its business, shall dissolve or merge it, in accordance with the laws governing the incorporation thereof, after being authorized to do so by the conference involved.

d) The committee, having completed its work in connection with the merger or mergers for which it was organized and having filed copies of its findings and actions with the secretaries of the conferences involved for publication in the respective conference journals, and with the General Board of Pensions, shall be dissolved; subject, however, to recall by the general secretary of the General Board of Pensions in the event of the discovery and presentation to the general board of data substantially at variance with those previously submitted, for the purpose of reviewing such data and possible revision of its previous actions.

### Section XI. Standing Commissions.

#### COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

¶ 1264. *Name.*—The name of the official historical agency of The United Methodist Church shall be the **Commission on Archives and History**.

¶ 1265. *Incorporation.*—The Commission on Archives and History shall be incorporated under the laws of whatever state the commission may determine.

¶ 1266. *Purpose.*—1. The purpose of the commission shall be to gather, preserve, hold title to, and disseminate materials on the history of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents. It shall cooperate with other bodies, especially the World Methodist Historical Society and the World Methodist Council. It shall do any and all things necessary to promote and care for the historical interest of The United Methodist Church. It shall maintain archives and libraries in which shall be preserved historical records and materials of every kind relating to The United Methodist Church. It shall provide guid-

ance for the creation and preservation of archives and records at all levels of The United Methodist Church.

2. The commission shall have responsibility for and supervision of the archives and the libraries at Dayton, Ohio, and Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, and other depositories of similar character, if any, established by The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1267. *Membership of the Commission.*—1. The commission shall be constituted quadrennially, and its members and all officers elected by it shall hold office until their successors have been chosen. The commission may fill interim vacancies during a quadrennium where not otherwise provided by the Discipline.

2. The commission shall be composed of thirty members in the following manner: thirteen members shall be elected by the General Conference on nomination of the Council of Bishops, which number would include at least two women, one youth, and two persons from ethnic minorities; two bishops, one of whom shall be the secretary of the Council of Bishops; the secretary of the General Conference; five presidents of the jurisdictional Historical Societies; and nine at-large members elected by the commission; if possible, not less than ten of the total shall be women.

¶ 1268. *Meetings.*—The commission shall meet annually at such time and place as it may determine, subject to the provisions of the act of incorporation. The commission may hold special meetings on the call of the president. A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 1269. *Officers.*—The commission shall elect from its membership a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and such other officers as may be needed. The president shall be a bishop. The officers shall perform the duties usually incident to their positions.

¶ 1270. *Staff.*—The commission shall elect an **executive secretary** and such other staff officers as may be needed. The executive secretary shall be the executive and administrative officer and shall carry on the work of the commission, keep the records and minutes, serve as editor of official publications of the commission, supervise the depositories, make an annual report to the commission, and furnish such reports as are required to the General Conference and General Conference agencies. The executive secretary shall attend all meetings

of the commission and the executive committee and have the privilege of the floor without vote. Archivists, curators, and librarians employed by the commission shall be responsible to the executive secretary. They shall attend meetings of the commission and the executive committee when it is deemed necessary by the executive secretary. When in attendance, they shall have the privilege of the floor without vote.

¶ 1271. *Executive Committee.*—There shall be an **executive committee**, composed of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and two other members of the commission elected by it. The executive committee shall perform the duties and exercise the authority of the commission between meetings. Its minutes shall be submitted to the commission for approval. The executive committee and the commission may vote on any matter by mail. Mail polls shall be directed by the executive secretary, who shall state clearly the propositions to be voted on and announce the results to all the members.

¶ 1272. *Finances.*—The commission shall be financed by appropriations of the General Conference, the sale of literature and historical materials, subscriptions to the commission's official publications, dues from associate members, and gifts and bequests of interested individuals and organizations.

¶ 1273. *Historical Society.*—1. The commission may organize a **Historical Society** of The United Methodist Church and encourage individuals to become members of it for the purpose of promoting interest in the study and preservation of the history of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents. They shall be encouraged to cooperate with the Annual Conference, Jurisdictional Conference, and General Commissions on Archives and History in the promotion of the historical interests of the Church. The officers of the commission shall be the officers of the Historical Society.

2. Individuals may become members of the Historical Society by paying such dues as the commission may direct, in return for which they shall receive the official publications and the publicity materials issued by the commission.

3. Once each quadrennium the commission may hold a **Historical Convocation**, to which may be invited members of the Historical Society, members of Jurisdictional and Annual Conference historical organizations, heads of departments of history in the universities,

colleges, and seminaries of The United Methodist Church, and such other persons as may be interested.

¶ 1274. *Archives.*—1. *Definition.*—Archives, as distinguished from libraries, house not primarily books, but documentary materials such as records, minutes, journals, diaries, reports, pamphlets, letters, papers, manuscripts, maps, photographs, audio-visuals, recordings, and any other items, regardless of physical form or characteristic, which pertain to the current activities and the history of The United Methodist Church.

2. *Procedures.*—(a) The commission shall establish a central archives of The United Methodist Church and such regional archives and record centers as in its judgment may be needed.

b) The bishops, General Conference officers, general boards, commissions, committees, and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall deposit official minutes or journals, or copies of the same, in the archives quadrennially and shall transfer correspondence, records, papers, and other archival materials described above from their offices to the archives when they no longer have operational usefulness.

c) The general boards, commissions, committees, and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall place two copies of all their publications, of whatever kind, as they are issued in the archives or in lieu thereof shall file a statement with the archivist affirming that they are preserving copies of all such items in their own libraries or depositories.

d) Official documents, or copies thereof, such as articles of incorporation, constitutions, bylaws, and other official papers of the boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church shall be deposited in the archives.

e) The records and official papers of temporary and special church committees which are general, jurisdictional, interconference, or area-wide in scope, and the records and official papers, and a copy or copies thereof, of institutions, organizations, and conferences of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents, which are dissolved or merged, shall be deposited in the archives.

f) The bishops, General Conference officers, and the general boards, commissions, committees, and agencies of The United Meth-

odist Church are urged to counsel with the central archivist concerning the preservation of all materials.

g) Jurisdictional and Annual Conference secretaries shall deposit two copies of their respective conference journals quadrennially or annually, as the case may be, in the central archives and in the appropriate regional archives.

h) Secretaries of Jurisdictional and Annual Conference boards, commissions, committees, and agencies shall deposit annually, or as often as they meet, copies of their minutes (as distinguished from reports which are printed separately or in the Jurisdictional and Annual Conference journals) in the central archives or in the appropriate regional archives.

i) Ministers and lay persons in positions of leadership and influence at any level of the Church possessing personal or official papers important for church history shall be encouraged to deposit or bequeath such papers to the archives.

j) Organizations and individuals may negotiate appropriate restrictions on the use of materials which they deposit in the archives.

k) Upon recommendation of its executive committee, the commission may authorize the transfer of materials to an organization, agency, or family.

l) All materials in the archives shall be available for research and exhibition, subject to such restrictions as may be placed on them.

¶ 1275. *Historic Shrines, Landmarks, and Sites.*—1. All nominations for the designation of buildings and locations as United Methodist historic shrines or landmarks shall be referred to the Commission on Archives and History. Through its Committee on Historic Shrines and Landmarks the commission shall consider the merits of each nomination and shall make such recommendations as it deems appropriate to the ensuing General Conference for its action and determination. The commission shall not recommend any building or location for designation as a United Methodist historic shrine or landmark unless it has been designated and registered as a historic site by an Annual or Jurisdictional Conference and has met the requirements established by the commission.

2. a) *Historic Shrines.*—To qualify for designation as a historic shrine of The United Methodist Church, a building or a location must

have been linked with significant events and outstanding personalities in the origin and development of The United Methodist Church or its antecedents so as to have distinctive historic interest and value for the denomination as a whole, as contrasted with local or regional historic significance, and it must have features that invite and justify pilgrimages.

b) *Present Shrines.*—The historic shrines of The United Methodist Church are: Acuff's Chapel, state highway 126 between Blountsville and Kingsport, Tenn.; Albright Memorial Chapel, Kleinfeltersville, Pa.; Barratt's Chapel, near Frederica, Del.; Edward Cox House near Bluff City, Tenn.; Green Hill House, Louisburg, N.C.; John Street Church, New York City; Old McKendree Chapel, Jackson, Mo.; Old Otterbein Church, Baltimore, Md.; Rehobeth Church, near Union, W. Va.; St. George's Church, Philadelphia; St. Simon's Island, Brunswick, Ga.; Cemetery and Site of Old Stone Church, Leesburg, Va.; Robert Strawbridge's Log House, near New Windsor, Md.; Wyandot Indian Mission, Upper Sandusky, Ohio; Whitaker's Chapel, near Enfield, Halifax County, N.C.; and the town of Oxford, Georgia.

3. a) *Landmarks.*—Buildings and locations which have little remaining in the way of structure or monuments to invite pilgrimages but which otherwise qualify as historic shrines may be designated as historic landmarks.

b) *Present Landmarks.*—The landmarks of The United Methodist Church are: the sites of the Lovely Lane Chapel, Baltimore, Md.; Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y.; and McMahan's Chapel, Bronson, Tex.

4. *Sites.*—Jurisdictional and Annual Conferences may designate as historic sites buildings and locations within their regions which have been related to significant events and important personalities in the origin and development of The United Methodist Church or its antecedents. The president of the Commission on Archives and History of the conference making such a designation shall advise the general commission, which shall in turn keep a register of all historic sites.

¶ 1276. *Jurisdictional Commission.*—There may be a jurisdictional Commission on Archives and History in each jurisdiction, auxiliary to the general commission, as the Jurisdictional Conference may determine.

¶ 1277. *Annual Conference Commission.*—1. In each Annual Conference there shall be an **Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History**. The commission shall be elected by the Annual Conference upon the nomination of its nominating committee. The number of members of the commission and their term of office shall be as the conference may determine. It shall be the duty of the commission to cooperate with and report, when requested, to the general and jurisdictional Commissions on Archives and History, to preserve the records of the Annual Conference, to collect and preserve data relating to the organization and history of the conference, to maintain a firesafe historical and archival depository and to see that all current items which obviously will have value for future history are preserved therein, to provide for the ownership of real property and to receive gifts and bequests, to assist the bishop or the conference program committee in planning for the historical hour at Annual Conference sessions, and to encourage and assist the local churches in preserving their records and compiling their histories.

2. The commission may organize an Annual Conference Historical Society and encourage individuals to become members of it for the purpose of promoting interest in the study and preservation of the history of the conference and its antecedents. The officers of the Annual Conference Commission on Archives and History shall be the officers of the Annual Conference Historical Society. Individuals may become members of the Historical Society by paying dues as the society may direct, and in return they shall receive official publications and publicity materials issued by the commission and the society.

3. Each Annual Conference may have a historian to undertake specific duties as may be designated by the commission.

#### COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE

¶ 1278. 1. There shall be a **Commission on Religion and Race**. The total membership of the commission shall be forty-four. This commission shall be composed of two bishops appointed by the Council of Bishops; six persons from each jurisdiction, elected by the Jurisdictional Conferences; and twelve members at large to be elected by the commission (it is recommended that three members, one of

whom should be a youth under twenty-five, shall be elected from each of four ethnic groups, giving consideration to nominations from the American Indian Caucus, Asian-American Caucus, Black Methodists for Church Renewal, and Methodists Associated to Represent the Cause of Hispanic Americans, and any ethnic Annual Conference). It is recommended that at least two of the six persons elected by each Jurisdictional Conference be black, and at least two of other racial or ethnic minority groups, and at least two women, and at least one under the age of thirty.<sup>46</sup>

2. The commission shall elect its president from among the bishops who constitute its membership at the beginning of each quadrennium. It shall elect vice-presidents from among its membership to preside over the business of subcommittees needed for the work of the commission, and such other officers as are necessary. It shall elect an executive secretary and engage such other personnel as are necessary for the discharge of its responsibilities.

3. The Council on Finance and Administration shall make provision for the support of the work of the commission, including provision for an executive secretary and associated staff and an office for the commission.

¶ 1279. The commission will assume general church responsibility for such matters as:

1. Coordinating the denominational concern and providing a channel of assistance so that ethnic and racial minority group members of The United Methodist Church will have equal opportunities for service, representation, and voice on every level of the Church's life and ministry.

2. Working with the boards and agencies of the Church as they seek to develop programs and policies of racial inclusiveness.

3. Providing a channel of assistance to racial and ethnic minority groups as they seek to develop programs of empowerment and ministry to their communities.

4. Relating to and coordinating the concerns of the ethnic groups as they relate to minority group empowerment and ministry within the Church.

<sup>46</sup> See Decision 5, Interim Judicial Council.

5. Administering the Minority Group Self-Determination Fund.
  6. Reviewing, assisting and evaluating merged Annual Conferences.
  7. Counseling and encouraging local churches which are seeking to become multi-racial fellowships.
  8. Opening all churches for worship to all without regard to race and ethnic background.
  9. Coordinating the denominational support and cooperation with various prophetic movements for racial and social justice.
  10. Providing opportunities for multi-racial and interethnic dialogue and meetings throughout the Church.
  11. Working directly with the Council of Bishops and the related Annual Conferences to plan workshops, seminars, and consultations on racism.
  12. Providing programs of sensitization and education at every level of the Church's life, on the nature and meaning of racism—attitudinal, behavioral, and institutional.
  13. Relating to and assisting the Annual Conference Commission on Religion and Race.
  14. Supervising the administration of the Temporary General Aid Fund, recommending such adjustments from time to time as may be necessary under the legislation to achieve the intended purpose.
  15. Coordinating our denominational programs of cooperation with black and other ethnic denominations, especially those of the Methodist family.
  16. Reporting to the next General Conference on the role of minority groups in The United Methodist Church and on the elimination of all racially segregated structures.
  17. The commission may also co-opt staff assistance from the general boards and agencies of the Church, as may become advisable.
- ¶ 1280. 1. There shall be in each Annual Conference a conference Commission on Religion and Race following the general guidelines and structure of the General Commission on Religion and Race, as outlined in ¶¶ 1278-79 where applicable.
2. Insofar as possible, the Annual Conference commission should follow the principle of membership as found in the General Commis-

- sion on Religion and Race. It is strongly urged that the Annual Conference commission be constituted so that the majority of the membership be represented by ethnic minorities, proportionately reflecting the ethnic minority constituency of the conference. Steps should also be taken to insure adequate representation of both youth/young adults and women. Each Annual Conference should determine the number of the total membership. It could be as few as twelve or as many as thirty. The commission shall create as many committees and task forces as it deems necessary in order to implement its responsibilities.
3. The Annual Conference commission will assume responsibility for such matters as:
- a) Examining ethnic minority representation on all of the conference boards, agencies, commissions, and committees, as well as the governing boards of related institutions. After such an examination, appropriate recommendations for total inclusiveness should be made to the Annual Conference.
  - b) Working with Annual Conference boards and agencies as they seek to develop programs and policies of racial inclusiveness.
  - c) Providing a channel of assistance to racial and ethnic minority groups as they seek to develop programs of empowerment and ministry to their communities.
  - d) Cooperating with the Board of Ministry in assuring the equitable adjustments in ministerial classification in light of the particular needs of minority group churches.
  - e) Counseling and encouraging local churches which are seeking to become multi-racial fellowships.
  - f) Opening of all churches for worship to all without regard to race or ethnic background.
  - g) Coordinating the conference support of and cooperation with various prophetic movements for racial and social justice.
  - h) Providing opportunities for multi-racial and interethnic dialogue and meetings throughout the conference.
  - i) Providing programs of sensitization and education at every level of the conference, on the nature and meaning of racism—attitudinal, behavioral, and institutional.
  - j) Coordinating the conference programs of cooperation with

black and other ethnic denominations, especially those of the Methodist family.

k) Evaluating the priorities of the Annual Conference in light of the needs in the area of race relations. They should develop recommendations to present to the appropriate boards and the Annual Conference session. These recommendations should lift up the need to deal with the pressing issue of racism, minority group empowerment, and reconciliation between the races.

l) Evaluating the effects of merger for those conferences which have recently merged and the results made known to the Annual Conference, and recommendations made where appropriate.

m) Examining the Annual Conference-related institutions such as colleges, hospitals, homes for the aged, child care agencies, etc., concerning their practices of racial inclusiveness in clientele and employment.

n) The Annual Conference Commission on Religion and Race should develop an adequate budget for its operation as a commission and submit it to the Annual Conference Commission on Finance and Administration for inclusion in the Annual Conference budget.

## Section XII. Quadrennial Commissions and Committees.

¶ 1281. *Bishop and District Superintendent Study Commission.*—There shall be a **Bishop and District Superintendent Study Commission** for the purpose of studying the method of selection, tenure, assignment, function, and such other matters regarding bishops and district superintendents as it shall deem appropriate. The commission shall be elected in the following manner:

1. Each 1972 Jurisdictional Conference shall elect by ballot after nomination from the floor: two clergy (none of whom shall be bishops or district superintendents at the time of their election), and three lay persons (it is recommended that these include one layman, one laywoman, and one member of an ethnic minority).

2. Within three months after the elections, a bishop appointed by the Council of Bishops shall convene those elected as members of the commission by the Jurisdictional Conferences. At that time the commission members will elect six additional members at large

with due regard for representation of women, ethnic minorities, and youth.

3. After the commission is organized, the convening bishop shall act as a consultant member of the commission without vote. The commission shall appoint a former or active district superintendent as consultant to the commission without vote.

Staff services and funding for the commission shall be supplied by the Division of the Ordained Ministry of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The commission is instructed to report to the 1976 General Conference.

¶ 1282. *Commission on the Status and Role of Women in the Church.*—There shall be a **Commission on the Status and Role of Women in The United Methodist Church** for the quadrennium of 1973-1976.

1. The membership of the commission shall be nominated by the Colleges of Bishops after consultation with the United Methodist Women's Caucus and United Methodist Women and elected by the Jurisdictional Conferences as follows:

a) Fifteen from the jurisdictions (three from each jurisdiction: two laymen and one clergy. It is recommended that at least one of the three shall be under thirty, and at least one from a minority group).

b) Twenty women from the jurisdictions (four from each jurisdiction. It is recommended that at least one of the four shall be under thirty, at least one over sixty, at least one from a minority group, and one clergywoman).

c) Three women members at large (one of whom shall be under thirty) elected by the commission because of special competence in this area.

d) Three women named by the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries from its members or staff to serve as ex officio members without vote.

e) There shall also be two bishops named by the Council of Bishops. The pluralism of the Church's membership shall be reflected in representation of all ethnic groups and various age categories, and the various caucuses shall be requested to submit names through the United Methodist Women's Caucus in fulfillment of this policy. The

commission shall have the authority to enlist up to five special resource persons, men or women, on an ad-hoc basis as needed.

2. The president of this commission shall be a woman elected by the total commission from its membership and other officers as the commission determines.

3. The funds for carrying out the commission's purpose shall be authorized by the General Conference on recommendation of the Council on Finance and Administration.

4. The commission shall meet annually with such additional meetings as needs demand.

5. The commission shall be charged with the responsibility of fostering an awareness of problems and issues related to status and role of women with special reference to full participation in the total life of the Church at least commensurate with its total membership in The United Methodist Church:

a) To initiate and carry out needed research, including study of the Constitution and other Disciplinary provisions for the eradication of discriminatory words and policies;

b) To establish clear guidelines to ensure full participation of women in the life of the Church;

c) To stimulate and receive progress reports toward this end from all responsible bodies;

d) To generate interest and recommend plans for new understanding of theology and biblical history affecting the status of women;

e) To recommend policies for long-range and immediate implementation related to the role of women in the Church;

f) To serve in an advocacy role especially in matters related to women's role in the Church's life.

6. In order to fulfill its responsibilities and the mandates of the 1972 General Conference, the commission shall work with the Council of Bishops, boards and agencies, and other appropriate structures and channels of the Church.

7. The commission shall elect an executive secretary, who shall be a woman, fulfilling all requirements and sharing the same privileges and responsibilities placed upon executive secretaries of other commissions. She shall establish a liaison consultative relationship to specially

designated staff representatives of all boards and agencies as appropriate in the fulfillment of the commission's mandates.

8. The commission shall generate active concern and give full support directed toward immediate efforts in the fulfillment of the following mandate:

Personnel recruitment agencies, seminaries, responsible boards, commissions and committees related to the pastoral ministry, are requested to establish guidelines and policies directed toward specific recruitment, training, and full utilization of women in the pastoral and related ministries of The United Methodist Church, including the faculties of seminaries, universities, colleges, and other educational institutions of The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1283. *Committee on Central Conference Affairs.*—Recognizing the difference in conditions that exist in various areas of the world and the changes taking place in those areas, there shall be a **Committee on Central Conference Affairs** to study the structure and supervision of The United Methodist Church in its work outside the United States and its territories and its relationships to other church bodies, the committee shall prepare such recommendations as it considers necessary for presentation to the General Conference. All resolutions and petitions related to Central Conferences presented to the General Conference shall be referred to the committee for consideration and the committee shall report its recommendations to the General Conference.

The committee shall be composed of one bishop, one minister, and one lay person from each jurisdiction who are delegates to the General Conference and named by the Council of Bishops; one bishop, one minister, and one lay person from each Central Conference who are delegates to the General Conference and named by the Council of Bishops.

The chairperson of the committee shall be a bishop.

The committee shall meet at the seat of the General Conference.

The episcopal members of the committee shall act as the executive committee between sessions of the General Conference.

### Section XIII. Interdenominational Agencies.

¶ 1284. 1. The United Methodist Church is a member of the

**World Methodist Council**, its predecessor Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches having been charter members of such body. The members of the section representing The United Methodist Church shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops, due regard being given to geographical representation. Financial support of the World Methodist Council shall be channeled through the Central Treasury, as shall be directed by the Council on Finance and Administration.

2. Each affiliated autonomous church and each affiliated united church which is a member of the World Methodist Council shall be entitled to send delegates as proposed in ¶¶ 641 and 644, respectively, to the World Methodist Council and to receive from the General Administration Fund the expense of travel and per diem allowances; *provided* that they shall elect to receive travel and per diem allowances for the meetings of the World Methodist Council instead of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. No affiliated autonomous church or affiliated united church shall be entitled to send delegations at the expense of the General Administration Fund to both the World Methodist Council and the General Conference.

¶ 1285. 1. The United Methodist Church is a member of the **National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America**, its predecessor Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches having been charter members of such body. It has borne its proportionate share of financial support and through the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund is authorized and directed to continue its support. (See ¶ 854.)

2. The representatives of The United Methodist Church to the National Council of Churches and its agencies shall be nominated by the Annual Conferences and elected by the Jurisdictional Conferences in proportion to the membership of the churches of the respective jurisdictions.

The appointment of staff delegates and the designation of proportionate representation to each jurisdiction shall be made by the Council of Bishops.

The total delegation of The United Methodist Church to the National Council of Churches shall conform to the National Council of Churches provisions regarding representation in terms of ethnic

and racial balance, cognate boards or commissions, regional and local ecumenical agencies, women, youth and clergy.

Each jurisdictional College of Bishops shall be entitled to elect one of its members as a part of the clergy quota.

When representatives must be chosen or vacancies must be filled between sessions of the Jurisdictional Conferences, the Council of Bishops is authorized and instructed to do so.

3. United Methodist support of the National Council of Churches shall be channeled through the Central Treasury, as shall be directed by the Council on Finance and Administration, which shall give due credit for United Methodist gifts and contributions to this cause and shall include them in its annual financial report to the Church. The sources of income shall include: (a) the National Council of Churches' share of the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, as determined by the General Conference and (b) such payments by the general agencies of the Church as each agency may deem its responsibility and proportionate share in the cooperative program of the council. Personal, group, or local church gifts shall be included as a part of the ratio distribution of the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.

¶ 1286. 1. The United Methodist Church is a member of the **World Council of Churches**, its predecessor Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches having been charter members of such body. It should bear its proportionate share of financial support and through the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund is authorized and directed to continue its support.

2. The representatives of The United Methodist Church to the Assembly and other agencies of the World Council of Churches shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops and elected by the General Conference, due regard being given to geographical representation. When representatives must be chosen or vacancies must be filled between sessions of the General Conference, the Council of Bishops is authorized and instructed to do so.

3. United Methodist support of the World Council of Churches shall be channeled through the Central Treasury, as shall be directed by the Council on Finance and Administration, which shall give due credit for United Methodist gifts and contributions received by the

World Council of Churches and shall include them in its annual financial report to the Church.

¶ 1287. To encourage the wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures throughout the world and to provide for the translation, printing, and distribution essential thereto, the **American Bible Society** shall be recognized as one of the general missionary agencies of The United Methodist Church, and the Council on Finance and Administration shall make appropriate provisions for participating in its support.

¶ 1288. **Religion in American Life, Incorporated**, is recognized as an interdenominational and interfaith agency through which The United Methodist Church may work to direct attention to church attendance and loyalty to the Christian faith. In endorsing this program the Council of Bishops shall nominate to its Board of Directors five members, to be elected by the General Conference. Further, the Council on Finance and Administration shall recommend to the General Conference for its action and determination the amount to be included in the General Administration Fund as the United Methodist share in this participation.

¶ 1289. In formal relations with other churches and/or ecclesial bodies, the Council of Bishops shall be the primary liaison for The United Methodist Church. The secretary of the Council of Bishops shall be responsible for these relationships and shall work in cooperation with the Division of Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns in the fulfillment of these functions.

#### Section XIV. Miscellany.

¶ 1290. If any member of a jurisdictional board or agency who was chosen to represent a certain Annual Conference shall remove residence permanently from such Annual Conference, that member's place shall automatically become vacant.

¶ 1291. Unless otherwise specified in the Discipline for a specific purpose, the term "quadrennium" shall be deemed to be the four-year period beginning January 1 following the adjournment of the regular session of the General Conference. (*See also* ¶ 820 for "fiscal quadrennium.")

¶ 1292. All boards, commissions, and committees established by a General, Jurisdictional, Central, Annual, or other conference shall meet and organize as promptly as feasible following the conference in question. Unless otherwise specified in the Discipline, every board, commission, and committee shall continue in responsibility until its successor board, commission, or committee is organized.

Chapter Six  
CHURCH PROPERTY

Section I. All Titles—in Trust.

¶ 1401. The United Methodist Church is organized as a **connectional structure**, and titles to all properties held at General, Jurisdictional, Annual, or District Conference levels, or by a local church or charge, or by an agency or institution of the Church, shall be held in trust for The United Methodist Church and subject to the provisions of its Discipline.

¶ 1402. The word "Methodist" is not by our approval or consent to be used as, or as a part of, a trade name or trademark or as a part of the name of any business firm or organization, except by corporations or other business units created for the administration of work undertaken directly by The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1403. *Trust Clauses in Deeds.*—1. Except in conveyances which require that the real property so conveyed shall revert to the grantor if and when its use as a place of divine worship has been terminated, all written instruments of conveyance by which premises are held or hereafter acquired for use as a place of divine worship for members of The United Methodist Church or for other church activities shall contain the following trust clause:

*In trust, that said premises shall be used, kept, and maintained as a place of divine worship of the United Methodist ministry and members of The United Methodist Church; subject to the Discipline, usage, and ministerial appointments of said church as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference and by the Annual Conference within whose bounds the said premises are situated. This provision is solely for the benefit of the grantee, and the grantor reserves no right or interest in said premises.*

2. All written instruments by which premises are held or hereafter acquired as a parsonage for the use and occupancy of the ministers of The United Methodist Church shall contain the following trust clause:

*In trust, that such premises shall be held, kept, and maintained as a place of residence for the use and occupancy of the ministers of The United Methodist Church who may from time to time be entitled to occupy the same by appointment; subject to the Discipline and usage of said church, as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Conference and by the Annual Conference within whose bounds the said premises are situated. This provision is solely for the benefit of the grantee, and the grantor reserves no right or interest in said premises.*

3. In case the property so acquired is to be used for both a house of worship and a parsonage, the provisions of both trust clauses specified in §§ 1 and 2 above shall be inserted in the conveyance.

4. In case the property so acquired is not to be used exclusively for a place of worship, or a parsonage, or both, all written instruments by which such premises are held or hereafter acquired shall contain the following trust clause:

*In trust, that said premises shall be kept, maintained, and disposed of for the benefit of The United Methodist Church and subject to the usages and the Discipline of The United Methodist Church. This provision is solely for the benefit of the grantee, and the grantor reserves no right or interest in said premises.*

5. However, the absence of a trust clause stipulated in §§ 1, 2, 3, or 4 above in deeds and conveyances previously executed shall in no way exclude a local church or church agency from or relieve it of its connectional responsibilities to The United Methodist Church. Nor shall it absolve a local congregation or church agency or Board of Trustees of its responsibility and accountability to The United Methodist Church; *provided* that the intent and desires of the founders and/or the later congregations or Boards of Trustees are shown by any or all of the following indications; (a) the conveyance of the property to the trustees of a local church or agency of any predecessor to The United Methodist Church; (b) the use of the name, customs, and polity of any predecessor to The United Methodist Church in such a way as to be thus known to the community as a part of such denomination; (c) the acceptance of the pastorate of ministers appointed by a

bishop or employed by the superintendent of the District or Annual Conference of any predecessor to The United Methodist Church.

¶ 1404. Nothing in the Plan of Union at any time after the union is to be construed so as to require any existing local church of any predecessor denomination to The United Methodist Church to alienate or in any way to change the title to property contained in its deed or deeds at the time of union, and lapse of time or usage shall not affect said title or control. Title to all property of a local church, or charge, or agency of the Church shall be held subject to the provisions of the Discipline, whether title to the same is taken in the name of the local church trustees, or charge trustees, or in the name of a corporation organized for the purpose, or otherwise.

¶ 1405. Subject to and in accordance with the laws of the state, province, or country, the governing body of any church unit or agency owning land in trust for The United Methodist Church as provided in this Discipline may lease said land for the production of oil, gas, coal, and other minerals, upon such terms as it may deem best; *provided*, however, that such production shall not interfere with the purpose for which said land is held. The moneys received from such leases as rentals, royalties, or otherwise, shall be used so far as practicable for the benefit of the church unit and for the promotion of the interests of The United Methodist Church. The lessee shall have no control over or responsibility for the payments made under such lease.

## Section II. Compliance with Law.

¶ 1406. All provisions of the Discipline relating to property, both real and personal, and relating to the formation and operation of any corporation, and relating to mergers, are conditioned upon their being in conformity with the local laws, and in the event of conflict therewith the local laws shall prevail; *provided*, however, that this requirement shall not be construed to give the consent of The United Methodist Church to deprivation of its property without due process of law or to the regulation of its affairs by state statute where such regulation violates the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion and separation of Church and state or violates the right of the Church to maintain connectional structure; and *provided* further, that the

services of worship of every local church of The United Methodist Church shall be open to all persons without regard to race, color, or national origin. "Local laws" shall be construed to mean the laws of the country, state, or other like political unit within the geographical bounds of which the church property is located.<sup>1</sup>

¶ 1407. In order to secure the right of property, with the appurtenances thereof, of the churches and parsonages of The United Methodist Church, care shall be taken that all conveyances and deeds be drawn and executed in due conformity to the laws of the respective states, provinces, and countries in which the property is situated and also in due conformity to the laws of The United Methodist Church. Deeds shall be registered or recorded directly upon their execution.

## Section III. Audits and Bonding of Church Officers.

¶ 1408. All persons holding trust funds, securities, or moneys of any kind belonging to the General, Jurisdictional, Annual, or Provisional Annual Conferences or to organizations under the control of the General, Jurisdictional, Annual, or Provisional Annual Conferences shall be bonded by a reliable company in such good and sufficient sum as the conference may direct. The accounts of such persons shall be audited at least annually by a recognized public or certified public accountant. A report to an Annual Conference containing a financial statement which the Discipline requires to be audited shall not be approved until the audit is made and the financial statement is shown to be correct. Other parts of the report may be approved pending such audit.

## Section IV. The Methodist Corporation.

¶ 1409. 1. There shall be a charitable corporation which shall hold title to certain property of The United Methodist Church located in Washington, D. C., at Ward Circle at the intersection of Nebraska and Massachusetts Avenues. The objectives to be carried on and promoted by **The Methodist Corporation** shall be and are exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, and educational purposes, in-

<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 11, 315.

cluding religious education and Christian social concerns. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. The **Board of Directors** of this corporation shall be elected for a four-year term by the General Conference and shall consist of (a) one bishop, one minister, and one lay person from each jurisdiction, nominated by the Council of Bishops, and (b) three representatives each from the Council of Bishops, Council on Finance and Administration, General Council on Ministries, and Board of Church and Society, nominated by these respective bodies. The bishop resident in Washington, D. C., shall be ex officio chairperson. Interim vacancies may be filled by the Board of Directors.

2. The corporation shall have complete authority to develop a program for the utilization of the property and to implement it by the sale or lease of all or any part thereof to any agency of The United Methodist Church, subject to compliance with the terms of this Discipline, on such terms as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate to overall utilization of the property in the best interest of The United Methodist Church and its program. The corporation is also authorized to liquidate the project in whole or in part if and when it concludes that it is not in the best interest of The United Methodist Church to undertake a development or a further holding of the property. The corporation is authorized to receive and expend gifts and bequests for the development of this property. In the event of the dissolution of the corporation, its remaining assets and funds, after the payment and satisfaction of all debts, shall be conveyed, assigned, and transferred by the Board of Directors to such religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational organization or organizations as the General Conference of The United Methodist Church shall direct. No funds or property shall be distributed among or inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual.

3. The carrying charges of the property shall be paid from the General Administration Fund. The corporation shall not have authority to commit the General Conference to any other financial obligation without approval of the General Conference. However, if circumstances make it appropriate to proceed with any phase of property development between sessions of the General Conference, the Council on Finance and Administration is authorized to empower the

corporation to solicit funds during such quadrennium under such conditions and restrictions as the said council may deem appropriate.

4. The corporation shall report to each succeeding General Conference as long as The United Methodist Church holds an interest in the property.

#### Section V. Annual Conference Property.<sup>2</sup>

¶ 1410. 1. Each Annual Conference shall have a **Board of Trustees**, which shall be incorporated unless the conference is incorporated in its own name. In either case the board shall consist of twelve persons, who must be at least thirty years of age and of whom six shall be ministers in the effective relation in the conference and six shall be lay members in good standing of local churches within the bounds of the conference, and such persons shall be the directors of the corporation. They shall be elected by the conference for a term of three years, except as to the first board, one third of whom shall be elected for a term of one year, one third for a term of two years, and one third for a term of three years, and shall serve until their successors have been elected and qualified; *provided*, however, that existing incorporated trustees of any Annual Conference may continue unaffected by this subsection unless and until such charter is amended.

2. The said corporation shall receive, collect, and hold in trust for the benefit of the Annual Conference any and all donations, bequests, and devises of any kind or character, real or personal, that may be given, devised, bequeathed, or conveyed to the said board or to the Annual Conference as such for any benevolent, charitable, or religious purpose, and shall administer the same and the income therefrom in accordance with the directions of the donor, trustor, or testator, and in the interest of the church, society, institution, or agency contemplated by such donor, trustor, or testator, under the direction of the Annual Conference. The board shall have the power to invest, reinvest, buy, sell, transfer, and convey any and all funds and properties which it may hold in trust, subject always to the terms of the legacy, devise, or donation; *provided*, however, that the foregoing shall not apply to

<sup>2</sup> For authority regarding property held by general agencies of the Church, see ¶ 843.

churches, colleges, camps, conference grounds, orphanages, or incorporated boards. The conference Board of Trustees is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds that make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals of the social principles of our Church. When the use to be made of any such donation, bequest, or devise is not otherwise designated, the same shall be used as directed by the Annual Conference. Funds committed to this board may be invested by it only in collateral that is amply secured and after such investments have been approved by the said board or its agency or committee charged with such investment, unless otherwise directed by the Annual Conference.<sup>3</sup>

3. The board may intervene and take all necessary legal steps to safeguard and protect the interests and rights of the Annual Conference anywhere and in all matters relating to property and rights to property whether arising by gift, devise, or otherwise, or where held in trust or established for the benefit of the Annual Conference or its membership.

4. It shall be the duty of the pastor within the bounds of whose charge any such gift, bequest, or devise is made to give prompt notice thereof to said board, which shall proceed to take such steps as are necessary and proper to conserve, protect, and administer the same; *provided*, however, that the board may decline to receive or administer any such gift, devise, or bequest for any reason satisfactory to the board. It shall also be the duty of the pastor to report annually to the Board of Trustees of the Annual Conference a list of all property, including real, personal, or mixed, within the charge belonging to or which should be under the control or jurisdiction of the said board.

5. The board shall make to each session of the Annual Conference a full, true, and faithful report of its doings, of all funds, moneys, securities, and property held in trust by it, and of its receipts and disbursements during the conference year. The beneficiary of a fund held in trust by the board shall also be entitled to a report at least annually on the condition of such fund and on the transactions affecting it.

¶ 1411. When authorized by two thirds of the Annual Confer-

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 135, 160, 190.

ences comprising an episcopal area, an **episcopal residence** for the resident bishop may be acquired, which shall be under the management and control of, and the title to which shall be held in trust by, the trustees of the Annual Conference within which the residence is located; and the purchase price and maintenance cost thereof shall be equitably distributed by the trustees among the several conferences in the area. Any such property so acquired and held shall not be sold or disposed of except with the consent of a majority of the conferences that participate in the ownership. Should an Annual Conference contribute to the purchase of an episcopal residence and later be transferred to an area not owning one, if it shall ask payment for its equity, such claim shall not be denied.<sup>4</sup>

¶ 1412. The Board of Trustees shall meet at least annually and organize by electing a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, whose duties shall be those usually pertaining to such offices. They shall be amenable to the Annual Conference. Vacancies shall be filled by the Annual Conference for the unexpired term.

#### Section VI. District Property.

¶ 1413. 1. A **district parsonage** for the district superintendent may be acquired, when authorized by the Charge Conferences of two thirds of the charges in the district or when authorized by a two-thirds vote of the District Conference, subject to the advice and approval of the district Board of Church Location and Building as provided in ¶¶ 1414-18.

2. The title of district property may be held in trust by a **district Board of Trustees**, of not fewer than three nor more than nine members having the same qualifications provided for trustees of local churches (¶ 1419), who shall be nominated by the district superintendent and elected by the District Conference. Where there is no District Conference, they may be elected by the district Board of Stewards or by the Annual Conference on nomination of the district superintendent. They shall be elected for a term of one year and serve until their successors shall have been elected, and shall report annually to the District Conference or Annual Conference. If the title to the

<sup>4</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 194.

district parsonage is not held by a district Board of Trustees, the same shall be held in trust by the trustees of the Annual Conference of which such district is a part, and such trustees shall report annually to the Annual Conference. Except as the laws of the state, territory, or country prescribe otherwise, district property held in trust by a district Board of Trustees may be mortgaged or sold and conveyed by them only by authority of the District Conference or Annual Conference, or if such property is held in trust by the trustees of the Annual Conference, it may be mortgaged or sold and conveyed by such trustees only by authority of the Annual Conference. The purchase price and maintenance cost of a district parsonage shall be equitably distributed among the charges of the district by the district Board of Stewards.

3. When district boundaries are changed by division, rearrangement, or consolidation so that a district parsonage purchased, owned, and maintained by one district is included within the bounds of another district, each such district shall be entitled to receive its just share of the then reasonable value of the parsonage in which it has invested funds; and the amount of such value and just share shall be determined by a committee of three persons, appointed by the bishop of the area, who shall not be residents of any of the said districts. The committee shall hear claims of each district regarding its interest therein before making decision. From any such determination there is reserved unto each of the interested districts the right of appeal to the next succeeding Annual Conference. Any sum received as or from such share shall be used for no other purpose than purchase or building of a parsonage in the district. The same procedure shall be followed in determining equities of a district in any other property which may be included in another district by changes in district boundaries.

¶ 1414. There shall be in each district of an Annual Conference a **district Board of Church Location and Building**, consisting of the district superintendent, three ministers, and three lay persons nominated by the district superintendent and elected annually by the Annual Conference; *provided* that in a district of great geographical extent an additional board may be so elected. The board shall file a report of any actions taken with the Charge Conference of each local church involved, and the report so filed shall become a part of the

minutes of the said conference or conferences. The board shall also make a written report to the District Conference (or if there is no District Conference, to the district superintendent), and this report shall become a part of the records of that conference.

¶ 1415. 1. The Board of Church Location and Building shall investigate all proposed local church building sites, ascertaining that such sites are properly located for the community to be served and adequate in size to provide space for future expansion and parking facilities. (See ¶¶ 142.1, 1436.2.)

2. If there is a Metropolitan Commission (¶ 1128.3 c) in the district, the board shall consider its recommendations in planning a strategy for continuing the service of The United Methodist Church in changing neighborhoods. If not, the board shall study the duties assigned to such a commission and seek ways to provide continuity of service in parishes where there is a change in the racial or cultural character of the residents, to the end that the resolutions of the General Conference involving such neighborhoods be given careful consideration.

¶ 1416. 1. The board shall require any local church in its district, before beginning or contracting for construction or purchase of a new church or educational building or a parsonage, or remodeling of such a building if the cost will exceed 10 percent of its value, to submit for consideration and approval a statement of the need for the proposed facilities, preliminary architectural plans, an estimate of the cost, and a financial plan for defraying such costs, as provided in ¶ 1436.4-5. Before finally approving the architectural plans it shall ascertain whether the preliminary plans have been reviewed.

2. When the local church has secured final architectural plans and specifications and a reliable and detailed estimate of the cost of the proposed undertaking as provided in ¶ 1436.7, the board shall require their submission for consideration and approval. The board shall study carefully the feasibility and financial soundness of the undertaking and ascertain whether the financial plan will provide funds necessary to assure prompt payment of all proposed contractual obligations, and it shall report its conclusions to the church in writing.

¶ 1417. A decision of the board disapproving such purchase, building, or remodeling shall be final unless overruled by the Annual

Conference, to which there is reserved unto the local church the right of appeal.

¶ 1418. The above provisions shall apply to the acquisition of a district parsonage.

### Section VII. Local-Church Property.

¶ 1419. In each pastoral charge consisting of one local church there shall be a **Board of Trustees**, consisting of not fewer than three nor more than nine persons, each of whom shall be not less than twenty-one years of age and at least two thirds of whom shall be members of The United Methodist Church. By action of the Charge Conference the local church may limit the age of trustees to a maximum of seventy-two years of age.

¶ 1420. The members of the Board of Trustees shall be divided into three classes, and each class shall as nearly as possible consist of an equal number of members. At the Charge Conference, on nomination by the Committee on Nominations, of which the pastor shall be chairperson (or if the committee fails to nominate, on nomination of the pastor), or from the floor, it shall elect, to take office at the beginning of the ensuing conference year, to serve for a term of three years or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified, the required number of trustees to succeed those of the class whose terms then expire; *provided*, however, that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the election of a trustee to self-succession.<sup>5</sup> The Charge Conference may assign the responsibility for electing trustees to a Congregational Meeting.

¶ 1421. 1. In a pastoral charge consisting of two or more local churches, a **Church Local Conference**, constituted and organized under the Discipline of The United Methodist Church in each local church therein, shall be vested with authority and power in matters relating to the real and personal property of the local church concerned. Such Church Local Conference shall elect the Board of Trustees of such local church in number and manner described in ¶ 1420, and the duties of such trustees, duly elected, shall be the same as and identical with the duties described in ¶ 1423. The duties, authority, and power

<sup>5</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 130.

vested in the Church Local Conference, insofar as they relate to the property, real and personal, of the local church concerned, are the same as and identical with the authority and power vested in the Charge Conference of a pastoral charge of one local church (¶ 1423); and the authority, power, and limitations therein set forth shall be applicable to the Church Local Conference as fully and to the same extent as if incorporated herein. The effect of the provisions for a Church Local Conference is to give to each local church in a charge of two or more churches, rather than to the pastoral Charge Conference, supervision over and control of its own property, subject to the limitations prescribed in the Discipline with regard to local church property.

2. Whenever required under the Discipline of The United Methodist Church for matters relating to real or personal property of the local church or to mergers of churches, a local church in a pastoral charge consisting of two or more local churches shall organize a Church Local Conference. The membership of the Church Local Conference shall consist of the persons specified for membership of the Charge Conference (¶ 144.2) so far as the officers and relationships exist within the local church, except that the pastor shall be a member of each Church Local Conference. The provisions of ¶ 144.2.8 relating to membership qualification and procedures of a Charge Conference shall be applicable to membership qualifications and procedures of a Church Local Conference.

¶ 1422. 1. A pastoral charge composed of two or more churches, each having a local Board of Trustees, may have in addition a **Board of Trustees for the charge as a whole**. This board shall hold title to and manage the property belonging to the entire charge, such as parsonage, campground, burial ground, and such other property as may be committed to it. It shall receive and administer funds for the charge in conformity with the laws of the state, province, or country in which the property is located. This board shall consist of not less than three persons, at least two thirds of whom shall be members of The United Methodist Church and at least twenty-one years of age. These trustees shall be elected by the Charge Conference for three years or until their successors are elected. By action of the Charge Conference the local church may limit the age of trustees to a maximum of seventy-two.

2. The Board of Trustees of a charge shall provide for the security

of its funds, keep an accurate record of its proceedings, and report to the Charge Conference to which it is amenable.

3. When two or more local churches compose a single pastoral charge having a parsonage and one or more thereof is separated from such charge and established as a pastoral charge or united with another pastoral charge which does not own a parsonage, each such local church shall be entitled to receive its just share of the then reasonable value of the parsonage in which it has invested funds, and the amount of such value and just share shall be determined by a committee of three persons, appointed by the district superintendent, who shall be members of The United Methodist Church but not of any of the interested local churches. Such committee shall hear all interested parties and shall take into account the investment of any church in any such property before arriving at a final determination. From any such determination there is reserved to each of the interested churches the right of appeal to the next succeeding Annual Conference, the decision of which shall be final and binding. Any sum received as or from such share shall not be applied to current expense or current budget.

¶ 1423. In a pastoral charge consisting of one local church, the Charge Conference, constituted as set forth in this Discipline, shall be vested with power and authority as hereinafter set forth in connection with the property, both real and personal, of the said local church, namely:

1. If it so elects, to direct the Board of Trustees to incorporate the local church, expressly subject, however, to the Discipline of The United Methodist Church and in accordance with the pertinent local laws and in such manner as will fully protect and exempt from any and all legal liability the individual officials and members, jointly and severally, of the local church, and the Charge, Annual, Jurisdictional, and General Conferences of The United Methodist Church, and each of them, for and on account of the debts and other obligations of every kind and description, of the local church.

2. To direct the Board of Trustees with respect to the purchase, sale, mortgage, incumbrance, construction, repairing, remodeling, and maintenance of any and all property of the local church.

3. To direct the Board of Trustees with respect to the acceptance

or rejection of any and all conveyances, grants, gifts, donations, legacies, bequests, or devises, absolute or in trust, for the use and benefit of the local church, and to require the administration of any such trust in accordance with the terms and provisions thereof and of the local laws appertaining thereto. (See ¶ 1427.)

4. To do any and all things necessary to exercise such other powers and duties relating to the property, real and personal, of the local church concerned as may be committed to it by the Discipline.

¶ 1424. The Board of Trustees shall organize as follows:

1. Within thirty days after the beginning of the ensuing conference year each Board of Trustees shall convene at a time and place designated by the chairperson, or by the vice-chairperson in the event that the president is not reelected a trustee or because of absence or disability is unable to act, for the purpose of electing officers of the said board for the ensuing year and transacting any other business properly brought before it.

2. The Board of Trustees shall elect from the membership thereof, to hold office for a term of one year or until their successors shall be elected, a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and if need requires, treasurer; *provided*, however, that the chairperson and vice-chairperson shall not be members of the same class; and *provided* further that the offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person; and *provided* further that the chairperson shall be a member of the local church. The duties of each officer shall be the same as generally connected with the office held and which are usually and commonly discharged by the holder thereof. The Church Local Conference may, if it is necessary to conform to the local laws, substitute the designations "president" and "vice-president" for and in place of "chairperson" and "vice-chairperson."

3. Where necessity requires, as a result of the incorporation of a local church the corporation directors, in addition to electing officers as provided in § 2 above, shall ratify and confirm, by appropriate action, and if necessary elect, as officers of the corporation the treasurer or treasurers, as the case may be, elected by the Charge Conference in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline, whose duties and responsibilities shall be as therein set forth. If more than one account is maintained in the name of the corporation in any financial

institution or institutions, each such account and the treasurer thereof shall be appropriately designated.

4. "Trustee," "trustees," and "Board of Trustees," as used herein or elsewhere in the Discipline, shall be construed to be synonymous with "director," "directors," and "Board of Directors" applied to corporations.

¶ 1425. 1. Should a trustee withdraw from the membership of The United Methodist Church or be excluded therefrom, trusteeship therein shall automatically cease from the date of such withdrawal or exclusion.

2. Should a trustee of a local church or a director of an incorporated local church refuse to execute properly a legal instrument relating to any property of the church when directed so to do by the Charge Conference and when all legal requirements have been satisfied with reference to such execution, the said Charge Conference may by majority vote declare the trustee's or director's membership on the Board of Trustees or Board of Directors vacated.

3. Vacancies occurring in a Board of Trustees shall be filled by election for the unexpired term. Such election shall be held in the same manner as for trustees.

¶ 1426. The Board of Trustees shall meet at the call of the pastor or of its president at least annually at such times and places as shall be designated in a notice to each trustee at a reasonable time prior to the appointed time of the meeting. Waiver of notice may be used as a means to validate meetings legally where the usual notice is impracticable. A majority of the members of the Board of Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

¶ 1427. Subject to the direction of the Charge Conference as hereinbefore provided, the Board of Trustees shall receive and administer all bequests made to the local church; shall receive and administer all trusts; shall invest all trust funds of the local church in conformity with laws of the country, state, or like political unit in which the local church is located. The Board of Trustees is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the social principles of our Church. The Board of Trustees shall have the supervision, oversight, and care of all real property owned by the

local church and of all property and equipment acquired directly by the local church or by any society, board, class, commission, or similar organization connected therewith; *provided* that the Board of Trustees shall not violate the rights of any local church organization elsewhere granted in the Discipline; *provided* further, that the Board of Trustees shall not prevent or interfere with the pastor in the use of any of the said property for religious services or other proper meetings or purposes recognized by the law, usages, and customs of The United Methodist Church, or permit the use of said property for religious or other meetings without the consent of the pastor, or in the pastor's absence the consent of the district superintendent; and *provided* further, that pews in The United Methodist Church shall always be free; and *provided* further, that the Church Local Conference may assign certain of these duties to a building committee as set forth in ¶ 1436.

¶ 1428. If the local laws do not prescribe that title to property, both real and personal, shall be otherwise taken and held, in which event the provisions thereof shall take precedence and shall be observed and the provisions hereof subordinated thereto, the title to all real property now owned or hereafter acquired by an **unincorporated local church**, and any organization, board, commission, society, or similar body connected therewith, shall be held by and/or conveyed and transferred to its duly elected trustees, who shall be named in the written instrument conveying or transferring title, and their successors in office and their assigns, as the Board of Trustees of such local church (naming it and the individual trustees), in trust, nevertheless, for the use and benefit of such local church and of The United Methodist Church. Every instrument of conveyance of real estate shall contain the appropriate trust clause as set forth in the Discipline (¶ 1403).

¶ 1429. Prior to the purchase by an unincorporated local church of any real estate, a resolution authorizing such action shall be passed at a meeting of the Charge Conference by a majority vote of its members present and voting at a regular meeting or a special meeting of the Charge Conference called for that purpose; *provided*, however, that not less than ten days' notice of such meeting and the proposed action shall have been given from the pulpit or in the weekly bulletin of the church; and *provided* further, that written consent to such

action shall be given by the pastor and the district superintendent. (See ¶ 1436.)

¶ 1430. If the local laws do not prescribe that title to real property of an **incorporated local church** shall be otherwise taken and held, in which event the provisions thereof shall take precedence and shall be observed and the provisions hereof subordinated thereto, the title to all property, both real and personal, now owned or hereafter acquired by an incorporated local church, and any organization, board, commission, society, or similar body connected therewith, shall be held by and/or conveyed to the corporate body in its corporate name, in trust, nevertheless, for the use and benefit of such local church and of The United Methodist Church. Every instrument of conveyance of real estate shall contain the appropriate trust clause as set forth in the Discipline (¶ 1403).

¶ 1431. Prior to the purchase by a local church corporation of any real estate, a resolution authorizing such action shall be passed by the Charge Conference in corporate session, or such other corporate body as the local laws may require, with the members thereof acting in their capacity as members of the corporate body, by a majority vote of those present and voting at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose; *provided* that not less than ten days' notice of such meeting and the proposed action shall have been given from the pulpit or in the weekly bulletin of the local church; and *provided* further, that written consent to such action shall be given by the pastor and the district superintendent; and *provided* further, that all such transactions shall have the approval of the Charge Conference.

¶ 1432. Any real property owned by, or in which an unincorporated local church has any interest, may be sold, transferred, or mortgaged subject to the following procedure and conditions:

1. Notice of the proposed action and the date and time of the regular or special meeting of the Charge Conference at which it is to be considered shall be given at least ten days prior thereto (except as local laws may otherwise provide) from the pulpit of the church or in its weekly bulletin.

2. A resolution authorizing the proposed action shall be passed by a majority vote of the Charge Conference members present and

voting and by a majority vote of the members of said church present and voting at a special meeting called to consider such action.

3. The written consent of the pastor of the local church and the district superintendent to the proposed action shall be necessary and shall be affixed to the instrument of sale, transfer, or mortgage.

4. The resolution authorizing such proposed action shall direct that any contract, deed, bill of sale, mortgage, or other necessary written instrument be executed by and on behalf of the local church by any two of the officers of its Board of Trustees, who thereupon shall be duly authorized to carry out the direction of the Charge Conference; and any written instrument so executed shall be binding and effective as the action of the local church.

¶ 1433. Any real property owned by, or in which an incorporated local church has any interest, may be sold, transferred, or mortgaged subject to the following procedure and conditions:

1. Notice of the proposed action and the date and time of the regular or special meeting of the members of the corporate body, i.e., members of the Charge Conference at which it is to be considered, shall be given at least ten days prior thereto (except as local laws may otherwise provide) from the pulpit of the church or in its weekly bulletin.

2. A resolution authorizing the proposed action shall be passed by a majority vote of the members of the corporate body present and voting at any regular or special meeting thereof called to consider such action and by a majority vote of the members of said church present and voting at a special meeting called to consider such action; *provided* that for the sale of property which was conveyed to the church to be sold and its proceeds used for a specific purpose a vote of the members of said church shall not be required.

3. The written consent of the pastor of the local church and the district superintendent to the proposed action shall be necessary and shall be affixed to the instrument of sale, conveyance, transfer, or mortgage.

4. The resolution authorizing such proposed action shall direct and authorize the corporation's Board of Directors to take all necessary steps to carry out the action so authorized and to cause to be executed,

as hereinafter provided, any necessary contract, deed, bill of sale, mortgage, or other written instrument.

5. The Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting shall take such action and adopt such resolutions as may be necessary or required by the local laws.

6. Any required contract, deed, bill of sale, mortgage, or other written instrument necessary to carry out the action so authorized shall be executed in the name of the corporation by any two of its officers, and any written instrument so executed shall be binding and effective as the action of the corporation.

¶ 1434. Real property acquired by a conveyance containing trust clauses may be sold in conformity with the provisions of the Discipline of The United Methodist Church when its use as a church building or parsonage, as the case may be, has been, or is intended to be, terminated; and when such real estate is sold or mortgaged in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline of The United Methodist Church, the written acknowledged consent of the proper district superintendent representing The United Methodist Church to the action taken shall constitute a release and discharge of the real property so sold and conveyed from the trust clause or clauses; or in the event of the execution of a mortgage, such consent of the district superintendent shall constitute a formal recognition of the priority of such mortgage lien and the subordination of the foregoing trust provisions thereof; and no bona fide purchaser or mortgagee relying upon the foregoing record shall be charged with any responsibility with respect to the disposition by such local church of the proceeds of any such sale or mortgage; but the Board of Trustees receiving such proceeds shall manage, control, disburse, and expend the same in conformity to the order and direction of the Church Local Conference, subject to the provisions of the Discipline of The United Methodist Church with respect thereto.

¶ 1435. 1. No real property on which a church building or parsonage is located shall be mortgaged to provide for the current (or budget) expense of a local church, nor shall the principal proceeds of a sale of any such property be so used. This provision shall apply alike to unincorporated and incorporated local churches.

2. A local church, whether or not incorporated, on complying

with the provisions of the Discipline, may mortgage its unencumbered real property as security for a loan to be made to a conference Board of Global Ministries or a city or district missionary society; *provided* that the proceeds of such loan shall be used only for aiding in the construction of a new church.

¶ 1436. Any local church planning to build or purchase a new church or educational building or a parsonage, or to remodel such a building if the cost will exceed 10 percent of its value, shall take the following steps:

1. It shall secure the written consent of the pastor and the district superintendent.

2. It shall secure approval of the proposed site by the district Board of Church Location and Building as provided in the Discipline.

3. Its Charge Conference shall authorize the project at a regular or called meeting, not less than ten days' notice (except as local laws may otherwise provide) of such meeting and the proposed action having been given from the pulpit or in the weekly bulletin, and shall appoint a **building committee** of not fewer than three members of the local church to serve in the development of the project as hereinafter set forth; *provided* that the Charge Conference may commit to its Board of Trustees the duties of a building committee as here described.

4. The building committee shall:

a) Estimate carefully the building facilities needed to house the church's program of worship, education, and fellowship and/or to provide a residence for present and future pastors and their families.

b) Ascertain the cost of property to be purchased.

c) Develop preliminary architectural plans, complying with local building and fire codes, which shall clearly outline the location on the site of all proposed present and future construction. In all new church building plans and in all major remodeling plans, adequate provisions should be made to facilitate entrance, seating, exit, parking, and the use of facilities for persons with physical disabilities.

d) Secure an estimate of the cost of the proposed construction.

e) Develop a financial plan for defraying the total cost, including an estimate of the amount the membership can contribute in cash and pledges and the amount the local church can borrow if necessary.

5. The building committee shall submit to the district Board of Church Location and Building, for its consideration and approval, a statement of the need for the proposed facilities, and the architectural plans and financial estimates and plans.

6. The pastor, with the written consent of the district superintendent, shall call a Church Conference, giving not less than ten days' notice (except as local laws may otherwise provide) of the meeting and the proposed action from the pulpit or in the weekly bulletin. At this conference the building committee shall submit, for approval by the membership, its recommendations for the proposed building project, including the data specified herein.

7. After approval of the preliminary plans and estimates the building committee shall develop detailed plans and specifications and secure a reliable and detailed estimate of cost and shall present these for approval to the Charge Conference and to the district Board of Church Location and Building, which shall study the data and report its conclusions.

8. The local church shall acquire a fee simple title to the lot or lots on which the building is to be erected, by deed or conveyance, executed as provided in this chapter, and shall pay the purchase price thereof in full before beginning construction.

9. If a loan is needed, the local church shall comply with the provisions of ¶¶ 1432-33.

10. The local church shall not enter into a building contract or, if using a plan for volunteer labor, incur obligations for materials until it has cash on hand, pledges payable during the construction period, and (if needed) a loan or written commitment therefor which will assure prompt payment of all contractual obligations and other accounts when due.

11. Trustees or other members of a local church shall not be required to guarantee personally any loan made to the church by any board created by or under the authority of the General Conference.

¶ 1437. On acquisition or completion of any church building, parsonage, or other church unit, a service of consecration may be held. Before any church building, parsonage, or other church unit is formally dedicated, all indebtedness against the same shall be discharged.

¶ 1438. Two or more local churches may merge and become a single church by pursuing the following procedure:

1. The merger must be proposed by the Charge Conference of each of the merging churches by a resolution stating the terms and conditions of the proposed merger.

2. The plan of the merger as proposed by the Charge Conference of each of the merging churches must in addition, if a Charge Conference includes two or more local churches, be approved by the Church Local Conference of each local church in accordance with the requirements of ¶ 1421.

3. The merger must be approved by the superintendent or superintendents of the district or districts in which the merging churches are located.

4. The requirements of any and all laws of the state or states in which the merging churches are located affecting or relating to the merger of such churches must be complied with, and in any case where there is a conflict between such laws and the procedure outlined in the Discipline, said laws shall prevail and the procedure outlined in the Discipline shall be modified to the extent necessary to eliminate such conflict.

¶ 1439. One or more local United Methodist churches may merge with one or more churches of other denominations and become a single church by pursuing the following procedure:

1. Following appropriate dialogue, which shall include discussions with the United Methodist district superintendent of the district in which the merging churches are located and the corresponding officials of the other judicatories involved, a plan of merger shall be submitted to the Charge Conference of the local United Methodist church and must be approved by a resolution stating the terms and conditions of the proposed merger, including the denominational connection of the merger church.

2. The plan of merger as approved by the Charge Conference of the United Methodist church, in a Charge Conference including two or more local churches, must be approved by the Church Local Conference of each local church in accordance with the requirements of ¶ 1421.

3. The merger must be approved in writing by the superintendent of the district, a majority of the district superintendents, and the bishop of the area in which the merging churches are located.

4. The provisions of ¶ 1403 shall be included in the plan of merger where applicable.

5. The requirements of any and all laws of the state or states in which the merging churches are located affecting or relating to the merger of such churches must be complied with, and in any case where there is a conflict between such laws and the procedure outlined in the Discipline, said laws shall prevail and the procedure outlined in the Discipline shall be modified to the extent necessary to eliminate such conflict.

6. Where property is involved, the provisions of ¶ 1440 obtain.

¶ 1440. 1. With the consent of the presiding bishop and of a majority of the district superintendents and of the district Board of Church Location and Building, and at the request of the Charge Conference or of a meeting of the membership of the church, where required by local law, and in accordance with the said law, the Annual Conference may instruct and direct the Board of Trustees of a local church to deed church property to a federated church.

2. With the consent of the presiding bishop and of a majority of the district superintendents and of the district Board of Church Location and Building and at the request of the Charge Conference or of a local meeting of the membership of the church, where required by local law, and in accordance with said law, the Annual Conference may instruct and direct the Board of Trustees of a local church to deed church property to another evangelical denomination under an allocation, exchange of property, or comity agreement; *provided* that such agreement shall have been committed to writing and signed and approved by the duly qualified and authorized representatives of both parties concerned.

¶ 1441. 1. With the consent of the presiding bishop and of a majority of the district superintendents and of the district Board of Church Location and Building of the district in which the action is contemplated, the Annual Conference may declare any local church within its bounds discontinued or abandoned. It shall be the duty of

its Board of Trustees to make such disposition of the property thereof as the Annual Conference shall direct; and if no such lawful trustees remain or if for any reason said trustees fail to make such disposition, then it shall be the duty of the trustees of the Annual Conference to sell or dispose of said property in accordance with the direction of the Annual Conference; and it shall be the duty of the trustees thus effecting sale to remove, insofar as reasonably possible, all Christian and church insignia and symbols from such property. In the event of loss, damage to, or destruction of such local church property, the trustees of the Annual Conference are authorized to collect and receipt for any insurance payable on account thereof, as the duly and legally authorized representative of such local church.<sup>6</sup>

2. All the deeds, records, and other official and legal papers, including the contents of the cornerstone, of a church that is so declared to be abandoned or otherwise discontinued shall be collected by the district superintendent in whose district said church was located and shall be deposited for permanent safekeeping with the secretary of the Annual Conference. The conference may subsequently authorize that such records and historic memorabilia be deposited for safekeeping with its Commission on Archives and History.

3. Any gift, legacy, devise, annuity, or other benefit to a pastoral charge or local church that accrues or becomes available after said charge or church has been discontinued or abandoned shall become the property of the trustees of the Annual Conference within whose jurisdiction the said discontinued or abandoned church was located.

4. When a church property has been abandoned by its membership and no abandonment action has been taken by the Annual Conference and circumstances make immediate action necessary, the Annual Conference trustees may take control of the property, with the consent of the presiding bishop and the district Board of Church Location and Building of the district in which the property is located. And in the event of the sale or lease of said property the trustees of the Annual Conference shall recommend to the Annual Conference at its next session the disposition of the proceeds derived from such sale or lease.

<sup>6</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 119, 138, 143.

¶ 1442. The Board of Trustees shall annually make a written report to the Charge Conference, in which shall be included the following:

1. The legal description and the reasonable valuation of each parcel of real estate owned by the church.
2. The specific name of the grantee in each deed of conveyance of real estate to the local church.
3. An inventory and the reasonable valuation of all personal property owned by the local church.
4. The amount of income received from any income-producing property and a detailed list of expenditures in connection therewith.
5. The amount received during the year for building, rebuilding, remodeling, and improving real estate, and an itemized statement of expenditures.
6. Outstanding capital debts and how contracted.
7. A detailed statement of the insurance carried on each parcel of real estate, indicating whether restricted by co-insurance or other limiting conditions and whether adequate insurance is carried.
8. The name of the custodian of all legal papers of the local church, and where they are kept.
9. A detailed list of all trusts in which the local church is the beneficiary, specifying where and how the funds are invested and in what manner the income therefrom is expended or applied.

¶ 1443. In static and declining population areas, churches of fifty members or less shall study, under the leadership of the district superintendent, the district Advisory Committee, if any, and the conference Commission on Town and Country Ministries, their potential in the area to determine whether or not they shall continue to develop programs as organized churches or give special attention to relocation or merger with other congregations.

¶ 1444. The provisions herein written concerning the organization and administration of the local church, including the procedure for acquiring, holding, and transferring real property, shall not be mandatory in Central Conferences, Provisional Central Conferences, Provisional Annual Conferences, or Missions; and in such instances the legislation in ¶¶ 629-39 and 647-57 shall apply.

### Section VIII. Requirements—Trustees of Church Institutions.

¶ 1445. Trustees of schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, homes, orphanages, institutes, and other institutions owned or controlled by The United Methodist Church shall be at least twenty-one years of age. At all times not less than three fifths of them shall be members of The United Methodist Church, and all must be nominated, confirmed, or elected by some governing body of the Church or by some body or officer thereof to which or to whom this power has been delegated by the governing body of the Church; *provided* that the number of trustees of any such institution owned or controlled by any Annual Conference or Conferences required to be members of The United Methodist Church may be reduced to not less than the majority by a three-fourths vote of such Annual Conference or Conferences; and *provided* further, that when an institution is owned and operated jointly with some other denomination or organization, said requirement that three fifths of the trustees shall be members of The United Methodist Church shall apply only to the portion of the trustees representing The United Methodist Church.

Chapter Seven  
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section I. The Judicial Council.

¶ 1501. *Members.*—The Judicial Council shall be composed of nine members, five of whom shall be ministers other than bishops and four of whom shall be lay persons. They shall be members of The United Methodist Church. Elections shall be held at each session of the General Conference for only the number of members whose terms expire at such session. A member's term of office shall be eight years; *provided*, however, that a member of the council whose seventieth birthday precedes the first day of the regular session of a General Conference shall be released at the close of that General Conference from membership or responsibility in the council, regardless of the date of expiration of office.

Members of the council shall be nominated and elected in the manner following: At each quadrennial session of the General Conference the Council of Bishops shall nominate by majority vote three times the number of ministers and lay persons to be elected at such session of the General Conference. The number to be elected shall correspond to the number of members whose terms expire at the conclusion of such session. Each of the jurisdictions and the overseas churches as a group shall be represented by at least one nominee, but it shall not be a requirement that each of the jurisdictions or the overseas churches be represented by an elected member. At the same daily session at which the above nominations are announced, nominations of both ministers and lay persons may be made from the floor, but at no other time. The names of all nominees, identified with the conference to which each belongs and a biographical sketch which does not exceed one hundred words, shall be published by the *Daily Christian Advocate* immediately prior to the day of election, which shall be set by action of the General Conference at the session at which the nominations are made; and from these nominations the General Conference shall elect without discussion, by ballot and by majority vote, the necessary number of ministerial and lay members.

¶ 1502. *Alternates.*—There shall be six alternates for the ministerial members and six alternates for the lay members, and their qualifications shall be the same as for membership on the Judicial Council. The term of the alternates shall be for eight years; *provided*, however, that an alternate whose seventieth birthday precedes the first day of the regular session of a General Conference shall be released at the close of that General Conference from membership or responsibility in the council regardless of the date of expiration of office.

The alternates shall be elected in the manner following: from the ministerial and lay nominees remaining on the ballot after the election of the necessary number of members of the Judicial Council to be elected at sessions of the General Conference, the General Conference shall by separate ballot, without discussion and by majority vote, elect the number of ministerial and lay alternates to be chosen at such session of the General Conference. An election shall be held at each session of the General Conference for only the number of ministerial and lay alternates whose terms expire at such session of the General Conference, or to fill vacancies.

¶ 1503. *Vacancies.*—1. If a vacancy in the membership of the Judicial Council occurs at the conclusion of a General Conference because of a required retirement of a member because of age, such vacancy shall be filled by General Conference election of a minister to fill a ministerial vacancy and a lay person to fill a lay vacancy, such election to be held in the manner hereinbefore provided in this section, and the person so elected shall hold office during the unexpired term of the member whom the newly elected person succeeds.

2. If a vacancy in the membership of the council occurs during the interim between sessions of the General Conference, a ministerial vacancy shall be filled by the first-elected ministerial alternate and a lay vacancy by the first-elected lay alternate. The alternate filling such vacancy shall hold office as a member of the Judicial Council for the unexpired term of the member whom the alternate succeeds. In the event of any vacancy, it shall be the duty of the president and secretary of the council to notify the alternate entitled to fill it.

3. In the event of the enforced absence of one or more members of the council at or during a session of the General Conference, such temporary vacancy may be filled for that session of the General Con-

ference or the remainder thereof, as provided above in this paragraph; *provided*, however, that nothing in this provision shall affect the validity of any action of the council so long as a quorum is present.

4. Any permanent vacancy among the alternates shall be filled by election at the next quadrennial session of the General Conference of a minister to fill a ministerial vacancy and a lay person to fill a lay vacancy, and the person or persons so elected shall hold office during the unexpired term of the alternate whom each respectively succeeds.

5. If vacancies in the membership of the Judicial Council occur after exhaustion of the list of alternates, the council is authorized to fill such vacancies for the remainder of the quadrennium.

¶ 1504. The term of office of the members of the council and of the alternates shall expire upon the adjournment of the General Conference at which their successors are elected.

¶ 1505. Members of the council shall be ineligible for membership in the General Conference or Jurisdictional Conference or in any general or jurisdictional board or for administrative service in any connectional office.<sup>1</sup>

¶ 1506. The Judicial Council shall provide its own method of organization and procedure, both with respect to hearings on appeals and petitions for declaratory decisions. All parties shall have the privilege of filing briefs and arguments and presenting evidence, under such rules as the council may adopt from time to time. The council shall meet at the time and place of the meeting of the General Conference and shall continue in session until the adjournment of that body, and at least one other time in each calendar year and at such other times as it may deem appropriate, at such places as it may select from time to time. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. An affirmative vote of at least six members of the council shall be necessary to declare any act of the General Conference unconstitutional. On other matters a majority vote of the entire council shall be sufficient. The council may decline to entertain an appeal or a petition for a declaratory decision in any instance in which it determines that it does not have jurisdiction to decide the matter.

¶ 1507. 1. The Judicial Council shall determine the constitution-

<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 196, and Decision 3, Interim Judicial Council.

ality of any act of the General Conference upon an appeal by a majority of the Council of Bishops or one fifth of the members of the General Conference.

2. The Judicial Council shall have jurisdiction to determine the constitutionality of any proposed legislation when such declaratory decision is requested by the General Conference or by the Council of Bishops.

¶ 1508. The Judicial Council shall determine the constitutionality of any act of a Jurisdictional or a Central Conference upon an appeal by a majority of the bishops of that Jurisdictional or Central Conference or upon an appeal by one fifth of the members of that Jurisdictional or Central Conference.<sup>2</sup>

¶ 1509. The Judicial Council shall hear and determine the legality of any action taken by any General Conference board or body, or Jurisdictional or Central Conference board or body, upon appeal by one third of the members thereof, or upon request of the Council of Bishops or a majority of the bishops of the Jurisdictional or Central Conference wherein the action was taken.

¶ 1510. The Judicial Council shall hear and determine the legality of any action taken by a General Conference board or body, or Jurisdictional or Central Conference board or body, on a matter affecting an Annual or a Provisional Annual Conference, upon appeal by two thirds of the members of the Annual or Provisional Annual Conference present and voting.

¶ 1511. The Judicial Council shall hear and determine any appeal from a bishop's decision on a question of law made in a Central, District, Annual, or Jurisdictional Conference when said appeal has been made by one fifth of that conference present and voting.<sup>3</sup>

¶ 1512. The Judicial Council shall pass upon and affirm, modify, or reverse the decisions of law made by bishops in Central, District, Annual, or Jurisdictional Conferences upon questions of law submitted to them in writing in the regular business of a session; and in order to facilitate such review, each bishop shall report annually in writing to the Judicial Council, on forms provided by the council, all

<sup>2</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 338.

<sup>3</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 153.

the bishop's decisions of law, with a syllabus of the same. No such episcopal decision shall be authoritative, except in the case pending, until it has been passed upon by the Judicial Council, but thereafter it shall become the law of the Church to the extent that it is affirmed by the council.

¶ 1513. The Judicial Council shall hear and determine an appeal of a bishop when taken from the decision of the Trial Court in the bishop's case.

¶ 1514. The Judicial Council shall have power to review an opinion or decision of a Committee on Appeals of a Jurisdictional Conference if it should appear that such opinion or decision is at variance with an opinion or decision of a Committee on Appeals of another Jurisdictional Conference on a question of law. Under such circumstances:

1. Any person, conference, or organization interested therein may appeal the case to the Judicial Council on the ground of such conflict of decisions; or

2. The Committee on Appeals rendering the last of such opinions or decisions may certify the case to, and file it with, the Judicial Council on the ground of such conflict of decisions; or

3. The attention of the president of the Judicial Council being directed to such conflict or alleged conflict of decisions, the president may issue an order in the nature of a writ of certiorari, directing the secretaries of the Committees on Appeals involved to certify a copy of a sufficient portion of the record to disclose the nature of the case and the entire opinion and decision of the Committee on Appeals in each case to the Judicial Council for its consideration at its next meeting.

The Judicial Council shall hear and determine the question of law involved but shall not pass upon the facts in either case further than is necessary to decide the question of law involved. After deciding the question of law, the Judicial Council shall cause its decision to be certified to each of the Committees on Appeals involved, and such Committees on Appeals shall take such action, if any, as may be necessary under the law as determined by the Judicial Council.

¶ 1515. *Declaratory Decisions.*—1. The Judicial Council, on petition as hereinafter provided, shall have jurisdiction to make a ruling in the nature of a declaratory decision as to the constitutionality,

meaning, application, or effect of the Discipline or any portion thereof or of any act or legislation of a General Conference; and the decision of the Judicial Council thereon shall be as binding and effectual as a decision made by it on appeal under the law relating to appeals to the Judicial Council.<sup>4</sup>

2. The following bodies in The United Methodist Church are hereby authorized to make such petitions to the Judicial Council for declaratory decisions: (a) the General Conference; (b) the Council of Bishops; (c) any General Conference board or body, on matters relating to or affecting the work of such board or body; (d) a majority of the bishops assigned to any jurisdiction, on matters relating to or affecting jurisdictions or the work therein; (e) any Jurisdictional Conference, on matters relating to or affecting jurisdictions or Jurisdictional Conferences or the work therein; (f) any Jurisdictional Conference board or body, on matters relating to or affecting the work of such board or body; (g) any Central Conference, on matters relating to or affecting Central Conferences, or the work therein; (h) any Central Conference board or body, on matters relating to or affecting the work of such board or body; and (i) any Annual Conference, on matters relating to Annual Conferences or the work therein.<sup>5</sup>

3. When a declaratory decision is sought, all persons or bodies who have or claim any interest which would be affected by the declaration shall be parties to the proceeding, and the petition shall name such parties. Except for requests filed during the General Conference, any party requesting a declaratory decision shall immediately upon filing such request submit for publication in *The Interpreter*, or its successor—which shall in its next edition publish the same without cost—a brief statement of the question involved. The Judicial Council shall not hear and determine any such matter until thirty days after such publication. If the president of the council determines that other parties not named by the petition would be affected by such a decision, such additional parties shall also be added, and the petitioner or petitioners, upon direction of the secretary of the Judicial Council, shall then be required to serve all parties so joined with a copy of the

<sup>4</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 106, 172, 301.

<sup>5</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 29, 212, 255, 301, 309.

petition within fifteen days after such direction by the secretary of the Judicial Council. In like manner any interested party may, on the party's own motion, intervene and answer, plead, or interplead.

¶ 1516. The decisions of the Judicial Council of The Methodist Church, heretofore issued, shall have the same authority in The United Methodist Church as they had in The Methodist Church, persuasive as precedents except where their basis has been changed by the terms of the Plan of Union or other revisions of church law.

¶ 1517. The Judicial Council shall have other duties and powers as may be conferred upon it by the General Conference.

¶ 1518. All decisions of the Judicial Council shall be final. However, when the Judicial Council shall declare any act of the General Conference unconstitutional, that decision shall be reported back to that General Conference immediately.

¶ 1519. The decisions of the Judicial Council on questions of law, with a summary of the facts of the opinion, shall be filed with the secretary of the General Conference and shall be published in the following manner:

1. Within ninety days following each session of the Judicial Council, the digest of decisions of the Judicial Council shall be published in *The Interpreter* or its successor publication.

2. The decisions of the Judicial Council rendered during each year shall be published in the General Minutes.

## Section II. Trials.

¶ 1520. Church trials are to be regarded as an expedient of last resort. Only after every reasonable effort has been made to correct any wrong and adjust any existing difficulty should steps be taken to institute a trial. No such trial as herein provided shall be construed to deprive the accused of his legal civil rights.

All trials should be conducted in a consistent Christian manner by a properly constituted court, after due investigation. The administration of oaths shall not be required.

¶ 1521. *Offenses.*—1. A bishop, ministerial member of an Annual Conference (¶ 315) or lay pastor (ordained or unordained) (¶ 307.3)

shall be liable to accusation and trial upon any one or more of the following charges:

a) Immorality, crime, or other imprudent and unchristian conduct.

b) Habitual neglect of duties as a member or officer in the Church.

c) Disobedience to the order and discipline of The United Methodist Church.

d) Disseminating doctrines contrary to the established standards of doctrine of the Church.

e) Unministerial conduct or maladministration in office.

2. A lay member of the Church shall be liable to accusations and trial upon any one or more of the charges set forth in §§ a, b, c, and d above.

¶ 1522. *Limitations.*—No charge shall be entertained for any alleged offense which shall not have been committed within two years immediately preceding the filing of the complaint except where there is a conviction in a criminal court, and in such cases the charges shall not be entertained unless they are filed within one year after the entry of final judgment in that case.

¶ 1523. *Charges.*—1. A charge shall not allege more than one offense; several charges against the same person, however, with the specifications under each of them, may be presented at one and the same time and may be tried together. When several charges are tried at the same time, a vote on each specification and charge must be separately taken.

2. Amendments may be made to a bill of charges at the discretion of the presiding officer; *provided* that they relate to the form of statement only and do not change the nature of the alleged offense and do not introduce new matter of which the accused has not had due notice.

3. Charges and specifications for all trials shall define the offense by its generic term as set forth in ¶ 1521 and shall state in substance the facts upon which said charges are based.

¶ 1524. *Counsel.*—1. In all cases an accused person shall be entitled to appear and be represented by counsel, a ministerial member of The United Methodist Church if the accused is a bishop or an elder and either a lay or ministerial member of the said Church if the

accused is a lay member. An accused person shall be entitled to have counsel heard in oral or written argument or both.

2. In all cases of trial where counsel has not been provided, such counsel shall be appointed by the presiding officer. The counsel for the Church and for the accused each shall be entitled to choose one assistant counsel.

¶ 1525. *Notice.*—1. All notices required or provided for in this chapter shall be in writing, signed by or on behalf of the person or body giving or required to give such notice, and shall be addressed to the person or body to whom it is required to be given. Such notices shall be served at least seven days in advance by delivering a copy thereof to the party or chief officer of the body to whom it is addressed in person or by registered mail addressed to the last-known residence or address of such party. The fact of the giving of the notice shall affirmatively appear over the signature of the party required to give such notice and becomes a part of the record of the case.

2. In all cases wherein it is provided that notice shall be given to a bishop or district superintendent and the charges or complaints are against that particular person, then such notice (in addition to being given to the accused) shall be given, in the case of a bishop, to another bishop within the same jurisdiction and, in the case of a district superintendent, to the bishop in charge.

¶ 1526. *Trials.*—1. In all cases of investigation or trial, notice to appear shall be given to such witnesses as either party may name and shall be issued in the name of the Church and be signed by the presiding officer of the Trial Court.

2. It shall be the duty of a minister or a member of the Church to appear and testify when summoned.

3. As soon as the court has convened, the accused shall be called upon by the presiding officer to plead to the charge, and the pleas shall be recorded. If the accused pleads "guilty" to the charges preferred, no trial shall be necessary, but evidence may be taken with respect to the appropriate penalty, which shall thereupon be imposed. If the accused pleads "not guilty" or if the accused should neglect or refuse to plead, the plea of "not guilty" shall be entered, and the trial shall proceed. The court may adjourn from time to time as convenience or necessity may require. The accused shall, at all times during

the trial except as hereinafter mentioned, have the right to produce testimony and that of witnesses and to make defense.

4. If in any case the accused person, after due notice (seven days) has been given, shall refuse or neglect to appear at the time and place set forth for the hearing, the investigation or trial may proceed in the accused's absence. In all cases sufficient time shall be allowed for the person to appear at the given place and time and for the accused to prepare for the investigation or trial. The president of the tribunal to investigate or try the case shall decide what constitutes "sufficient time."

5. The court shall be a continuing body until the final disposition of the charge. If any member of the court shall be unable to attend all of the sessions, that person shall not vote upon the final determination of the case, but the rest of the court may proceed to judgment. It shall require a vote of at least two thirds of the original membership of the court to sustain the charges.

6. All objections to the regularity of the proceedings and the form and substance of charges and specifications shall be made at the first session of the trial. The presiding officer, upon the filing of such objections, shall, or by motion may, determine all such preliminary objections and may dismiss the case or in furtherance of truth and justice permit amendments to the specifications or charges not changing the general nature of the same. But after the Trial Court is selected as provided for in ¶ 1540.5 and convened for the trial, the authority of the presiding officer shall be limited to ruling upon proper representation of the Church and the accused, admissibility of evidence, recessing, adjourning and reconvening sessions of the trial, and such other authority as is normally vested in a civil court judge sitting with a jury, but he shall not have authority to pronounce any judgment in favor of or against the accused other than such verdict as may be returned by the Trial Court, which body shall have the exclusive right to determine the innocence or guilt of the accused.

7. Objections of any part to the proceedings shall be entered on the record.

8. No witness afterward to be examined shall be present during the examination of another witness if the opposing party objects. Witnesses shall be examined first by the party producing them, then cross-

examined by the opposite party, after which any member of the court or either party may put additional questions. The presiding officer of the court shall determine all questions of relevancy and competency of evidence.

9. In case of investigation, trial, or appeal, the presiding officer shall not deliver a charge reviewing or explaining the evidence or setting forth the merits of the case. The presiding officer shall express no opinion on the law or the facts while the court is deliberating unless the parties in interest be present. The presiding officer shall remain and preside until the decision is rendered and the findings are completed, and shall thereupon sign and certify them.

¶ 1527. *Testimony*.—1. The testimony shall be taken by a stenographer, if convenient, and reduced to writing and certified by the presiding officer and secretary. The record, including all exhibits, papers, and evidence in the case, shall be the basis of any appeal which may be taken.

2. A witness to be qualified need not be a member of The United Methodist Church.

3. The presiding officer of any court before which a case may be pending or the bishop in charge of an Annual Conference shall have power, whenever the necessity of the parties or of witnesses shall require, to appoint, on the application of either party, a commissioner or commissioners, either a minister or lay person or both, to examine the witnesses; *provided* that three days' notice of the time and place of taking such testimony shall have been given to the adverse party. Counsel for both parties shall be permitted to examine and cross-examine the witness or witnesses whose testimony is thus taken. The commissioners so appointed shall take such testimony in writing as may be offered by either party. The testimony properly certified by the signature of the commissioner or commissioners shall be transmitted to the presiding officer of the court before which the case is pending.

¶ 1528. *Records*.—1. In all investigations and trials the records shall be accurate and full; they shall include the proceedings in detail and all the evidence, taken stenographically if possible, the documents admitted, together with the charges, specifications, and findings, and shall be approved and attested by the presiding officer and secretary. In all the investigations and trials the presiding officer shall appoint

a secretary to keep a record of the proceedings and documents, of which records, when properly attested, the said presiding officer shall be the custodian. If no appeal is taken, the custodian shall deliver the entire record to the secretary of the conference concerned for record in its journal of the final disposition of the case.

2. If appeal is taken, the custodian shall deliver the entire record to the president of the proper appellate court, and after it has been used in the court, it shall be returned to the secretary of the conference concerned for notation in its journal of the final disposition of the case.

3. The secretaries of Charge, District, Annual, and Jurisdictional Conferences shall be the custodians of the records of all trials occurring in their bodies respectively, and in case of appeal they shall deliver said records to the president or secretary of the proper appellate court. After the said appeal has been heard, the records shall be returned to the conference from which they came.

¶ 1529. *Appeals*.—1. In all cases of appeal the appellant shall within thirty days give notice of appeal and at the same time shall furnish to the officer receiving such notice, and to the counsel for the Church, a written statement of the grounds of the appeal, and the hearing in the appellate court shall be limited to the grounds set forth in such statement.

2. When any appellate court shall reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of a Trial Court, or remand the case for a new trial, or change the penalty imposed by that court, it shall return to the Annual Conference or to the secretary of the Trial Court a statement of the grounds of its action.

3. An appeal shall not be allowed in any case in which the accused has failed or refused to be present in person or by counsel at the trial. Appeals, regularly taken, shall be heard by the proper appellate court, unless it shall appear to the said court that the appellant has forfeited the right to appeal by misconduct, such as refusal to abide by the findings of the Committee of Investigation or of the Trial Court; or by withdrawal from the Church; or by failure to appear in person or by counsel to prosecute the appeal; or prior to the final decision on appeal from conviction, by resorting to suit in the civil courts against the

complainant or any of the parties connected with the ecclesiastical court in which the appellant was tried.<sup>6</sup>

4. The right of appeal, when once forfeited by neglect or otherwise, cannot be revived by any subsequent appellate court.

5. The right to take and to prosecute an appeal shall not be affected by the death of the person entitled to such right. Heirs or legal representatives may prosecute such appeal as the appellant would be entitled to do if living.

6. The records and documents of the trial, including the evidence, and these only, shall be used in the hearing of any appeal.

7. In no case shall an appeal operate as suspension of sentence. The findings of the Trial Court must stand until they are modified or reversed by the proper appellate court.

8. In all cases where an appeal is made and admitted by the appellate court, after the charges, findings, and evidence have been read and the arguments concluded, the parties shall withdraw, and the appellate court shall consider and decide the case. It may reverse, in whole or in part, the findings of the Trial Court, or it may remand the case for a new trial. It may determine what penalty, not higher than that affixed at the trial, may be imposed. If it neither reverses, in whole or in part, the judgment of the Trial Court, nor remands the case for a new trial, nor modifies the penalty, that judgment shall stand. The appellate court shall not reverse the judgment nor remand the case for a new trial on account of errors plainly not affecting the result.

9. In all cases the right to present evidence shall be exhausted when the case has been heard once on its merits in the proper court, but questions of law may be carried on appeal, step by step, to the Judicial Council.

10. The order of appeals on questions of law shall be as follows: from the decision of the district superintendent presiding in the Charge or District Conference to the bishop presiding in the Annual Conference, and from the decision of the bishop presiding in the Annual Conference to the Judicial Council, and from a Central Conference to the Judicial Council.

<sup>6</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 3.

11. When an appeal is taken on a question of law, written notice of the same shall be served on the secretary of the body in which the decision has been rendered. It shall be the secretary's duty to see that an exact statement of the question submitted and the ruling of the chair thereon shall be entered on the journal. The secretary shall then make and certify a copy of the question and ruling and transmit the same to the secretary of the body to which the appeal is taken. The secretary who thus receives said certified copy shall present the same in open conference and as soon as practicable lay it before the presiding officer for a ruling thereon, which ruling must be rendered before the final adjournment of that body, that said ruling together with the original question and ruling may be entered on the journal of that conference. The same course shall be followed in all subsequent appeals.

12. Errors or defects in judicial proceedings shall be duly considered when presented on appeal.

a) In regard to cases where there is an investigation under ¶ 1540.2-4 but no trial is held as a result thereof, errors of law or administration committed by a district superintendent are to be corrected by the presiding officer of the next Annual Conference on request in open session, and in such event the conference may also order just and suitable remedies if injury resulted from such errors.

b) Errors of law or defects in judicial proceedings which are discovered on appeal are to be corrected by the presiding officer of the next Annual Conference upon request in open session, and in such event the conference may also order just and suitable remedies if injury has resulted from such errors.

¶ 1530. *Appeal of a Bishop.*—1. A bishop shall have the right of appeal to the Judicial Council in case of an adverse decision by the Trial Court; *provided* that within thirty days after conviction the bishop notify the secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference in writing of intention to appeal, unless such decision shall be rendered within thirty days prior to the meeting of such conference, in which case notice shall be given within ten days after the conviction.

2. A bishop elected by a Central Conference shall have the right of appeal to the Judicial Council in case of an adverse decision by the Central Conference; *provided* that within thirty days after the decision

of the Central Conference the bishop shall notify the secretary of the Central Conference in writing of the intention to appeal, unless such decision shall be rendered within thirty days prior to the meeting of such conference, in which case notice shall be given within ten days after the conviction.

3. It shall be the duty of the secretary of the Jurisdictional or the Central Conference, on receiving notice of such appeal, to notify the secretary of the Judicial Council, and the council shall fix the time and place for the hearing of the appeal and shall give due notice of the same to the appellant and to the secretary of the Jurisdictional or Central Conference, who in turn shall notify the counsel for the Church.

¶ 1531. *Appeal of a Ministerial Member of an Annual Conference.*—1. Each Jurisdictional Conference, upon nomination of the College of Bishops, shall elect a **Court of Appeals**, composed of nine itinerant elders, who have been at least six years successively members of The United Methodist Church or of one of the churches forming the union, and an equal number of alternates. This court shall serve until its successors have been confirmed. This court shall have full power to hear and determine appeals of ministerial members taken from any Annual Conference within the jurisdiction. The court shall elect its own president and secretary and shall adopt its own rules of procedure, and its decisions shall be final, except that an appeal may be taken to the Judicial Council upon questions of law. (See ¶ 1529.9.)

2. In case of conviction in a Trial Court a ministerial member shall have the right of appeal to the jurisdictional Court of Appeals as above constituted; *provided* that within thirty days after the conviction the ministerial member shall notify the president of the conference in writing of the intention to appeal.

3. When notice of an appeal has been given to the president of the Trial Court, the president shall give notice of the same to the secretary of the Court of Appeals of the Jurisdictional Conference and submit the documents in the case. The Jurisdictional Conference Court of Appeals shall give notice to the president of the conference from which the appeal is taken and to the appellant of the time and place where the appeal will be heard. Both the Annual Conference and the

appellant may be represented by counsel. The president of the conference shall appoint counsel for the Church.

4. The Court of Appeals of the Jurisdictional Conference when acting as a Court of Appeals shall determine two questions only:

- a) Does the weight of the evidence sustain the charge or charges?
- b) Were there such errors of law as to vitiate the verdict?

These questions shall be determined by the records of the trial and the argument of counsel for the Church and for the accused. The court shall in no case hear witnesses.

5. All necessary traveling and sustenance expense incurred by the Court of Appeals, the counsel for the Church, and the counsel for the defendant, in the hearing of an appeal case coming from an Annual Conference and appearing before any jurisdictional Court of Appeals, shall be paid out of the administration fund of the Jurisdictional Conference in which the proceedings arise.

¶ 1532. *Appeal of a Lay Pastor.*—1. In case of conviction a lay pastor shall be allowed to appeal to the Annual Conference; *provided* that within thirty days after conviction the lay pastor shall signify in writing to the superintendent of the district the determination to appeal.

2. An appeal by a lay pastor from a Charge Conference within the jurisdiction of a Mission shall be to the annual meeting of the said Mission.

¶ 1533. *Appeal of a Church Member.*—1. The Charge Conference of each charge shall elect from among the members of the Church a person of sound judgment and experience in the affairs of the Church as a **trier of appeals** for members.

2. Any member of the Church against whom judgment shall have been rendered by a Trial Court may appeal to the Court of Appeals, as hereinafter constituted, by giving written notice of appeal to the district superintendent within thirty days after judgment is rendered.

3. When thirty days' notice of appeal shall have been given, or sooner if agreed upon, the superintendent, having due regard for the wishes and rights of the appellant, shall convene a Court of Appeals. It shall be constituted of not fewer than seven nor more than nine triers of appeals in the district, but the trier of appeals of the charge to which the accused member belongs shall not be summoned. The

district superintendent shall give not less than ten nor more than thirty days' notice to all persons concerned of the time and place at which the Court of Appeals shall assemble. The appellant shall have the right of challenge for cause of disqualification by reason of personal interest or other grounds deemed sufficient by the presiding officer, and shall have the right of peremptory challenge of three of the panel summoned. The members of the court present and ready to proceed with the hearing shall not fall below seven, which number shall constitute a quorum. The district superintendent shall preside. The court may order a new trial or acquit the accused or impose any penalty prescribed in ¶ 1555.

4. The findings of the Court of Appeals shall be certified by the district superintendent to the pastor of the church of which the accused is a member for consistent proceedings.

5. If the district superintendent shall find the convening of such a court to be impracticable or seriously inconvenient to the parties involved, the district superintendent shall have the appeal heard by a Charge Conference within the district other than that of the local church. The proceedings shall be the same as provided in the foregoing subparagraphs.

¶ 1534. *Status of a Bishop or Ministerial Member Deposed or Expelled.*—1. In case a bishop or ministerial member shall have been deposed from the ministry without being expelled from the Church, that person shall be given a **certificate of membership** in the Church signed by the president and secretary of the conference.

2. In case a bishop or a ministerial member shall have been deposed from the ministry or expelled from the Church for teaching publicly or privately doctrines contrary to the established standards of doctrine of the Church, that person shall not again be licensed to preach until, if a ministerial member, that person shall have satisfied the Annual Conference from which deposed or expelled or if a bishop, that person shall have satisfied the Annual Conference from which elected bishop and shall have promised in writing to desist wholly from disseminating such doctrine.

3. When a ministerial member is deprived of the credentials of ordination, by expulsion or otherwise, they shall be filed with the papers of the Annual Conference.

¶ 1535. When a ministerial member desires to surrender credentials and retain membership in The United Methodist Church, that person shall be permitted to do so and to designate the local church in which membership will be held. The secretary of the conference to which credentials are surrendered shall issue to that person a **certificate of membership** in the Church; *provided* that no minister shall be permitted to take such action when charges involving his or her character have been made and sustained or are pending. When a minister's character is involved in cases where the law permits final adjustment by the surrender of credentials, this shall be also the surrender of membership in the Church.

¶ 1536. The Annual Conference to which credentials were surrendered as provided in ¶¶ 1534.3, 1535 may restore the same at its discretion if no charges or complaints against the minister were pending at the time of surrendering the said credentials and if at the time a request is made for the restoration of the said credentials the minister is a member in good standing of The United Methodist Church and shall present from the Charge Conference a certificate of character and a recommendation for the restoration of credentials. In cases of surrender of credentials under situations involving the character of the minister, the said credentials may be restored only after the lapse of a period of at least two years and upon the following conditions:<sup>7</sup>

1. That the conference holding the credentials shall be assured that there has been a complete amendment of life upon the part of the former holder of the credentials.

2. That the minister shall have been readmitted as a probationary member into the Annual Conference from which the minister withdrew or admitted to another Annual Conference as a probationary member or licensed as a lay pastor by some District or Charge Conference.

3. That the Annual Conference which has admitted the person on trial (if another than the one from which the person withdrew) or the District or Charge Conference which licensed that person shall present to the Annual Conference holding the credentials a certificate of good character and a recommendation that credentials be restored.

<sup>7</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 104.

¶ 1537. When a lay pastor is deprived of credentials of ordination by expulsion or otherwise, the district superintendent shall require them and shall file them with the Annual Conference in the bounds of which the lay pastor resides.

¶ 1538. Should a lay pastor later produce to the Annual Conference a recommendation from the District or Charge Conference for the restoration of the surrendered credentials, signed by its president and secretary, they may be restored to the lay pastor.

¶ 1539. *Investigation and Trial of a Bishop.*—1. A bishop is amenable for conduct to the Jurisdictional or Central Conference in which that bishop has residential or presidential supervision, or to the Jurisdictional or Central Conference to which that bishop is related.

2. If a bishop shall be accused in writing of any of the offenses hereinbefore mentioned (¶ 1521) in the interval between sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference, the district superintendent within whose district the offense is said to have been committed shall call the Committee of Investigation of that Annual Conference, who shall carefully inquire into the case, and if in the judgment of the majority of them there is reasonable ground for such accusation, they shall prepare and sign the proper charges and specifications and send a copy of the same to the accused and to the president of the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction in which the offense took place. The said president shall call together at some convenient place, in not less than ten nor more than fifteen days from the time the charges are received, nine ministers in full connection of the said jurisdiction and also the witnesses by whom the accusation is expected to be proved. The said president or some other bishop of the jurisdiction appointed by the president shall preside at the investigation. If possible, the accused shall have the right to make a statement in self-defense and to interrogate witnesses, but shall not be allowed to present any. If six or more of these ministers in full connection determine that a trial is justified, they shall order one, and the College of Bishops may suspend the bishop pending trial as hereinafter provided.

3. In case a trial is ordered, the president of the College of Bishops of the said jurisdiction shall within seven days from the date on which a trial is ordered fix the time and place of it, which shall be in

not less than thirty nor more than sixty days from the date of such order. The Trial Court shall be constituted as follows:

a) The president of the College of Bishops shall arrange for a meeting of the accused bishop and counsel and the counsel for the Church as early as practicable after the trial is ordered to select the members of the Trial Court.

b) The president shall nominate as proposed members of the Trial Court thirteen ministerial members in full connection from a list made up of the Committees of Investigation of not fewer than four Annual Conferences within the jurisdiction.

c) The Church and the accused each shall have the right of peremptory challenge to the number of four and of unlimited challenge for cause.

d) For each name stricken from this list of thirteen through the exercise of the right of challenge, the president of the College of Bishops shall add another from the eligible group until the required number of thirteen is thus selected. If necessary to complete the panel, nominations may be made from other ministerial members in full connection in the jurisdiction.

e) By a continuation of this same process, four alternates shall be chosen, who shall be called in the order of their election to serve.

f) Should the accused be the president of the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction, then a copy of such charges and specifications shall be sent to the secretary of the College of Bishops of that jurisdiction, who shall perform the duties hereinabove prescribed for the president or designate another bishop of the same jurisdiction.

4. The court as thus constituted shall have full power to try the accused and by a vote of nine or more to suspend the accused from the exercise of the functions of office, to depose the accused from office or the ministry or both, to expel the accused from the Church, or in case of minor offenses to fix a lesser penalty. Its findings shall be final, subject to appeal to the Judicial Council as hereinafter provided, and shall be reported to the Jurisdictional Conference for entry on its journal. The records of the trial, including the testimony, shall be signed by the president and secretary of the Trial Court and shall be placed in the custody of the secretary of the Jurisdictional Con-

ference, together with all the documents in the case, for preservation with the papers of the Jurisdictional Conference, and shall be the basis of any appeal which may be taken.

5. An accusation preferred during the session of a Jurisdictional Conference shall be made directly to the Committee on Episcopacy, which shall investigate the charge and if it considers a trial necessary, shall report to the Jurisdictional Conference. If the Committee on Episcopacy should decide a trial necessary, it shall formulate charges and specifications, conforming them to the grade of offense involved in the accusation, and it shall appoint one or more of its members to prosecute the case. The bill of charges and specifications shall be a part of the report of the committee to the Jurisdictional Conference.

6. Every case to be tried under the process stated in § 5 above shall be referred to a Trial Court, which shall consist of thirteen ministerial members in full connection and a presiding officer, all of whom shall be appointed by the president in the chair or in such manner as the conference may determine. The Church and the accused each shall have, in addition to the right of unlimited challenge for cause, the right of peremptory challenge to the number of four. The court as thus constituted shall have full power to try the accused and by a two-thirds vote to suspend the accused from office, to depose the accused from office or the ministry or both, to expel the accused from the Church, or in the case of minor offenses to fix a lesser penalty. The court's findings shall be final, subject to appeal to the Judicial Council as hereinafter provided.

7. A bishop suspended or deposed shall have no claim upon the Episcopal Fund for salary, dwelling, or any other expenses from the date of such suspension or deposition, but in case this person is thereafter found not guilty of the charge or charges for which suspended or deposed, the bishop's claim upon the Episcopal Fund for the period during which deprived of the functions of office shall be paid.

8. If an alleged offense has been committed beyond the bounds of any district, the district superintendent within the bounds of whose district the bishop resides shall proceed as hereinbefore provided.

9. The several Central Conferences shall make suitable rules for the investigation and trial of charges against bishops elected by them.

In the absence of such rules, the same procedure shall be followed as is provided for the investigation and trial of bishops in Jurisdictional Conferences; *provided*, however, that an appeal may be taken to the Judicial Council. If an accused bishop is the only bishop in a Central Conference, the Council of Bishops shall designate one of their number to conduct the trial.

¶ 1540. *Trial of a Ministerial Member of an Annual Conference.*—

1. Each Annual Conference at each session, upon nomination of the presiding bishop, shall elect five itinerant elders, persons of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as the **Committee of Investigation**, and five reserves chosen in like manner to serve in the absence or disqualification of the principals.

2. If a ministerial member of an Annual Conference, whether on probation or in full connection, in the interval between sessions of the conference, shall be accused of any of the offenses enumerated in ¶ 1521, the member's district superintendent (or the district superintendent of the district within the bounds of which such acts are alleged to have taken place) shall call the Committee of Investigation to inquire into the same and, if possible, bring the accused and accuser face to face. The accused shall have the right to make a statement in self-defense but shall not present any witnesses before the Committee of Investigation. The district superintendent of the accused (or such other district superintendent as shall be appointed) shall preside throughout the proceedings and shall certify the judgment of the committee to the Annual Conference.

3. If the accused is a district superintendent, the bishop in charge shall call in the superintendent of any other district who shall summon the Committee of Investigation of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a member to investigate the case, and that superintendent shall preside at the investigation.

4. If in the judgment of a majority of the Committee of Investigation there is reasonable ground for such accusation, they shall prepare and sign the proper charges and specifications and send a copy to the accused, to the bishop in charge, to the district superintendent duly appointed by the bishop in charge, and to the secretary of the Annual Conference. On recommendation of the Committee of Investi-

gation, the bishop may suspend the accused from all ministerial services pending the trial.<sup>8</sup>

5. The bishop in charge, or the district superintendent duly appointed by the bishop in charge, within ten days after receipt of a copy of such charges, shall appoint counsel for the Church and notify the accused in writing to appear at a fixed time and place no less than seven days after service of such notice and within a reasonable time thereafter to select the members of the Trial Court. At the appointed time, in the presence of the accused and counsel of the accused, if requested, and counsel for the Church, thirteen elders in full connection shall be selected as a **Trial Court**. They shall be selected from a panel of twenty-one elders in full connection of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a member, who have been nominated by the majority of the district superintendents of that conference. The counsel for the Church and the accused shall each have peremptory challenges to the number of four and challenges for cause without limit. If by reason of challenges for cause being sustained the number is reduced below thirteen, additional elders shall be nominated, in like manner as was the original panel, to take the places of the numbers challenged, who likewise shall be subject to challenge for cause. This method of procedure shall be followed until a Trial Court of thirteen members has been selected. The presiding officer in charge shall also fix the time and place for the trial, notice of which shall be given in writing to the accused by the counsel for the Church seven days in advance of the time fixed; *provided* that with the consent of the accused the time of the trial may be fixed at an earlier date. The bishop in charge shall either preside at the trial or invite another bishop or a district superintendent to do so. The presiding officer shall appoint a secretary, who shall keep a record of the proceedings and of the testimony. The court thus constituted shall have full power to try the accused and upon conviction by a vote of nine or more thereof shall have power to suspend the accused from the exercise of the functions of office, to depose the accused from office or the ministry or both, to expel the accused from the Church, or in case of conviction of minor offenses to fix a lesser penalty. Its findings shall be final,

<sup>8</sup> See Judicial Council Decision 89.

subject to appeal to the Committee on Appeals of the Jurisdictional Conference or the Central Conference, as the case may be. It shall make a faithful report in writing of all its proceedings, signed by the president and secretary of the committee, to the secretary of the Annual Conference for permanent record, and deliver to that secretary therewith the bill of charges, the evidence taken, and the decision rendered, together with all documents brought into the trial.

6. When accusation against a ministerial member is preferred during the session of an Annual Conference, it shall be referred to the Annual Conference Committee of Investigation, which committee shall report to the conference whether or not a trial is deemed necessary. The Committee of Investigation, when reporting a case for trial, shall formulate a bill of charges and specifications. The presiding bishop shall appoint some elder in full connection with the conference as counsel for the Church.

7. The conference may constitute a Trial Court of thirteen elders in full connection to try the accused in the same manner as in § 5 above. The Trial Court, in the presence of a bishop or of a chairperson whom the president of the conference shall have appointed, and one of the secretaries of the conference, shall try the case. The Trial Court thus constituted shall have full power, upon conviction of the accused by two-thirds vote thereof, to expel the accused from the ministry and membership of the Church, to depose the accused from the ministry of the Church, to suspend the accused from his office in the ministry, or in connection with a minor offense to fix a lesser penalty. Its findings shall be final, subject to appeal to the Committee on Appeals of the Jurisdictional Conference. It shall make a faithful report in writing of all its proceedings, duly signed by the president and secretary of the Trial Court, to the secretary of the Annual Conference for entry in its journal, and deliver therewith the bill of charges and specifications, the evidence taken, and the decision rendered, with all documents brought into the trial.

8. Any ministerial member residing beyond the bounds of the conference in which membership is held shall be subject to the investigation prescribed in §§ 1-5 above under the authority of the superintendent of the district within which the minister resides or is employed. The Committee of Investigation shall consist of the Committee

of Investigation of that conference. If residing or employed within the bounds of a Mission, the minister shall be subject to investigation under the authority of the superintendent of the district within which Charge Conference membership is held or of the superintendent of the Mission and the Committee of Investigation of the same. If the minister is the superintendent of the Mission, the bishop in charge shall appoint an elder in full connection to act in the case.

9. An Annual Conference may entertain and try charges against its ministerial members though no investigation of them has been held or though the investigation has not resulted in suspension.

10. In all the foregoing cases the papers, including the record, charges, evidence, and findings, shall be transmitted to the ensuing session of the Annual Conference of which the accused is a member; on which papers, and on such other evidence as may be admitted, and also upon such other charges or specifications as may be presented, due notice of the same having been given to the accused, the case shall be determined.

11. Any ministerial member who shall hold a religious service within the bounds of a pastoral charge other than that to which appointed when requested by the preacher in charge or the district superintendent not to hold such service shall be deemed guilty of disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church, and if that minister shall not refrain from such conduct, shall then be liable to investigation and trial.

12. If a ministerial member is charged with disseminating publicly or privately doctrines which are contrary to the established standards of doctrine of the Church, and the minister so offending shall solemnly promise the Committee of Investigation not to disseminate such erroneous doctrines in public or private, it may waive suspension in order that the case may be laid before the next Annual Conference, which shall determine the matter.

¶ 1541. *Withdrawal Under Complaints or Charges.*—When a bishop or a ministerial member is accused of an offense under ¶ 1521 and desires to withdraw from the Church, the Jurisdictional or Central Conference in the case of a bishop, or the Annual Conference in the case of a ministerial member, may permit withdrawal; in which case the record shall be “Withdrawn under complaints.” If formal charges

have been presented, the accused may be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be “Withdrawn under charges.” In either case that person’s status shall be the same as if expelled.

¶ 1542. In all matters of judicial administration the rights, duties, and responsibilities of ministerial members of Missions and Provisional Annual Conferences are the same as those in Annual Conferences, and the procedure is the same.

¶ 1543. *Investigation and Trial of a Lay Pastor.*—Each District Conference at each session, upon nomination of its president, shall elect three lay pastors and two reserves, of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be known as the **Committee of Investigation**. The reserves shall serve in the absence or disqualification of the principals. Where no District Conference exists, the Annual Conference Committee of Investigation shall act.

¶ 1544. When a lay pastor, ordained or unordained, whether or not under appointment, is accused of any of the offenses enumerated in ¶ 1521, the district superintendent shall call the Committee of Investigation to meet, before which it shall be the duty of the accused to appear. If in the judgment of a majority of the Committee of Investigation there is reasonable ground for such accusation, they shall prepare and sign the proper charges and send a copy to the accused and to the district superintendent; and the accused may be suspended from all ministerial services pending trial. In all such cases at least seven days’ notice shall be given the accused by the district superintendent. Such notice shall contain a full statement of the charges.

¶ 1545. The district superintendent, within ten days after giving notice of the charges, shall select a **Trial Court** of nine members and seven reserves, of experience and sound judgment in the affairs of the Church, who shall be lay pastors or, when necessary, members of the Church. The reserves shall serve in the absence or disqualification of the principals. The Church and the accused shall have three peremptory challenges and unlimited challenges for cause. The committee, in the presence of the district superintendent or the elder in full connection appointed by the district superintendent and a secretary appointed by the committee, shall have full power to consider and determine the case and by a two-thirds vote to convict the ac-

cused. They may suspend the accused from the functions of office, depose the accused from office or the ministry or both, expel the accused from the Church, or for a minor offense impose a lesser penalty. The secretary shall make a correct report in writing of all proceedings, evidence, and findings to the secretary of the District Conference, to whom shall be delivered all the papers in the case. Where there is no District Conference, the Charge Conference of which the accused is a member shall act.

¶ 1546. In case of unchristian temper, words, or actions, the lay pastor so offending shall be admonished by the district superintendent. Should a second transgression take place, one or two members of the Church are to be taken as witnesses.

¶ 1547. If on due trial a lay pastor is found neglectful of duties or unacceptable in the ministry, the lay pastor may be deprived of ministerial office; in which case, if the lay pastor is ordained, the district superintendent shall require surrender of ministerial credentials that they may be returned to the Annual Conference.

¶ 1548. If a lay pastor shall disseminate, publicly or privately, doctrines contrary to the established doctrinal standards of the Church, the same procedure shall be observed as prescribed in ¶¶ 1544-45.

¶ 1549. A lay pastor who shall hold religious services within the bounds of a pastoral charge other than to which appointed when requested not to do so by the pastor in charge or district superintendent shall be deemed guilty of disobedience to the order and discipline of the Church and shall be brought to investigation or trial.

¶ 1550. When a lay pastor has given evidence of being so unacceptable or inefficient as to be no longer useful in pastoral work and the District or Charge Conference for that reason refuses to pass on that lay pastor's character, the District or Charge Conference shall investigate the case; and if it appears that the complaint is well founded and if that person fails to give the conference satisfactory assurance of intention to amend or voluntarily surrender credentials, the conference may depose that person from the ministry. The accused may offer defense before the conference, in person or by representative. The president of the District or Charge Conference shall in this case comply with the requirements of ¶ 1547.

¶ 1551. In Provisional Annual Conferences or Missions in the United States, its territories, and insular possessions, the power to try lay pastors shall remain with the respective District or Charge Conference, but lay pastors so tried and convicted shall have the right of appeal to the annual session of the Provisional Annual Conference or the Mission.

¶ 1552. *Withdrawal Under Complaints or Charges.*—When a lay pastor is accused of an offense under ¶ 1521 and desires to withdraw from the Church, the District Conference or, where there is no District Conference, the Charge Conference may permit that person to withdraw; in which case the record shall be "Withdrawn under complaints." If formal charges have been presented, that person may be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be "Withdrawn under charges." In either case the status of the person withdrawn shall be the same as if expelled.

¶ 1553. When a deaconess is accused of an offense and desires to withdraw from the Church, the Annual Conference Committee on the Lay Worker may recommend to the Committee on Deaconess Service that she be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be "Withdrawn under complaints." If formal charges have been presented, such deaconess may be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be "Withdrawn under charges." In either case the status shall be the same as if the deaconess had been expelled.

¶ 1554. *Investigation and Trial of a Church Member.*—If a member is alleged to be guilty of any of the offenses listed in ¶ 1521, the member shall first be interviewed and, if appropriate, reproved by the pastor or church lay leader. If the member shall persist in the offense complained of, the member shall be brought to trial through the procedures herein set forth.

¶ 1555. *Investigation.*—If charges are made in writing to the pastor in charge against a member of the church, the pastor in charge shall call a **Committee of Investigation**, composed of seven members of the church in good standing, and shall preside at the investigation. The accused and the accuser shall be brought face to face if possible, and the accused shall have right of making a statement and of interrogating witnesses, but shall not have the right of presenting witnesses.

If the Committee of Investigation determines that a trial is justified, it shall formulate the charges and specifications and order a trial.

¶ 1556. If a member is brought to trial, it shall be before a Trial Court composed of not fewer than seven nor more than twelve members. They shall be chosen by the Charge Conference by ballot. The accused member and the person conducting the prosecution may each challenge anyone so chosen for cause of disqualification by reason of personal interest or having formed and expressed an opinion concerning the matter, and shall also have three peremptory challenges. If the pastor deems it advisable for obtaining a fair trial, the Charge Conference shall call a committee of like members from any part of the district. The same right of challenge shall be recognized. The district superintendent or an elder in full connection appointed by the district superintendent shall preside at the trial.

¶ 1557. If the accused shall be found guilty by the decision of at least two thirds of the Trial Court, they shall so declare, and the president of the Trial Court shall at once pronounce the member to be expelled from the Church; *provided*, however, that the Trial Court may impose a lesser penalty because of mitigating circumstances or other grounds.

¶ 1558. If within sixty days after conviction under the foregoing provisions the accused shall make application in writing to the district superintendent for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, and shall submit therewith a written statement of the same, and if it shall appear that such evidence is material to the issue involved, the district superintendent shall grant a new trial. In no case shall a new trial be granted upon newly discovered evidence which could have been obtained for the trial by the exercise of due diligence or which is merely cumulative in its effect.

¶ 1559. An expelled member shall have no privileges of the society or of the Sacraments of the Church without repentance, contrition, and satisfactory reformation according to the determination of the Charge Conference. In such case that body may restore the member into full membership.

¶ 1560. *Withdrawal Under Complaints or Charges.*—When a member of the Church is accused of an offense and desires to withdraw from the Church, the Charge Conference may permit such mem-

ber to withdraw; in which case the record shall be "Withdrawn under complaints." If formal charges have been presented, such member may be permitted to withdraw; in which case the record shall be "Withdrawn under charges." In either case the status shall be the same as if the member had been expelled.

APPENDIX

## ENABLING LEGISLATION

¶ 1701. *Salaries.*—1. No person shall have salary reduced by reason of reorganization within the 1973-76 quadrennium. When salary is above that normally provided for a position, the individual shall hold at his or her attained salary level without future increases until that person's salary is no greater than that properly provided for the new duties, or until the end of the quadrennium when salaries may be readjusted. This policy shall not preclude transfer to lesser responsibility and lesser salary by reason of age, health, or performance.

2. Persons terminated during the quadrennium 1973-76 because of forced reduction of staff shall receive one month of severance pay for each year of consecutive employment by a national board or agency, not to exceed six months.

This severance policy shall not apply to any termination in which the position is to be refilled within one year.

In case of special hardship, appeal may be made to the Council on Finance and Administration for increased severance and/or early retirement.

¶ 1702. *Transition to the New Boards.*—For the purpose of transition from the existing boards and agencies to the newly approved boards and agencies, it is moved that ¶ 962, 1082.5, dealing with the calling of organizational meetings of a board for the new quadrennium, be suspended, thus allowing a board to call the organizational meeting in accordance with the following Plan of Implementation:

### PLAN OF IMPLEMENTATION

April, 1972	Plan approved by the General Conference.
May-June	The Annual Conferences nominate the basic member-

- ship of the Council on Ministries and make nominations for the membership of the boards.
- July The Jurisdictional Conferences elect the basic membership of the Council on Ministries and the boards.
- August Meetings are held to select the members at large of the Council on Ministries and the boards.
- October The first meeting of the Council on Ministries is held. If necessary, the 1968-72 boards may meet to concern themselves with the legal and policy decisions necessary for the creation of the new boards. A meeting of the new boards shall be called as soon as it is convenient in order to organize themselves and select staff.
- January, 1973 The beginning of the program and fiscal year for boards and agencies.
- March The first business session of the Council on Ministries should be held early in the year.
- June The new boards will have held their first meeting; most matters of internal organization will be cared for.
- January, 1974 The transition period should expire on this date. The beginning of the second program and fiscal year will have provided the opportunity for any additional adjustments necessary to complete the transition into the new structure.

*Editor's Note:* The Enabling Legislation for 1968 beginning with ¶ 1703 is retained herein because of the long-term effect of its provisions upon the Church.

- ¶ 1703. 1. The term "the Plan of Union" shall include:  
 Enabling Legislation  
 The Proposed Discipline for 1968
- The latter includes:  
 Historical Statement  
 Part I—The Constitution  
 Part II—Doctrinal Statements and The General Rules

## Part III—Social Principles

## Part IV—Organization and Administration

2. The Plan of Union shall be acted upon by The Evangelical United Brethren Church in accordance with the procedures required by its Discipline (1967), namely:

It shall require for adoption a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the General Conference present and voting thereon (¶ 178), but the "Enabling Legislation" and "Part I—The Constitution" shall require for adoption a three-fourths affirmative vote of the members of the General Conference present and voting thereon and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the aggregate number of members of all the Annual Conferences in North America, present and voting thereon (¶ 177). Favorable action by the General Conference and the Annual Conferences shall be deemed in compliance with the Church's Constitutional Law and authority to remove from its Constitutional Law all material not covered by the new Constitution and to include to the extent appropriate such material elsewhere in the Discipline.

3. The Plan of Union shall be acted upon by The Methodist Church in accordance with the procedures required by its Discipline (1964), namely:

It shall require for adoption a majority affirmative vote of the members of the General Conference present and voting thereon, but the "Enabling Legislation" and "Part I—The Constitution" shall require for adoption a two-thirds majority of the General Conference present and voting and a two-thirds majority of all members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting (¶ 10.2)—unless the Judicial Council shall rule that a three-quarters majority is required. Favorable action by the General Conference and the Annual Conferences shall be deemed in compliance with the Church's Constitution and authority to remove from its Constitution all material not covered by the new Constitution and to include to the extent appropriate such material elsewhere in the Discipline.

4. If the Plan of Union is adopted by the two 1966 General Conferences:

a) The Evangelical United Brethren Church and The Methodist Church shall forthwith send to their respective Annual Conferences for action in 1967 the "Enabling Legislation" and "Part I—The Constitution."

b) The Evangelical United Brethren Church shall make provision for the calling of a special session of its General Conference to meet in 1968 at the time and place of The Methodist Church General Conference of 1968.

c) The two General Conferences shall make provision for appropriate commissions to continue the study and perfection of "Part IV—Organization and Administration" of the Plan of Union.

5. The Plan of Union having been adopted by the requisite votes of the respective Annual Conferences, in 1968 the two General Conferences shall meet separately for the transaction of any necessary business. Neither such General Conference, acting separately, shall have the right to alter or amend any part of the Plan of Union as adopted by the General Conferences of 1966.

6. Having completed their respective necessary business, the two General Conferences of 1968 shall unite for a Uniting Conference, all voting members of both General Conferences being voting members of the Uniting Conference; *provided* that by vote of the Uniting Conference it may at any time and from time to time suspend its business in order to permit the two General Conferences to meet separately for the preparation of nominations for the boards and agencies of The United Methodist Church or other necessary business. The two churches shall establish a joint agency or commission charged with the duty of preparing an appropriate celebration of unification.

7. The Plan of Union shall become effective when, in the course of the Uniting Conference's service of unification, the president of the Board of Bishops of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and the president of the Council of Bishops of The Methodist Church shall announce, respectively, that the Plan of Union has been adopted by the requisite votes of their respective churches.

8. The Plan of Union contemplates that the administrative agencies of the Church shall be unified and start functioning immediately upon the Plan of Union becoming effective, where necessary or advisable retaining separate units acting under the agency board. In unifying the work of the agencies there shall be, as between the two churches, an equitable distribution of administrative posts, and no person presently employed shall be expected to serve at less than such person's compensation immediately prior to union. If as a result of

unification of agencies personnel are required to change residence, the agency responsible will be expected to make reasonable provision for the costs involved.

9. The objective toward which the new Church moves is an inclusive Church with no overlapping of Annual Conference boundaries. The Plan of Union contemplates that unification of church structure shall take place in steps as follows:<sup>1</sup>

#### Step One

a) Upon the Plan of Union becoming effective, all Annual Conferences of both uniting churches will automatically become part of a Jurisdiction or a Central Conference or a Provisional Central Conference of the united Church, in each case as shown on the attached schedule.

#### Step Two

b) Wherever in a Jurisdiction or in a Central Conference or in a Provisional Central Conference, Annual Conference boundaries overlap, the Annual Conferences involved shall designate committees or agencies to study the possibility of, and bring about as soon as practicable and mutually agreeable, the uniting or rearranging of Annual Conferences and Annual Conference boundaries to the end that there shall be no overlapping of Annual Conference boundaries. Whenever in the uniting or rearranging of Annual Conferences an itinerant preacher in full connection with a particular Annual Conference shall be transferred to another Annual Conference, he shall automatically be in full connection with such other Annual Conference irrespective of any tests which such Annual Conference may have regarding the admission of new members.

c) Annual Conferences shall not, for a period of twelve years following union, have their names or boundaries changed without their consent (¶ 41). This shall not prevent voluntary action by Annual Conferences, and it is anticipated that most, and perhaps all, such Annual Conferences will have taken steps necessary to eliminate

<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council Decisions 242, 246, and Decisions 340, 357, Interim Judicial Council.

overlapping with other Annual Conferences substantially prior to the expiration of the specified time. At the end of the twelve years, if any such Annual Conferences still remain, authority to eliminate overlapping by the redefining of Annual Conference boundaries will vest in the jurisdiction (¶ 26.4) or in the Central Conference (¶ 30.4), as the case may be; but nothing herein contained shall be construed as preventing the elimination of Annual Conferences based on race.

d) So far as the Annual Conferences formerly of the Methodist Central Jurisdiction are concerned, efforts shall be made to carry out the "Plan of Action for the Elimination of the Central Jurisdiction" as adopted by the Methodist General Conference of 1964. This Plan of Action outlines and urges a procedure designed to bring about the elimination of the Central Jurisdiction by September 1, 1967. The carrying out of the Plan of Action was entrusted by the General Conference to a quadrennial Commission on Interjurisdictional Relations consisting of twenty-four (24) members, four (4) from each jurisdiction, the four members in each case constituting a jurisdictional commission. The General Conference Commission of twenty-four is specifically charged:

If by September 1, 1967, for any reason the Central Jurisdiction shall not have been dissolved by the procedures of Amendment IX (¶ 47ix)<sup>2</sup>, the commission shall draft a plan for its termination to report to the General Conference of 1968.

The 1966 session of the Methodist General Conference unmistakably expressed its determination to bring about not only the elimination of the Central Jurisdiction but also the merger of the separate Negro Annual Conferences formerly part of that jurisdiction with the conferences of the Regional Jurisdictions and the elimination of any structural organization based on race. The resolution adopted by the General Conference and submitted by it to the other bodies named therein reads in part:

By the adoption of this resolution each Annual Conference, each Jurisdictional Conference, the General Conference, each College of Bishops,

<sup>2</sup> See 1964 Discipline.

and the Council of Bishops express their determination to do everything possible to bring about the elimination of any structural organization in The Methodist Church based on race at the earliest possible date and not later than the close of the Jurisdictional Conferences of 1972. They further express their earnest determination to do everything possible to develop greater understanding and brotherhood in Methodism as well as in the world.

Both denominations desire and intend that union shall in no way delay or impede, but rather facilitate, strengthen, encourage, and hasten such elimination of any racial structure or distinction.

### Step Three

e) The uniting of congregations will be encouraged wherever and whenever a single church can better serve the needs of the community.

10. The Uniting Conference, by majority vote unless otherwise specified, shall have the following authorities:

a) To adopt rules of order and make provision for presiding officers.

b) To amend or alter any part of "Part IV—Organization and Administration" of the Discipline, which had been adopted in principle by the 1966 General Conferences, provided that if, upon a call, by motion of any delegate, seconded by another delegate from the same former denomination and supported by one third of the members of that denomination voting, the members of the two former denominations shall vote separately, and in case of such vote by denominations no such amendment or alteration shall be effective unless adopted by vote of a majority of the delegates coming from The Evangelical United Brethren Church and a majority of the delegates coming from The Methodist Church, in each case at the time present and voting.

c) To approve the use of a name or names for the Church outside the United States and the translation of the name of the Church into languages other than English (*see* ¶ 2).

d) To recommend to the Annual Conferences of the Church proposals for constitutional amendments so that, the requisite votes having been taken in the Annual Conferences (¶ 64), such constitu-

tional amendments can become effective upon the General Conference of 1972 (or of a special session of the General Conference called for an earlier date) having taken the requisite vote (¶ 64). The Constitution, Division Five, Article II, specifically provides that amendments to the Constitution may originate in either the General Conference or the Annual Conferences (¶ 65).

e) To elect members to the General Conference agencies of the Church for the quadrennium beginning in 1968 in accordance with the provisions of the [1968] Discipline, ¶ 815.1, which provides for the relative representation in such agencies, upon nominations made as follows: for those members which are to come from The Evangelical United Brethren Church membership, upon nomination by that Church arrived at by such procedures as that Church may determine and for those members which are to come from The Methodist Church membership, upon nomination by that Church arrived at by such procedures as that Church may determine.

f) To establish for The United Methodist Church (1) a fiscal year and (2) the date to be used as the date of its founding.

g) Anything in the Constitutional Law of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Constitution of The Methodist Church, or the Constitution of The United Methodist Church (*see* ¶ 54 [1968 Discipline]) to the contrary, notwithstanding to assign bishops originally elected by the Central Jurisdiction and not already assigned to a regional jurisdiction, and originally elected by The Evangelical United Brethren Church, who will be on the active list and eligible for assignment at the close of the Jurisdictional Conferences of 1968, to the five jurisdictions on the following basis: (1) there shall be assigned to each of the five jurisdictions at least one bishop originally elected by The Evangelical United Brethren Church; (2) the bishops originally elected by the Central Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church and not already assigned shall be assigned so that there shall be one bishop in the Southeastern Jurisdiction and one bishop in the South Central Jurisdiction and one bishop in the Western Jurisdiction; and (3) there shall be assigned to the Northeastern Jurisdiction and the North Central Jurisdiction, in each instance, an additional bishop originally elected by The Evangelical United Brethren Church. The bishops originally elected by the Central Jurisdiction shall be assigned as re-

commended by the Methodist Council of Bishops, and the bishops originally elected by The Evangelical United Brethren Church shall be assigned as recommended by that Church's Board of Bishops. These assignments shall become effective upon the opening of the Jurisdictional Conferences of 1968.

This contemplates that there will come to the Union twenty-nine (29) active bishops originally elected by the regional jurisdictions, five (5) active bishops originally elected by the Central Jurisdiction, and seven (7) active bishops originally elected by The Evangelical United Brethren Church, a total of forty-one (41). If before the Uniting Conference of 1968 there shall be a vacancy in the Board of Bishops of The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the Evangelical United Brethren Church shall be entitled in accordance with its procedures to elect to fill the vacancy. If before the Uniting Conference of 1968 there shall be one or more vacancies in the College of Bishops of the Central Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church, upon the Plan of Union being adopted by the requisite vote in the Annual Conferences of The Evangelical United Brethren Church and of The Methodist Church, the Central Jurisdiction shall be entitled at a special session to elect to fill the vacancy or vacancies. On the basis of the Plan of Union and within the formula based on current membership, each regional jurisdiction in its 1968 Jurisdictional Conference may, if it so desires, elect at least one new bishop.

During the interim between the opening of the Uniting Conference of 1968 and the close of the Jurisdictional Conferences of 1968, all bishops shall continue episcopal supervision of the Annual Conferences under their supervision at the time of the opening of the Uniting Conference.

At the Jurisdictional Conferences of 1968 each jurisdiction shall be entitled, but shall not be required, to elect additional bishops up to the number allowed. The number allowed shall be the number provided in the formula stated in the [1968] Discipline of The United Methodist Church (*see* ¶ 398) plus a temporary increase for the 1968-72 quadrennium of one (1) (because of the assignment of a bishop originally elected by the Central Jurisdiction), but the prescribed quota otherwise provided for in the Discipline shall remain in force

and in the Jurisdictional Conferences of 1972, and thereafter new elections shall be made up to the limit of such quota.\*

h) To appoint special study commissions or *ad hoc* committees for the purpose of studying and making recommendations concerning creedal statements, statements of social principles, the structure and duties of boards and agencies or any other matters.

¶ 1704. *Annual Conference of the Evangelical-Methodist Church.*—Authority is granted to the Annual Conference of the Evangelical-Methodist Church (United Methodist Church) in the German Democratic Republic to have the status of a Central Conference, and it is authorized to elect a bishop.

¶ 1705. *North Katanga Provisional Annual Conference.*—The North Katanga Provisional Annual Conference is authorized to become the North Katanga Annual Conference.

¶ 1706. *Hong Kong Provisional Annual Conference.*—The Hong Kong Provisional Annual Conference is authorized to negotiate and

\* Footnote for information:

Bishops available for assignment in 1968 under the Plan of Union, elected by:

	Regional Jurisdiction	Central Jurisdiction	EUB	Total
Northeastern	5	1	2	8
North Central	6	1	2	9
Southeastern	8	1	1	10
South Central	7	1	1	9
Western	3	1	1	5
	29	5	7	41

Now serving in:

*Northwestern:* Mathews, Booth, Taylor (elected by Central Juris.) Wicke, Ward, Lord (to retire 1968—Corson, Halloway; Middleton died).

*North Central:* Pryor, Webb, Thomas (elected by Central Juris.), Loder, Kearns, Ensley, Alton (to retire 1968—Garrison, Raines, Nall).

*Southeastern:* Smith, Goodson, Hunt, Hardin, Henley, Pendergrass, Short, Finger (to retire 1968—Garber, Gum).

*South Central:* Galloway, Pope, Stowe, Walton, Frank, Copeland, Slater (to retire 1968—Martin, Smith).

*Western:* Stuart, Kennedy, Palmer (to retire 1968—Grant, Tippett).

*Central:* Golden, Moore (Harris died).

*EUB:* Kacbnick, Howard, Herrick, Mueller, Heininger, Milhouse, Sparks.

consummate church union with the Church of Christ in China and with other churches, including the Anglican Church. The Hong Kong Provisional Annual Conference is authorized to become autonomous within the next four years, pending church union.

## SCHEDULE FOR ENABLING LEGISLATION

### Jurisdictions and Annual Conferences

#### North Central Jurisdiction

Canada  
Central Illinois  
Dakota  
Detroit  
East Wisconsin  
Iowa  
Illinois  
Indiana  
Indiana North  
Indiana South  
Michigan (E)  
Michigan (NC)  
Minnesota (E)  
Minnesota (NC)  
North Dakota

North Indiana  
North Iowa  
Northeast Ohio  
Northwest Indiana  
Ohio  
Ohio East  
Ohio Miami  
Ohio Sandusky  
Ohio Southeast  
Rock River  
South Dakota  
South Iowa  
Southern Illinois  
West Wisconsin  
Wisconsin

#### Northeastern Jurisdiction

Baltimore  
Central New York  
Central Pennsylvania  
Eastern  
Erie  
Maine  
New England  
New England Southern

Peninsula  
Philadelphia  
Puerto Rico Provisional  
Southern New Jersey  
Susquehanna  
Troy  
Western New York  
Western Pennsylvania (E)

APPENDIX

New Hampshire  
 New York (E)  
 New York (NE)  
 Northern New Jersey  
 Northern New York

*South Central Jurisdiction*

Central Kansas  
 Central Texas  
 (Central West)  
 Indian Mission  
 Kansas (E)  
 Kansas (SC)  
 Little Rock  
 Louisiana (C)  
 Louisiana (SC)  
 Missouri  
 Missouri East  
 Missouri West  
 Nebraska (E)

*Southeastern Jurisdiction*

Alabama-W. Florida  
 Central Alabama  
 Cuba  
 Florida (E)  
 Florida (C)  
 Florida (SE)  
 Georgia  
 Holston  
 Kentucky (E)  
 Kentucky (SE)  
 Louisville  
 Memphis  
 Mississippi (C)  
 Mississippi (SE)  
 North Alabama

Western Pennsylvania (NE)  
 West Virginia (E)  
 West Virginia (NE)  
 Wyoming

Nebraska (SC)  
 New Mexico  
 North Arkansas  
 North Texas  
 Northwest Texas  
 Oklahoma  
 Oklahoma-Texas  
 Rio Grande  
 Southwest  
 Southwest Texas  
 Texas (C)  
 Texas (SC)  
 West Texas

North Carolina  
 North Carolina-Virginia  
 North Georgia  
 North Mississippi  
 South Carolina (C)  
 South Carolina (SE)  
 South Georgia  
 Tennessee (E)  
 Tennessee (SE)  
 Tennessee-Kentucky  
 Upper Mississippi  
 Virginia (E)  
 Virginia (SE)  
 Western North Carolina

ENABLING LEGISLATION

*Western Jurisdiction*

Alaska Mission  
 California  
 California-Nevada  
 Idaho  
 Montana (E)  
 Montana (W)  
 Northwest Canada

Oregon  
 Pacific Northwest (E)  
 Pacific Northwest (W)  
 Rocky Mountain (E)  
 Rocky Mountain (W)  
 Southern California-Arizona

**Central Conferences and Annual Conferences**

*Africa Central Conference*

Angola  
 Central Congo  
 Rhodesia

Southeast Africa  
 Southern Congo

*Central and Southern Europe*

Austria Provisional  
 Belgium  
 Bulgaria Provisional  
 Czechoslovakia  
 Hungary Provisional

North Africa Provisional  
 Poland  
 Switzerland (M)  
 Switzerland (E)  
 Yugoslavia Mission

*China Central Conference*

*Germany Central Conference*

Central Germany (M)  
 Eastern Germany (E)  
 Northeast Germany (M)  
 Northwest Germany (M)

South Germany (M)  
 South Germany (E)  
 Southwest Germany (M)  
 West Germany (E)

*Latin America Central Conference*

Argentina  
 Bolivia  
 Chile  
 Costa Rica Provisional

Panama Provisional  
 Patagonia Provisional  
 Peru Provisional  
 Uruguay

*Liberian Central Conference*

APPENDIX

*Northern Europe Central Conference*

Baltic and Slavic Provisional  
Denmark  
Finland Provisional

Finland-Swedish Provisional  
Norway  
Sweden

*Pakistan Provisional Central Conference*

Indus River  
Karachi Provisional

*Philippines Central Conference*

Middle Philippines  
Northern Philippines  
Northwest Philippines

Philippines  
Mindanao

*Sierra Leone Provisional Central Conference*

Sierra Leone

*Southeastern Asia Central Conference*

Malaya  
Malaysia Chinese

Sarawak  
Sarawak Iban Provisional

*Southern Asia Central Conference*

Agra  
Bengal  
Bombay  
Delhi  
Gujarat  
Hyderabad

Lucknow  
Madhya Pradesh  
Moradabad  
North India  
South India  
Nepal Mission

*Episcopal Visitation*

Hong Kong and Taiwan (M)  
Puerto Rico (E)

Note: (E) stands for Evangelical United Brethren, (M) Methodist, (C) Central Jurisdiction, (NC) North Central Jurisdiction, (NE) Northeastern Jurisdiction, (SC) South Central Jurisdiction, (SE) Southeastern Jurisdiction, (W) Western Jurisdiction.

At the time of union some Annual Conferences as above listed may overlap jurisdictional boundaries, but pending realignment, this shall not be deemed a violation of the Constitution, Division Two, Section VIII, Article I (§ 42 [1968 Discipline]).

GLOSSARY

This glossary, like the index, is not part of the law of the Church, but rather a guide to that law, arranged in alphabetical order for the convenience of readers. So far as possible the definitions are based on the Constitution and legislation, and use the Disciplinary language. Where there is no specific legislation, they are based on historical usage and accepted practice. For terms not defined here, see the index, where paragraphs containing definitions or definitive information are indicated by boldface type.

*Administrative Board.* The primary administrative body of the local church, amenable only to the Charge Conference. (§§ 148-152)

*Advance.* The program, administered through the Board of Global Ministries, for promoting special gifts to missionary causes over and above apportioned World Service and conference benevolences. (§§ 849-850)

*Affiliate Member.* A lay person residing away from home for an extended period who is enrolled in a nearby church for fellowship, pastoral care, and participation in activities, but is still counted as a member of the home church. (§ 126)

*Affiliated Autonomous Church.* A self-governing church, outside the United States, in whose establishment The United Methodist Church has assisted and with which it is cooperating through its Board of Global Ministries. (§§ 640-646)

*Agency.* A term used generically to include any council, board, division, commission, committee, or other body established to carry out the work of the Church. General agencies are constituted by the General Conference and defined in § 802.

*Appointment.* The pastoral charge or other position within the Church to which a minister or lay pastor is assigned by a bishop. (§ 391)

*Appointment, Special.* The appointment of a conference member to a position with a college, university, or other school or seminary; or to a hospital, home, or other agency; or to military or other chaplaincy; or to any similar specialized ministry. (§ 352)

*Apportionment.* An amount assigned to a local church or other United Methodist body by proper church authority to be raised by that body as its share of some church fund.

*Area, Episcopal.* The Annual Conference or Conferences assigned to a bishop for residential and presidential supervision. In a less technical sense, the geographical region covered by such conference or conferences. (§§ 53, 622)

*Associate Member.* A lay member of another denomination, residing away from home for an extended period, who is enrolled in a nearby United Methodist church for fellowship, pastoral care, and participation in activities, but who is still counted as a member of the home church. (§ 126)

This term also describes a ministerial relationship to an Annual Conference. See "Minister," this glossary.

*Bar of the Conference.* The area of limits within which the business of the Annual Conference is transacted. Usually the floor of the auditorium extending far enough to include the seating of all members.

*Benevolences.* A term used to describe monetary gifts to causes which are carrying out the mission of the Church, as distinguished from moneys given to provide for the administration of the church structure. Often a hard distinction to make (see § 869).

*Bishop.* A general superintendent of The United Methodist Church. An elder who has been elected to the office of bishop by a Jurisdictional or Central Conference and duly consecrated by other bishops. (§§ 50-59)

*Board, General.* A continuing body of the Church created by the General Conference to carry out certain functions of mission. Four of the boards are related to program: Church and Society, Discipleship, Global Ministries, and Higher Education and Ministry. Two boards perform service functions: Pensions and Publication. The chief staff officer of a general board is a general secretary.

*Cabinet.* The district superintendents of an Annual Conference acting together as a body under the presidency of the bishop.

*Charge, Pastoral.* One or more local churches which are organized under, and subject to, the Book of Discipline, governed by a single Charge Conference, and served by a minister or lay pastor appointed as pastor in charge. (§ 106.1)

*Church, Local.* A connectional society of persons who have professed their faith in Christ, have been baptized, have assumed the vows of membership in The United Methodist Church, and are associated in fellowship as a local United Methodist church in order that they may hear the Word of God, receive the Sacraments, and carry forward the work which Christ has committed to his Church. Such a society of believers being within The United Methodist Church and subject to its Discipline is also an inherent part of the Church Universal, which is composed of all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and which in the Apostles' Creed we declare to be the holy catholic Church. (§ 103)

*Church School.* The program of the local church for instructing and guiding its entire constituency in Christian faith and living. It includes Sunday school, weekday activities, and home and extension service. (§ 160.1)

*Circuit.* Two or more local churches which are joined together for pastoral supervision, constituting one pastoral charge. (§ 106.2)

*College of Bishops.* All the bishops assigned to or elected by a Jurisdictional or Central Conference. This group, which quadrennially elects a president and secretary from among its membership, carries out various responsibilities assigned it by the Book of Discipline. (§ 53)

*Commission.* At the general church level a body, either temporary or permanent, created to carry out certain functions of mission or for study and amenable to the General Conference. Permanent commissions are Religion and Race, and Archives and History. Examples of temporary commissions are Status and Role of Women, Study Commission on the Ministry.

Commissions may also be created at the Annual Conference level, or in the local church if needed.

*Conference, Annual.* The basic administrative body in The United

- Methodist Church, bearing responsibility for the work of the Church in a specific territory, as established by the Jurisdictional or Central Conference. (§§ 36-41, 660-668) Also, the term is commonly used to indicate the territory administered by such a body.
- Conference Benevolences.* The various causes, funds, and budgets of The United Methodist Church are known as benevolences. Conference benevolences are causes approved by the Annual Conference and included in the conference budget.
- Conference Budget.* The total amount to be apportioned for conference causes including conference benevolences, service causes, and the work of all agencies receiving financial support from the Annual Conference.
- Conference, Central.* A body representing several Annual Conferences located outside the United States of America, comparable in function to a Jurisdictional Conference within the United States, but possessing greater freedom to adapt to local needs and conditions. (§§ 27-30, 629-631)
- Conference, Charge.* The governing body of the pastoral charge. (§§ 48-49, 144-146) A Church Local Conference is a body similarly constituted in each local church of a circuit, with its authority limited to certain property concerns of that local church. (§ 1421)
- Conference, Church.* An assembly open to all the members of a charge, after having been authorized by the district superintendent on request of the Administrative Board, 10 percent of the church membership, or at the superintendent's discretion. When so authorized, it can assume all the functions of the Charge Conference. (§ 147)
- Conference Claimants.* Retired ministers, the surviving spouses of deceased ministers, and the dependent children of deceased ministers are conference claimants.
- Conference, District.* An assembly held annually in each district where so directed by the Annual Conference. It includes lay and ministerial representatives from each local church and performs the duties assigned to it. (§ 669)
- Conference, General.* The legislative body for the entire Church, meeting every four years and having full legislative power over all

- connectional matters (other than constitutional amendments, which also require a vote of all the members of all the Annual Conferences). It is composed of elected lay and ministerial members, in equal numbers, from all the Annual Conferences. (§§ 12-21, 601-610)
- Conference, Jurisdictional.* The representative regional body, of which there are five in the United States, composed of an equal number of lay and ministerial delegates from the several Annual Conferences located within the jurisdictional boundaries and meeting every four years. It elects the bishops to serve in that jurisdiction and certain members of the general boards and agencies of the Church. Further structure varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. (§§ 22-26, 612-628)
- Conference, Local Church.* If a pastoral charge consists of two or more churches, those members of its Charge Conference who are members of each local church will meet separately as a Local Church Conference for the purpose of electing officers of that local church. They may also meet to act in regard to property matters or any other concerns which are properly those of a single local church rather than of the entire charge. (§ 1421)
- Conference, Missionary.* A body similar to an Annual Conference, but with limited powers, which because of its limited membership, ministry, financial strength, and property requires administrative guidance and large financial aid from the Board of Global Ministries. (§§ 654-657)
- Conference, Provisional Annual.* A body similar to an Annual Conference but with limited powers because of insufficient membership. (§§ 647-653)
- Conference, Provisional Central.* A body similar to a Central Conference, but with limited powers because of insufficient membership. (§§ 632-639)
- Connectional.* Of or pertaining to the "connection," the general organization of The United Methodist Church. Often used to describe a church such as ours, which sees its identity in its wholeness rather than as simply a collection of local congregations. (§ 15)
- Council.* A continuing body of the Church created by the General Conference or established in its Constitution. Examples of the

former are the Council on Finance and Administration (the primary fiscal and business unit of the Church) and the Council on Ministries (described elsewhere in this glossary). Examples of constitutional councils are the Council of Bishops and the Judicial Council.

*Council of Bishops.* The body consisting of all the bishops of all the Jurisdictional and Central Conferences of the church. (§ 52)

*Council on Ministries, Annual Conference.* The primary program planning and correlating agency of the Annual Conference, with which all Annual Conference agencies are required to cooperate; amenable to the Annual Conference.

*Council on Ministries, District.* It has within the district responsibilities and functions similar to those of the conference Council on Ministries. (§ 835)

*Council on Ministries, General.* A representative body of The United Methodist Church to which general boards and agencies are accountable in the carrying out of program and which has authority to set new priorities of program for the whole Church within policy guidelines set down by the General Conference, reporting all such actions to the next session of the General Conference, to which it is amenable. Each Annual Conference is represented, with the basic membership one-third laymen, one-third laywomen, and one-third clergy.

*Council on Ministries, Local Church.* The primary planning and programming group in each local church, made up of the pastor and key officials and amenable to the Administrative Board. (§§ 153-161)

*Credentials.* The official documents certifying to ministerial ordination.

*Deacon.* A person who, having fulfilled the requirements has been elected to the order of deacon by the Annual Conference, has taken the prescribed vows, and has been duly ordained by the laying on of the hands of a bishop. A deacon may be either a lay pastor who has completed certain requirements (§ 312.1) or an associate or probationary member of an Annual Conference (§§ 311-312)

*Deaconess.* A professionally competent laywoman who, in response to

God's call and having met the requirements, has been duly consecrated by a bishop and commissioned and licensed for a ministry of special need. (§ 1137)

*Director.* In a local church, a lay person certified as having full qualifications to lead the program of Christian education or of music. (§ 1253) At the Annual Conference level, the executive officer of the conference Council on Ministries, sometimes known as the program director. (§ 831.7)

*Disciplinary.* In accordance with the Constitution and laws of The United Methodist Church, as set forth in the Book of Discipline.

*Discipline.* A shorthand phrase for The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, which is the official published statement of the Constitution and laws of The United Methodist Church, its rules of organization and procedure, and a description of administrative agencies and their functions.

*District.* The major administrative subdivision of an Annual Conference, the number of which is established by the Annual Conference and the boundaries of which are set by the bishop after consultation with the district superintendents. It comprises all the pastoral charges in the prescribed territory and is under the supervision of a district superintendent. (§ 391.3)

*District Superintendent.* A minister appointed by the bishop to administer the work of the Church within a district. (§ 354)

*Division.* A major component of a board, whose chief staff officer is an associate general secretary.

*Elder.* A minister who, having fulfilled the requirements and having been elected to full membership in an Annual Conference, has been elected to the order of elder, has taken the prescribed vows, and has been duly ordained by the laying on of hands of a bishop and other elders. (§ 313) This is the higher ministerial order in the Church.

*Elder, Counseling.* A ministerial member in full connection assigned by the cabinet to provide counsel to a lay pastor in fulfilling his or her requirements and in the administration of the Sacraments. The elder would ordinarily live near the lay pastor to whom assigned. (§ 353)

*Episcopacy.* The system whereby bishops exercise certain authority

- within the Church. In The United Methodist Church this authority is constitutional, but subject to some definition by the General Conference.
- Itinerancy.* The system of The United Methodist Church by which ministers are appointed to their charges by the bishop and are under discipline to accept such appointment.
- Judicial Council.* The highest judicial body of The United Methodist Church, elected by the General Conference. It determines, either on appeal or through declaratory decisions, the constitutionality of acts or proposed acts of the General, Jurisdictional, or Central Conferences, as well as whether other acts of official bodies of the Church conform to the Book of Discipline, all according to procedures set forth in said Discipline. (§§ 60-62, 1501-1519)
- Jurisdiction.* A major regional division of The United Methodist Church within the United States, composed of several Annual Conferences (see Conference, Jurisdictional). (§§ 22-26)
- Lait.* The members, male and female, of a local church who have not been ordained as elders or as deacons.
- Lay Pastor.* A lay person, licensed to preach, who on recommendation of the Board of the Ministry has been approved by the Annual Conference as eligible for appointment during the ensuing year as the pastor of a charge. (§ 338)
- Lay Person.* A member of a local church, either female or male. This term also applies to a lay pastor, even though he may be ordained. The term "lay person" is increasingly used in the 1972 Discipline in place of the earlier "layman," which is considered by some to be too male-oriented.
- Lay Speaker.* A member of a local church certified by the Charge Conference as qualified to conduct services of worship and carry out a witness of the spoken word. (§§ 1067-1070)
- Lay Worker.* A person other than clergy who has determined to work in an employed status for the church or its agencies, has met standards of excellence in his or her chosen field, and has been consecrated by a bishop. (§ 501)
- License to Preach.* This is the first formal step toward the ministry. A license is issued by the district Committee on the Ministry and is valid for one year only, but may be reissued as long as the

- licensee continues in a program of training. (§ 318)
- Location.* The voluntary or involuntary termination of a minister's membership in an Annual Conference and return to the status of a lay person. Such action carries no moral stigma, and the located person retains certain ministerial rights. (§ 367)
- Member, Church.* A person who has been baptized and confirmed, entering into solemn covenant with the members of the church, as provided in the Ritual.
- Minister.* In The United Methodist Church, an ordained ministerial member of an Annual Conference. The term "minister" is used synonymously with the earlier term "traveling preacher," used to denote the conference member who "traveled" where sent by the bishop, as distinguished from the "local preacher" whose other means of livelihood kept him tied to one location. Hence the term "location" when a minister leaves the conference. The term "minister" is often loosely used to describe any pastor or ordained person.
- Minister in Effective Relation.* One in full connection in an Annual Conference who is under appointment of a bishop.
- Minister in Full Connection.* One who, having satisfactorily completed all the Disciplinary requirements, including the probationary period (except, in some cases, for those received on credentials from another denomination), has been elected to full membership by an Annual Conference. (§§ 331-337)
- Minister, Retired (Superannuated).* One who because of age, years of service, or other reason has been placed in the retired relation by action of the Annual Conference. This relation is granted automatically at age seventy-two. A retired minister is no longer subject to appointment by the bishop, but exercises ministerial rights, including his voting membership in the Annual Conference. (§§ 359-365)
- Minister, Supernumerary.* One who because of impaired health or other equally sufficient reason is temporarily unable or unwilling to perform full work and has been granted this relation by vote of the Annual Conference. (§ 358)
- Minister Under Special Appointment.* A ministerial member of an

APPENDIX

- Annual Conference who has been appointed by a bishop to serve in some capacity other than pastor, associate pastor, or district superintendent. (§ 391.5-8)
- Ministerial Support.* A primary fiscal concept of The United Methodist Church whereby each local church assumes responsibility for undergirding the entire ministry of the whole Church. This includes support of its own appointed pastor, providing minimum salaries for all pastors, and support of district superintendents, bishops, and retired ministers and their spouses.
- Mission.* The administrative body of a field of work outside any Annual Conference which is under the care of the Board of Global Ministries and has not yet met the requirements of a Provisional Annual Conference. It exercises in a general way the functions of a District Conference. In a broader and nontechnical sense, the total work of the Church. (§§ 658-659)
- Missionary.* A lay person or minister who, on recommendation of the Office of Missionary Personnel, has been commissioned by the Board of Global Ministries and assigned to some field of labor.
- Office.* A support service unit within a board or council.
- Order, Ministerial.* The rank or status of a person in the Christian ministry. In The United Methodist Church ministerial orders are of two classes: deacon's and elder's.
- Ordination.* The act of conferring ministerial orders, presided over by a bishop.
- Parish.* An area of service ministered to by one or more churches. These churches may be of different denominations. (§ 106.3)
- Pastor.* A minister or lay pastor (or, on a temporary basis, a person licensed to preach) who has been appointed by the bishop as pastor of a charge. (§ 350)
- Probationary Member.* A person who, after meeting the conditions set forth in the Discipline, has been received by vote of the full ministerial members of the Annual Conference as a probationary ministerial member of that body. (§§ 325-329)
- Reception on Credentials.* The process by which a minister from some other church is received into conference membership (associate, probationary, or full) on presentation of ministerial credentials from the other denomination. (§§ 376-381)

GLOSSARY

- Ritual.* The rites and ceremonies which have been authorized for use in the administration of the Sacraments of the Lord's Supper and Baptism, in marriage, in the burial of the dead, ordination, and other offices for the conduct of private and public worship.
- Sabbatical Leave.* A leave granted by the bishop to a minister who has been in the effective relationship to a conference for either six or eight years. It is granted for the purpose of travel, study, rest, or other acceptable reasons. It must be approved by the conference. (§ 356)
- Secretary, Assistant General.* The chief staff officer of a section of a division of a general board.
- Secretary, Associate General.* The chief staff officer of a division of a general council or board.
- Secretary, Executive.* The chief staff officer of a general commission.
- Secretary, General.* The chief staff officer of a general council or board.
- Section.* A functional subunit of a division of a board, whose chief staff officer is an assistant general secretary.
- Special, Advance.* A special gift to a specific benevolent cause, pledged and paid by a local church in addition to its apportioned benevolences. Such gifts may also be made by individuals or various church groups. (§ 850.10)
- World Service.* The basic general benevolences of The United Methodist Church, approved by the General Conference and apportioned through the Annual Conferences to the local churches. (§§ 847-48)

## ERRATA

*During the editorial process, ¶ 851 was picked up from the 1968 Book of Discipline and reprinted in error. The correct ¶ 851 as passed by the 1972 General Conference is as follows:*

¶ 851. There shall be an annual observance of the **One Great Hour of Sharing** as a special offering for overseas relief. The observance shall be under the general supervision of the Joint Committee on Communications (¶¶ 897-906) in accordance with the following directives:

1. The One Great Hour of Sharing shall be observed annually on or about the fourth Sunday in Lent. All local churches shall be fully informed and encouraged to receive a freewill offering in behalf of the overseas relief program.

2. Insofar as possible, the planning and promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing shall be done cooperatively with other denominations through the National Council of Churches, it being understood, however, that receipts of the offerings shall be administered by The United Methodist Church. In the promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing there shall be an emphasis on the spiritual implications of Christian stewardship.

3. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering shall be promptly remitted by the local church treasurer to the conference treasurer, who shall remit monthly to the general treasurer. Receipts from the offering, after payment of the expenses of promotion, shall be remitted by the treasurer of the Council on Finance and Administration to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (¶¶ 1141-44) to be administered by that committee.

4. A One Great Hour of Sharing special gift voucher shall be issued, and a space for reporting the amount of the offering shall be included in the form for the pastor's report to the Annual Conference.

5. The expense budget for promoting the One Great Hour of Sharing shall be subject to approval annually by the Joint Committee on Communications and shall be a prior charge against receipts from these offerings.

*A new phrase was added to the legislation concerning youth ministry by action of the 1972 General Conference. This phrase was inadvertently dropped while the basic body of the 1972 Book of Discipline was being edited. The phrase was an addition to ¶ 1003.1. The correct ¶ 1003.1 follows:*

¶ 1003. *Authority Concerning Youth Ministry.*—1. The section shall have the authority to enable and strengthen the ministry with and to youth at all levels of the Church, including the calling together of youth and adults. It shall have authority to cooperate with other agencies of the Church, ecumenical and secular agencies, jurisdictions, Annual Conferences, districts, and local churches in developing programs and resources which are of interest to youth, including the United Methodist Youth Fellowship. The section shall cooperate with the United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry (¶¶ 1071-76) in providing a ministry of youth at the Annual Conference, jurisdiction, and general church levels.

## INDEX

The numbers refer to paragraphs (¶¶) and to subparagraphs. Subparagraphs are indicated by the figures following decimal points. The paragraphs are arranged according to the following plan:

1- 99	The Constitution, Doctrine, Doctrinal Statements, General Rules and Social Principles
101- 299	The Local Church
301- 499	The Ministry
501- 599	The Lay Worker
601- 799	The Conferences
801-1399	Administrative Order
1401-1499	Church Property
1501-1699	Judicial Administration
1701-1799	Appendix: Enabling Legislation

Numbers in bold-faced type indicate main references or definitions.

A	Accounting, <i>cont'd.</i>	Administrative Board,
Abandoned church property, 354.12, 1441	1408. <i>See also</i> Auditing	148-52
Abortion, 72D	Accreditation of schools, 1211, 1216. <i>See also</i> University Senate	Administration of church organization, 151.1
Abstinence, 73I, 318.7 note 5, 971.3d	Addresses of bishops, ministers, etc., 843.8, 1040	Administrative officer, 151
Acceptance of apportionment, 145.10, 870, 878	Administration Fund. <i>See</i> General Administration Fund	Age-level and family coordinators, 145.3a, 155-57, 160
Accounting, 842.3-4, 882,		Amenability, 148
		Benevolences, 151.4-.5, 152.5
		Bishop's support, pro-

INDEX

**Administrative Board,**  
*cont'd:*

vision for, 151.5  
 Budget, 151.3c, .3e, 162.3  
 Chairperson, 150, 155  
     Special meeting called by, 148.2  
 Charge Administrative Board, 145.11  
 Charge Conference Administrative Board amenable to, 145.1, 148  
 Commitment of duties to, 151.6  
 Election of lay leader, 152.1  
 Executive agency of, 151  
 Proposals, implementation of, 145.2  
 Church unity, 151.8  
 Committee on Finance, 145.3d, 151.1, .3d, 162.3  
 Committee on Health and Welfare, 152.6, 162.4  
 Committee on Nominations and Personnel, 149, 162.1  
 Administration of, 151.1  
     Election of, 145.3e  
     Nomination of Administrative Board officers, 150, 151.3b  
 Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations, 145.3c, 149, 151.1, .3d, 162.2  
 Committees, optional, 162.4  
 Conference claimants' support, 151.5  
 Council on Ministries, 153-61  
     Administration of, 151.1

**Administrative Board,**  
*cont'd:*

Amenable to Administrative Board, 153  
 Chairperson, election of, 145.3a  
     For details see Council on Ministries  
 Definition of, 148  
 District superintendent, 151.5  
 Duties and powers, 151  
 Ecumenical responsibility, 151.8  
 Financial needs, 151.5, 162.3  
 Financial secretary, 145.3a, 149, 152.4  
 Funds, disbursement of, 152.5  
 Goals for church ministries, 151.3a  
 Health and welfare representative, 145.3b, 146.4, 149, 152.6  
 Lay leader, 145.3a, 149, 152.1  
 Lay member of Annual Conference, 145.3a, 149  
 Lay officers, 151.3b, 152  
 Meetings, 148.2  
 Membership, 146.7, 149, 151.1  
 Ministerial support, 151.3d, .5  
 New churches, sponsorship of, 151.7  
 Officers, 150  
 Organization, 150  
 Pastor, 149, 151  
     Salary, 151.3d, .5  
     Special meeting called by, 148.2  
 Personnel, 151.3c  
 Program year, local church, 151.2  
 Purpose, 148.1  
 Quorum, 148.3  
 Recording secretary,

**Administrative Board,**  
*cont'd:*

145.3a, 146.2, 150  
 Relation to Charge Conference, 144.2, 145.1, .3b 146.3  
 Reports to, 151.3c  
 Responsibilities, 151  
 Secretary, 145.3a, 146.2, 150  
 Secretary of enlistment, 145.3a, 146.5, 149, 152.2  
 Special meetings, 148.2  
 Staff,  
     Salaries, 151.3d  
     Voting, 149  
 Superintendent of study program of the church (church school superintendent), 145.3a, 149, 152.3  
 Tenure, 151.2  
 Treasurer, church, 145.3a, 149, 152.5. See also Treasurer, local church  
 Trustees, 145.3f, 149, 151.1, 1419. See also Board of Trustees, Local church board  
 Voting, 149  
 Work area chairpersons, 145.3a, 149  
 World service, support of, 151.4-.5  
 Young adults, members at large, 146.3  
 Youth members, 146.3, 149

**Admission into church membership.** See Membership, Admission into the church

**Admission of preachers,**  
37, 662.3  
 Board of the Ministry,

INDEX

**Admission of preachers,**  
*cont'd:*

665.4a-.17. For details see Board of the Ministry  
 Educational requirements, 318.2, .6, 333.3, 1226  
 From other churches, 376-81  
 Into full connection, 333-35  
 On trial, 326-29  
 Readmission, 372-74

**Adult**

Baptism, 115, 119  
 Council. See Council on Ministries  
 Ministry, director of. See Director of adult ministry

**Advance, 849-52**

Administration of, 850.2-3, 850.13, .16, 851  
 Board of Global Ministries, 850.4, .11-.13, .16  
 Committee, 850  
 Communications between donor and recipient, 850.5, .7  
 Conference Advance specials, 849.2, 850.10-.16  
 Council on Finance and Administration, 842.2, 851.2b, 852  
 Definitions, 849.1, 850.4  
 Director, 850.3  
 District promotion of Advance specials, 851.14  
 Emergency change, 851.2f  
 Expenses of promotion, 851.1f, .2c  
 General Advance spe-

**Advance, cont'd:**

cial, 849.2, 850.4-.8, .16  
 Individual specials, 849.3, 850.4  
 Local church, 849.3, 850.6, .15, 851.1a, .1d, .1e, 852  
 Mission, 849.2, 850.4, .8, .13-.14, 1088.2  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 163.1a, 851  
 Promotion of, 832.1, 851.2, 906.3a  
 Quotas not to be set, 851.2a  
 Receipts for, 850.6  
 Relief, 848.2, 850.4-.5  
 Remittance of, 850.6, .16, 851.1d, 879  
 Report forms, 850.15  
 Reports to Advance Committee, 850.5  
 Special gifts, administration of, 1124.13  
 Special object, 850.5  
 Specials, 850.4-.5, 906.3a  
 Treasurer of, 851.2b  
 Undesignated special, assuming responsibility for, 850.5  
 United Methodist Committee on Relief, 850.4, 851.1c, .2c  
 World Communion appeal, 852

**Advocate.** See *Christian Advocate*

**Affiliate member,** 126

**Affiliated autonomous churches,** 640-46

Autonomous church, becomes affiliated, 646.5  
 Bishop, 1281.1, 1422.2  
 Board of Global Minis-

**Affiliated autonomous churches, cont'd:**

tries, liaison with, 640, 1159.1  
 Contractual agreements, 641  
*Covenant of Cooperation* (with The United Methodist Church), 641.4  
 Definition of, 640  
 Episcopal visitation to, 643  
 Missionaries serving in, 1164  
 Overseas conferences, procedures for becoming, 646  
 Transfer of ministers of, 645  
 World Methodist Council, delegates to, 1284.2

**Age**

Charge Conference members, 147.7  
 General agencies, staff, 817.2  
 Retirement, 359-65, 396, 397.2  
 Rights of the aging, 73E  
 Trustees, 1410, 1413.2, 1419, 1422  
 United Methodist Youth Ministry members, 160.2  
 Youth members of agencies, 829.1a, 1071.4, 1072, 1173.1

**Age-level**

Annual Conference directors, 1036  
 District coordinators, 1041.2-.3, .6-.7  
 And family coordinators, 149, 152.3, 155, 156

INDEX

Age-level, *cont'd.*  
 And family councils, 157  
 Groupings, formation of, 160  
**Agencies, Annual Conference, 665**  
 Appeals for funds, 868.1, 884-85  
 Auditing, 841.4*b*, 868.4, 881  
 Boards. *See individual board listings*: Annual Conference Board of Church and Society, etc.  
 Commissions. *See individual commission listings*: Commission on Archives and History, Annual Conference, etc.  
 Committees. *See individual committee listings*  
 Finances, 868, 878, 881-82, 886  
 Membership, 665.3, 818.3-4  
 Relative representation on, 818.3  
 Reports, 868.4, 886  
**Agencies, general, 802-19**  
 Absence from meetings of, 815  
 Accounting, 842.4-5  
 Age limitations, 817.2  
 Annuity rates, 842.8  
 Appeals for funds, 846.4  
 Appointment, episcopal, of staff, 391.5  
 Associate general secretaries, 802.3*b*. *See also* Board of Church and Society; Board of Discipleship; Board of Global Ministries and Board of Higher Ed-

**Agencies, general, cont'd.**  
 ucation and Ministry  
 Auditing, 842.4  
 Bishop, 806.1, 815.2, 816  
 Borrowing funds, 846.3  
 Budgets, 842.4-5, 846.1-2  
 Buildings and real estate 843.1-2  
 Chairperson, 807-8  
 College of Bishops, power to act upon relative representation on, 818.6  
 Council on Finance and Administration, relationship to, 843.1-7, 846  
 Council on Ministries, general, relationship to, 826.2-4, 827, 828.3, 829.5-9, 811, 813-16, 818-19  
 Definition, 802.1  
 Dismissal of employees, 819  
 Duplication of activities or programs, 826.2, 828.8, 813, 815, 846.2  
 Elected staff members ineligible to vote, 810, 812.2  
 Election of members, 26.3, 626, 803, 818. *See also under name of agency*  
 Executives, 802.3, 808-9, 819, 829.1*a*  
 Finances, 828.5, 842, 843.1-2, 846-47, 853  
 Fiscal year, 820  
 Foundations, gifts from, 848.3  
 Funding of programs, 820  
 General Conference authority over, 15.8, 813  
 General secretaries, 802.3, 809

**Agencies, general, cont'd.**  
 Interdenominational, 1284-89  
 Investments, 842.6, 843.1  
 Jurisdictional, relative representation on, 818.2  
 "Member coming from," meaning of, 818.5  
 Membership, 803-5, 810, 812-15, 818.1-2, 814  
 News services, 906.1  
 Organization, 802.2, 1292  
 Overlapping functions or lack of cooperation, 826.2, 828.8, 813, 815, 846.2  
 Personnel policies, 802.3, 812, 817, 819, 823, 843.6  
 Policies of, to be reviewed, 828.7  
 President, 808  
 Program agencies, local church, 160  
 Publications, 828.13-15  
 Racial policy, 817.1, 818.4, 823, 846.1  
 Real estate, 843.1-2  
 Relative representation, 818.1-2  
 Research, 828.16  
 Retirement of personnel, 817.2  
 Rotation of representatives, 813.1  
 Serving on more than one agency, 806.1  
 As president or chairperson, 808  
 Staff, 802.3, 810, 812, 817, 819  
 Tenure, 811, 813  
 Titles of executives, 802.3  
 Transferral of member

INDEX

**Agencies, general, cont'd.**  
 to another jurisdiction, 814  
 Vacancies, 814, 816, 1290  
 Voting, eligibility for, 810, 812  
 World Service, 828.5, 842.7, 847-48. *See further* World Service Youth members, 1071.4  
*For details see under names of agencies*  
**Alcohol, 69 (page 67), 73I, 318.7 note 5, 971.3**  
**Allocation agreement, 631.25**  
**Amendments to the Constitution, 37, 64-67, 610**  
**American Bible Society, 1287**  
**Annual Conference, 10, 36-41, 53, 67 Amendments II, VI, VII, 660-68**  
 Admission into full connection, 37, 333-34, 376-81, 662.3, 663.6. *For details see* Admission of preachers  
 Advance specials, 849.2, 850.4-5, 9-16, 851.2  
 Age-level directors, 1036, 1041.6  
 Agencies of, 665-67. *See also* Agencies, Annual Conference and individual agency listings  
 Agenda, 663.2  
 Aid given by, 850.16  
 Amendments to the Constitution, 37, 64  
 Annuity rate determined by, 1259.7

**Annual Conference, cont'd.**  
 Appeal of legality of action of board or agency, 1510  
 Appeal to, 354.11, 1414.3, 1417, 1422.3  
 Appointment of preachers, 390.4, 391-93. *For details see* Appointment of preachers  
 Apportionments  
 Distribution, 870-71, 875, 878, 888  
 Episcopal Fund, 859, 874, 888  
 General administration budget, 853.2  
 To, 842.1*c*, 844, 847, 859, 870, 874  
 World Service and conference benevolences, 847, 870-71, 878  
 Area system, 53-54, 398.3, 612, 631.6  
 Associate lay leaders, 1050, 1052.1  
 Associate members, 322-24, 660.1*c*  
 Attendance at sessions, 660.6  
 Auditing, 877, 881, 1408  
 Basic salary plan, 876, 893  
 Benevolences, 868-72, 878, 882, 1179. *See also* Advance; World Service  
 Bishop, presiding, 390.2, 661.5  
 Board of the Ministry, 665.4-17. *For details see* Board of the Ministry  
 Boards. *See individual board listings under* Annual Conference Board of . . . , etc.  
 Bodies, corporate, 661.1

**Annual Conference, cont'd.**  
 Bonds, fidelity, 881, 1408  
 Boundaries, 26.4, 30.4, 41, 45, 602.4, 615.4  
 Business of, 663, 1180  
 Called session, 660.3, 661.4  
 Camps and conferences, 1034-35. *For details see* Camps and conferences  
 Central Conference over, 631.13  
 Chancellor, 662.7  
 Changes in number, name, boundaries, 41, 45  
 Charge Conference amenable to, 145.15  
 Chartered Fund, 1258.1  
 Christian education. *See* Annual Conference Board of Discipleship  
 Commission  
 On Archives and History, 1277  
 On Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1252.2-4  
 On Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns, 1101  
 On Equitable Salaries, 892.2  
 On Lay Life and Work, 1052  
 On Religion and Race, 1280  
 On Stewardship and Finance, 1022.5, 1053  
 On Town and Country Ministries, 1184.3  
 On Worship, 1066  
 United Ministries in

INDEX

Annual Conference, *cont'd.*  
 Higher Education Commission, 1252.5  
 Committee  
 Additional committees, 665.2  
 Distributing Committee, 1263  
 On Camps and Conferences, 1034.2, 1042  
 On Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1252.2-4  
 On Communication, 831.5, 833  
 On Disability, Joint Committee, 665.25  
 On Education, 1031-40  
 On Enlistment for Church Occupations, 666  
 On Evangelism, 1043-44  
 On Higher Education and Ministry, 1249-53  
 Duties, 1250, 1253.1  
 Financial needs of schools and campus ministries, 1250  
 Income, 1250  
 Reports by, 1250, 1253.2  
 Wesley Foundation, 1251. *See also* Wesley Foundation  
 On Interpretation, 831.5, 832  
 Of investigation, 1540, 1543, 1555  
 On Lay Life and Work, 1048-53  
 On the Lay Worker.

Annual Conference, *cont'd.*  
 667  
 On Planning and Research, 831.5, 834  
 On Publishing Interests, 953  
 On United Methodist Men, 1052.2  
 Subcommittee on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1252.1  
 Subcommittee on Family Life, 1036  
 Subcommittee on Leadership Development, 1035  
 Subcommittee on Use of United Methodist Curriculum Materials, 1037  
 Composition and character, 36, 67 *Amendments II, VI, VII*, 660  
 Conference claimants, 20, 921-22  
 Council on Finance and Administration, 866-86  
 Council on Ministries, 831-34  
 Council on Youth Ministry, 836, 1076. *See also* Council on Youth Ministry  
 Deacon, 311. *See further* Deacon  
 Deaconess, 660.2, 1137.3-4. *See also* Deaconess  
 Debts, 662.2  
 Decisions on questions of law, 1511-12. *See also* Decisions on questions of law  
 Declaratory decision, petition for, 1515.2  
 Delegates to General and Jurisdictional or

Annual Conference, *cont'd.*  
 Central Conferences, 12, 22-24, 38-40, 601-2, 614-16, 630  
 Director of stewardship and finance, 1053.4  
 Directors of adult, children's, family, and youth ministry, 1036. *See also* Director of Disability leave, granted by, 357  
 District Conference, direction of, 669-70.2  
 Districts, determines number of, 390.3  
 Educational institutions, 1196.2, 1198.3. *See also* Educational institutions  
 Elder, eligible for full membership, 313-14, 336  
 Election of  
 District directors, 1041.6  
 Lay members, 145.3a  
 Lay worker, 502-3  
 Officers, 661.6, 877  
 Endowment funds, 1257.4, 1258.2  
 Episcopal residence, 1411  
 Equitable salaries, 892  
 Evangelist, conference, 352.6, 391.7, 1044  
 Executive session of ministerial members, 663.5  
 Finance, 866-86  
 Inquiry into local church, 662.8  
 Founding date, 822.2  
 General Conference authority over, 15.3, 37  
 Golden Cross, 1110.9, 1118-22  
 Health and welfare ministries, 1117

INDEX

Annual Conference, *cont'd.*  
 Historical sites, designation of, 1275.1, .4  
 Historical Society, 1277.2  
 Incorporation, 661.1, 881, 1410  
 Institutions, 1110.6, .10, 1117.4  
 Joint Committee on Disability, 357.4, 665.25  
 Journal, 627, 664.1-4, 895  
 Investments held by agencies printed in, 1262.7. *See also* Journal, conference  
 Judicial Administration. *See* Judicial Administration  
 Lay leader, conference, 1050-51  
 Associate lay leaders, 1050, 1052.1, 1053.2  
 Lay members, 145.3a, 146.1, 149, 670.1  
 Lay missionaries appointed outside U.S., 660.2  
 Lay pastor, 338-49, 665.8  
 Amenable to, 349.3  
 Appeal of, 1532  
 Appointment of, 340  
 In charge of pastoral appointments, 660.2  
 Eligibility for membership in, 339  
 Ineligible for lay membership in, 146.1  
*See also* Lay pastor  
 Lay worker, 501-8  
 Loan fund, seminary, 665.7  
 Local church property, 1417. *See further* Local Church, Property

Annual Conference, *cont'd.*  
 Location and readmission, of minister, 367, 372, 662.4  
 Manual for conducting, 841.4c  
 Meetings, 661.2-4  
 Membership, 26.4, 36, 67 *Amendments II, VI, VII*, 315, 333-35, 631.11, 660  
 Readmission, 372-74  
 Termination of, 366-71  
*See also* Admission of preachers  
 Merger of, 1263  
 Metropolitan Commission, 1135  
 Minister  
 From another church, reception of, 376-81  
 Ministerial Education Fund, 856, 1231.1, .3  
 Ministerial support, 887-96  
 Ministers Contributory Reserve Pension Fund 862.1  
 Qualifications. *See* Admission of preachers  
 Ministry to non-United Methodist hospitals and homes, 1110.6  
 Minutes, 664.1  
 Mission structures, 1128, 1130  
 Missionaries, 660.2, 664.4, 1137-3-4, 1163, 1164.2  
 Missionary secretary, 1173, 1177, 1178.2  
 Missions anniversary, 1180  
 New churches, 662.10  
 Organization, 661  
 Outside jurisdiction or Central Conference,

Annual Conference, *cont'd.*  
 330.7 632, 637-38  
 Pastor's reports to, 133.2, 162.1b-f, 350-4a, 660.6, 895-96  
 Pension, 1259  
 Funds, 1257.4-.5  
*See also* Board of Pensions; Annual Conference Board Pensions  
 Place of meeting, 661.3  
 Powers and duties, 662, 1261.1  
 Presiding officer, 661.5  
 Probationary members, 325, 660.1b  
 Property, 1410-12, 1417  
 Provisional. *See* Provisional Annual Conference  
 Public relations (and United Methodist information), 906.1  
 Publishing interests, 953  
 Racial policy, 662.1  
 Radio. *See* Annual Conference, Television, Radio and Film Communication  
 Readmission to conference relationships, 372-74  
 Recommendations to, 665.5k, 667.3d, 868, 871, 873, 876, 881, 885, 1034, 1044, 1110.6, 1117.4  
 Records and archives, 662.11, 664, 1277. *See also* Journal, conference  
 Reports required by, 354.10, 358, 370.4, 391.7, 663.5, 665.5h, .9, .14, 667.3e-f, 670.2, 844, 850.14-.15, 852, 868.4, 874, 886, 982.3,

INDEX

**Annual Conference, cont'd:**  
 1031.3, 1040, 1101.1, 1190, 1252.4c-d, 1260.5a, 1263.3b. *See also* Annual Conference, Pastor's reports to Restoration of credentials, 1536, 1538 Retired ministers, 359-65 Rules and regulations, 662.1 Sabbatical leave, approval of, 356 Secretary of, 337, 344, 352.9, 664.1, 5-.6, 896, 1441.2, 1528 Furnishes certificates of election, 601.3 Reports to, 1540.5, .7 Seminary loan fund, 665.7 Service records, 665.5 Special appeal for funds, 884 Special sessions, 660.3, 661.4 Specials, Advance, 849.2, 850.4-5, .9-16, 851.2 Statistician, 661.6, 665.6 Stewardship Associate conference lay leader of, 1053.2-3 Conference director of, 1053.3-4 Student religious work, 1203, 1206.4, 1210.3, 1252 Subcommittees. *See* Annual Conference, Committee Supernumerary ministers, 358 Sustentation Fund, 894 Television, Radio, and Film Communication, 833

**Annual Conference, cont'd:**  
 Termination of membership, 366-71 Transfer Of a local church, 46, 668 Of a ministerial member, 391.7, 662.5-7 To another jurisdiction, 15.12, 44, 814 Treasurer, 877-82. *For details see* Treasurer, Annual Conference Treasury as depository, 882 Trial of ministerial members, 662.4, 1521, 1531, 1534-36, 1540 Trustees, 1410-12 United Methodist Men, 1052.2. *See also* United Methodist Men United Methodist Publishing House appropriations to, 20, 920-21 United Methodist Women. *See* United Methodist Women, Annual Conference Voting, 660.1-4 Wesley Foundation, 1251. *For details see* Wesley Foundation Young Adult Fellowship, 1036 Youth ministry in, 836 Youth Service Fund, 1074

**Annual Conference Board of Church and Society, 978**

**Annual Conference Board of Discipleship, 163.2c, 1029-30, 1043.4**

**Annual Conference**

**Annual Conference Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 committees related to the Board of Discipleship in function, 1031-40, 1043-44, 1048-53, 1066. *For details see individual committee and commission listings.*

**Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries, 1172-85**  
 Advance specials, 850.11-13 Budget, 1179 Church extension, 142.1, 1181 City (metropolitan) or district missionary structure, 1128.2 Commission on Town and Country Ministries, 1184.3 Committee Church and Community Committee, 1183 On Education and Cultivation, 1177 On Parish and Community Development, 1185 On Research and Survey, 1182 On Town and Country Ministries, 1184.2 On Urban Ministries, 1184.1 Conference missionary secretary, 1173, 1177, 1178.2 Executive committee, 1175 Executive secretary, 1178

INDEX

**Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 Home missions, 1181 Meetings, 1174.2-3 Membership, 1173 Metropolitan Commission, National Division, 1135 Mission structures, representation in, 1128.2 Missions anniversary, 1180 New local church, 142.1 Officers, 1174.1 In Provisional Annual Conference, 653 Purpose, 1173 Reports by, 1130, 1132 Surveys, 1182 United Methodist Committee on Relief, promotion of projects, 1177 Urban and town and country ministries, 1184

**Annual Conference Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, 1117, 1120**  
 Golden Cross offering, 1110.9, 1119-20

**Annual Conference Board of Pensions, 1259-63**  
 Authorization, 1260.1 Bonding, 1260.7 Borrowing money for, 1262.8 Depositories, 1260.7 Disability leave, recommendation for, 357.1-2 Distributable funds, distribution of, 1261.2

**Annual Conference Board of Pensions, cont'd:**  
 Diversification of interest, 1262.4 Executive committee, 1260.3 Financial policy, 1262 Financing of pension and benefit programs, 873, 1260.4, 1261.1 Functions, 1260.1 Joint Committee on Disability, members on, 665.25 Membership, 1260.2 Organization, 1260.3 Proportional payment, 1260.6 Recommendations to Annual Conference, 1259.1, 4a, 4f-6, .13 Reports by, 1260.5 Retired Ministers Day, 1261.5 Retired relation, 363-64

**Annual Conference Board of Trustees, 1410-12**

**Annual Conference Council on Ministries, 831-34**  
 Age-level and family departments, 831.6 Committee on Communication, 831.5, 833 Committee on Interpretation, 831.5, 832 Committee on Planning and Research, 831.5, 834 Conference budget, responsibility for, 831.10j Cooperation with other boards and agencies, 826.2, 4, 831.10c, .10j, 833.1, 834.4, 835-36, 978, 1031.2, 1042.4,

**Annual Conference Council on Ministries, cont'd:**  
 1043, 1066.3, 1101.3-4, 1117.3, 1173, 1178.2 Director, 831.7 Of education, 1032.1 Executive Committee, 831.4 Functions, 831.10 Local Church, 831.10g, .10k Membership, 831.2 Officers, 831.2 Program, 831.9 Program boards amenable to, 831.9a Purpose, 831.1 Staff, 831.8, .10f

**Annuity**  
 Abandoned or discontinued local church, 1441.3 Benefits (pension), 362-63, 395.2, 396, 862-63, 865, 1254.1-2, 1257.1, 1259.1 Bishop's, 858 Child's, 857, 858.4, 862.1-2, 1254.1 Claim, 863, 864, 891, 1257.10 Contributory Reserve Pension Fund, 862.1 Credits, 1259.3-4 Deductions from, 1259.1, 1260d-e Episcopal Fund, 857-65 Funds, plans and programs (listing of), 1257.12 Joint Distributing Committee, 1263 Lay employee's, 1254.1, 1257.1, .12 Payment of, 1257.5, .7, .11, 1258 Permanent Funds, 1258 Policy, 1262

INDEX

Annuity, *cont'd.*

Rate  
 Pension, 862.2, 1259.7  
 Special-gift agreement, 848.4  
 Responsibility of conference, agency, or institution, 1257.11, 1259.1  
 Service, 362.2, 862.3, 863, 1257.10, 1259.2-4  
 Service records, 1257.10  
 Special gift subject to, 363, 364.12  
 Surviving spouse, 857, 858.4, 862.1-2, 865, 1254.1  
*See also* Board of Pensions

Appeal, financial, 846.4, 848.3, 851a, 2c, e, 852, 885  
 Advance specials. *See* Advance  
 Authorization for, 850.4-5, .14, 851a, f, 885  
 Building fund, 847.3  
 Educational institution, 1196.5-8, 1198.2, .5, 1231.2-3  
 Emergency, 851.2f, 884  
 Hospitals and homes, 884. *See also* Division of Health and Welfare and Golden Cross  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 163.1a, 848.3, 851  
 Promotion, 850.11, 851.2  
 Report to Council on Finance and Administration, 879  
 Special gifts and offerings, 842.7, .10, 848.3, 849.2. *See also* Advance

Appeal, financial, *cont'd.*

United Methodist Committee on Relief, 159.3, 1177  
 Wesley Foundation, 1250, 1252.1, 1252.3c  
 World Communion, 163.1b, 848.2, 852  
 World service, 846.4, 848

Appeal, judicial, 630.5, 1506, 1511, 1512-33  
 Bishop, 1508, 1511-12, 1530  
 Building, ruling on, 1417  
 Court, 1529.3, .4  
 Deaconess, 1553  
 Decision on question of law, 1511-12, 1514.3, 1519, 1529.10  
 Expenses of, 1531.5  
 Lay pastor, 1532  
 Member of church, 1533, 1554  
 Ministerial member, 1531  
 Notice of, 1529.1  
 Order of, 1529.10  
 Property, 1413.3  
 Verdict of trial court, 1526.5-6, 1529.2, .7, 1557-58

Applicant. *See* Candidates

Appointment of preachers, 390.4, 391-93, 397.1, 665.8

Approved service for annuity claims, 1257.10, 1259  
 Associate pastors, 390.4  
 Between conference sessions, 391.2  
 Changes, 391.2  
 Chaplains, 352  
 Detached service, 391.5-

Appointment of preachers, *cont'd.*

.7. *See further* Special appointment  
 District superintendents, 354, 391.3, .4  
 Equitable salary schedule, 892  
 Limitations on, 351, 358, 367, 391.1-3, .5-9, 396.1  
 Local preachers, 390.4  
 Mission superintendents, 1136.3-4  
 Missionaries, 1124.9, .10, 1136.4, 1137.1-5, 1158.6  
 Pastors, 338, 391.1-2  
 Race relations, 391.1, 662.1, 1703.9d  
 Special, 352. *See further* Special appointment  
 To attend school, 355, 390.6, 391.3, 665.5c, .5k, 665.8, .11, .12

Apportionments

Acceptance of, 145.10, 878  
 Annual Conference authority and procedure, 870-76, 888-89, 892-94  
 To Annual Conferences, 842.1c, 844, 847, 859, 870, 874  
 Benevolences, world service and conference, 145.10, 151.5, 847, 869-71, 878. *See also* Apportionments, World Service Fund  
 Bishop's support. *See* Apportionments, Episcopal Fund  
 To Charge Conferences or local churches, 145.10, 151.5, 847

Apportionments, *cont'd.*

Conference claimants, 151.5, 873, 887-89, 894  
 Determination of, 842.1b-c, 853-54, 859  
 District superintendent, 145.10, 151.5, 876, 888-89, 893.3-5  
 To districts, 870-72, 875-76, 888-89, 892.4, 894.3  
 Episcopal Fund, 151.5, 844, 874, 879, 887-89  
 Equitable Salary Fund, 892.4-5  
 General Administration Fund, 844, 875, 879  
 Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, 844, 875, 879  
 Jurisdictional Conference, 870  
 Ministerial support, 151.5, 887-96  
 Ministerial Education Fund, 875  
 Overpayments, 878  
 Pastor's salary, 145.9, 151.3d  
 Special offerings, credit for, 842.10  
 Sustentation fund, 894  
 Temporary General Aid Fund, 875, 879  
 World Service Fund, 842.1, 844, 847, 875

Approved Supply Pastor. *See* Lay pastor

Architectural standards, 999.23, 1023.3

Archives, 1274. *See also* Commission on Archives and History

Area, episcopal, 53-54, 398.3, 624, 631.6

INDEX

Armed forces. *See* Military

Articles of Religion of The Methodist Church, 68 (pages 43-44), 69 (pages 53-60)  
 Central Conference, 631.23  
 Restrictive Rule, 16

Asking. *See* Apportionments

Assembly, United Methodist Women, 1152

Assistant pastor. *See* Pastor, Associate

Associate member of Annual Conference, 322-24, 660.1c

Appeal of, 1531  
 Offenses of, 1521.1  
 Qualifications for, 323-24  
 Service record, 1257.10  
 Status of expelled member, 1534  
 Trial of, 1540  
 Withdrawal under complaints, 1541

Association, Jurisdiction Deaconess, 1138.2, 1140.3

Attendance, church, 127, 129, 159.2, 1288

Audio-visuals. *See* Joint Committee on Communications

Audits, 842.4, 868.4, 1408  
 Annual Conference boards and agencies, 881

Audits, *cont'd.*

Annual Conference treasurer, 877  
 Council on Finance and Administration treasurer, 845  
 Local church, 162.3

Authority to speak for The United Methodist Church, 611

Automobile expenses, pastor, 895

Autonomous churches, 645-46. *See also* Affiliated autonomous churches

Auxiliaries, women's, 1122

B

Baptism

Authority to administer, 309.2, 313-14, 350.2, 352.4, 353  
 Certificate, 121  
 Children, 69 Art. XVII, 115.4, 120  
 Church membership, 103, 108, 115.1, 119, 123  
 Pastor's duty, 350.2  
 Register of names, 122, 131.2, .4, 365  
 Report of, 117, 119, 358  
 Significance of, pages 57-58

Basic salary plan, 893

Beneficiary of trust fund, 1410.5

Benevolences  
 Administrative Board

INDEX

**Benevolences, cont'd:**  
 interest in, 151.4  
 Advance specials. *See* Advance  
 Annual Conference, 145.10, 665.7, 869  
 Apportionments. *See* Apportionments  
 Board of Discipleship program, 842.7, 984  
 Causes, promotion of, 832.1  
 Charge Conference determines amount accepted, 145.10  
 Commission on Missions (local church) develops budget, 159.3  
 District Conference, 670.4, 869  
 District superintendent's duties, 145.10  
 Funds, remittance of, 152.5  
 Local church, 145.10, 878  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 851  
 Pastor's duties, 145.10  
 Promotion, 832.1, 842.7  
 Special gifts and offerings, 837-39, 842.7, .10, 848-51. *See also* Advance  
 United Methodist Committee on Relief, 163.1a, 851c  
 World Communion offering, 163b, 852  
 World service and conference, 847, 870-71. *See also* Benevolences, Local church; World service

**Bequests**

Agencies, general, 848, 964.2, 1005, 1022.6, 1088.2a, 1089, 1115,

**Bequests, cont'd:**  
 1151, 1196.5, 1198.5, 1257.6  
 Annual Conference, 1261.2, 1410.2-4  
 Local church, 1423.2, 1441.3  
 Property in District of Columbia, 1409.2  
 Special gifts, 847.3, 848, 849.2  
 World service, 848

**Bible**

Church school, 160.1  
 Minister's use of, 350.1  
 Society, American, 1287  
 Sunday, National, 163.2e

**Bishop, 50-59**

Addresses of, 843.8  
 Administration. *See* Episcopal administration  
 Admission of member of an Annual Conference into full connection, 334, 337  
 Agency membership, 803.3  
 Amenability of, 623, 1539.1  
 Annual Conference offices, fills vacancies of, 661.6  
 Appeal of, 61.2, 1513, 1530  
 Appointed staff (local church), salary set by Charge Conference, 145.9  
 Area system, 386, 390.10, 398.1  
 Assignment of, not to be assigned to Annual Conference in which elected, 624.4  
 Assignments, 624.3

**Bishop, cont'd:**

Baccalaureate addresses, 861  
 Cabinet. *See* Cabinet  
 Central Conference, 53, 56-57, 630.2-4, 631.2-7, 1539.9  
 Certification of voluntary location of minister, 367  
 College. *See* College of Bishops  
 Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry (Annual Conference), member of, 1252.2  
 Consecration of, 51, 384  
 Council. *See* Council of Bishops  
 Credentials, 31, 383  
 Decisions on questions of law, 56, 61.2, 1511-12, 1519, 1529.10, 1529.12b  
 Deposed, status of, 1534  
 Disability, 385  
 Discontinuance, 1534.1, .2  
 Duties, 50, 54, 390-91. *See also* Bishop, Agency membership  
 Election of, 51, 383  
 Episcopal support, 842.1, 842.2c, 843.3, 857-58  
 Expelled, status of, 1534  
 Expenses of, 857-58, 860-61  
 Health, 863  
 Honoraria, acceptance of, 861  
 Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy, transfer of bishops, 612.1  
 Investigation and trial

INDEX

**Bishop, cont'd:**

of, 1539  
 Jurisdictional Conference, 398, 621.2, 622, 624.2  
 Lectures, 861  
 Legal counsel, 1524  
 List of bishops, pages 1-6  
 Mission administration, 390.8, 658-59  
 Missionary, 400, 655.1, 861  
 National Division, Board of Global Ministries  
 Communication with, 1125  
 Member of, 1123.1  
*See also* National Division  
 New local church, consent required for, 142.1  
 Nominations of, 661.7, 665.4a, 667.1  
 Nonofficial engagement, 861  
 Number of, 398-400, 631.2, 1092, 1703.10g, 1704  
 Offenses of, 1539.2  
 Ordination by, 310.1-2, 390.9  
 Overseas, 400. *See also* Bishop, Central Conference  
 Payments to, for support of, 889  
 Pension, 395, 862-63  
 Preaching missions, 861  
 As presiding officer, 604, 622, 630.3, .5, 661.5  
 Provisional Central Conference, 400.3  
 Questions of law. *See* Decisions on questions of law

**Bishop, cont'd:**

Race relations, 391.1  
 Remuneration of, called back into active service, 864  
 Reports to, 56  
 Residence, 396.5, 398.3, 1411  
 Resignation of, 395.2  
 Retirement, 55, 395-97, 399.4  
 Sabbatical leave, 387  
 Salary, 864, 889, 1539.7  
 Secretary, 858, 860  
 Serving on more than one agency, 806  
 Study commission on bishops and district superintendents, 1281  
 Support, 151.5, 386, 857-64  
 Surviving spouse and orphans of, 858, 860, 862, 865  
 Tenure, 55  
 Term episcopacy, 399.4, 631.3, .5  
 Transfer of, 54  
 Travel, official, 390.10, 396.1-2, 861  
 Trial of, 1539.3-6, .9  
 Withdrawal under complaints, 1541  
 Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, member of, 1082.2  
 World Division, Board of Global Ministries, member of, 1157

**Board**

Administrative (local church), 148-52. *For details see* Administrative Board  
 Annual Conference, 665.1, .3, .4-17. *See also* Agencies, An-

**Board, cont'd:**

nual Conference. *For individual boards see* Annual Conference  
 Board of Church and Society, etc.  
 Central Conference, 30.3, 61.4, 631.1, .27, 1509-10, 1515.2  
 Definition, 802.2a  
 Of Directors. *See* Board of Directors  
 District. *See* *individual board listings*  
 General, 15.8, 26.3, 61.4, 801-23, 1505, 1509-10, 1515.2. *See also* Agencies, general. *For individual boards see* Board of Church and Society, etc.  
 Jurisdictional, 26.3, 61.4, 1505, 1509-10, 1515.2. *For individual boards see* Board of Church and Society. Jurisdictional board, etc.  
 Of Stewards. *See* Board of Stewards, district  
 Of Trustees. *See* Board of Trustees

**Board of Christian Social Concerns. See** Board of Church and Society

**Board of Church and Society, 954-80**  
 Alcohol and drug abuse, concern for, 971.3  
 Amenability, 974  
 Amendments, 976  
 Annual Conference boards, 978  
 Guidance of Commission on Social Concerns (local

INDEX

**Board of Church and Society, cont'd:**  
 church) 159.4  
 Associate general secretaries, 968.3  
 Authority 956  
 Board of Christian Social Concerns, 963  
 Bylaws, 975  
 Commission on Social Concerns (local church), 159.4, 980  
 Committee on Family Life, 1001.4  
 Council on Ministries, cooperation with, 974  
 District Committee on Church and Society, 979  
 District director of Christian social concerns, 979  
 Divisions, 965-67  
   Of Emerging Social Issues, 970  
   Of General Welfare, 971  
   Of Human Relations, 973  
   Of World Peace, 972  
 Meetings, 966  
 Membership, 965.1  
 Organization, 965.2  
 Responsibilities, 967  
 Executive committee, 960  
 Financial support, 964  
 General secretary, 968.1  
 Headquarters, 969  
 Incorporation of, 954  
 Jurisdictional boards, 977  
 Local church commissions, 159.4, 980  
 Meetings, 962  
 Membership, 957  
 Name, 954  
 Nominating committee, 961

**Board of Church and Society, cont'd:**  
 Officers, 959  
 Organization, 957  
 Predecessor boards, 963  
 President, 959  
 Property, 964.2  
 Purpose, 955  
 Quorum, 962.2  
 Recording secretary, 959  
 Representatives to other agencies, 1409.1  
 Social principles of the Church, pages 83-97  
 Staff treasurer, 968.2  
 Vacancies, 958  
 Vice-presidents, 959-60, 965.2

**Board of Church Location and Building, district, 1413.1, 1414-18**  
 Abandoned local church, 1441  
 Approval of building site, 1436.2  
 Chairperson, 1252.4e  
 Deeding church property, 1440  
 New local church, 142.1, 151.7

**Board of Directors**  
 Board of Pensions, 1255.1f  
 Property in District of Columbia, 1409  
 Wesley Foundation, 1251

**Board of Discipleship, 981-1076**  
 Absence from meetings, 815  
 Annual Conference Board, 163.2c, 1029-30, 1043.4  
 Organizations related to Board of Discipleship, 1031-40,

**Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 1043-44, 1048-53, 1066. For details see individual committee and commission listings  
 Assistant general secretaries, 802.3c  
 Associate general secretaries of divisions, 802.3b, 987.5, 992.2  
 Assumes functions of Boards of Education, Evangelism, the Laity, and Commission on Worship, 982  
 Authority, 988  
 Bylaws, 988.11  
 Camps and conferences, 1034, 1042. See also Camps and conferences  
 Campus ministry. See Section of Campus Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry  
 Chairperson, 807, 988.3  
 Chaplains. See Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries, Board of Higher Education and Ministry  
 Church school publications, 1007, 1014. See also Literature, Church school  
 Colleges. See Board of Higher Education and Ministry  
 Commission on Evangelism (local church), 159.2, 1021.4, 1046  
 Commission on Stewardship (local church), 159.5,

INDEX

**Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 1022.4  
 Commission on Worship, functions assumed by, 982  
 Committee on Family Life, note 21 page 324, 1001.4, 1026  
 Committees. For related Annual Conference and district committees and commissions see individual committee listings  
 Cooperation with other boards and agencies. See the division entries  
 Correspondence courses. See Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Ministerial courses of study  
 Council on Ministries representative, 829.1a  
 Council on Youth Ministry, United Methodist, 1025, 1027.3, 1071-76  
 Courses of study. For details see Courses of study  
 Curriculum, 989-91, 1007-18  
 District organizations, 1041-42, 1045, 1054-65  
 District property for camps and conferences, acquisition, 1042.4  
 Division of Curriculum Resources. See Division of Education, Section on Curriculum Resources  
 Division of Higher Education. See Division

**Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 of Higher Education, Board of Higher Education and Ministry  
 Division of the Local Church. See Division of Education, Section on Local Church Education  
 Division of Stewardship and Finance. See Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship  
 Divisions, 1196  
 Amenability, 985  
 Of Education, 995-1018. For details see Division of Education  
 Financing, 984  
 Organization, 987  
 Of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship, 1019-23. For details see Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship  
 Meetings, 987.2  
 Membership, 987.1, 1197  
 Of Lay Life and Work, 1024-27. For details see Division of Lay Life and Work  
 Officers, 987.3  
 Staff, 987.5  
 Duties, 988  
 Editor of church-school publications, 934, 939-48, 1016  
 Educational program in the local church, 159.1, 160.1  
 Elections, 987.1, 3-5,

**Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 992-93, 1072, 1016  
 Evangelists, 1021.9, 1044  
 Executive committee, 1197-98, 1199  
 Family Life, Committee on, note 21 page 324, 1001.4, 1026  
 Finances, 984, 994  
 Functions, 988  
 Funds, 1021, 1029  
 General secretary, 809, 829.1a, 986, 992.2  
   Assistant, 802.3c  
   Associate, 802.3b, 987.5, 992.2  
 Incorporation, 982  
 Jurisdictional boards, 1028  
 Laity Sunday, 163.2c  
 Lay Leaders, 1051, 1063. See further Lay leader and associate  
 Lay speaker, 1067-70  
   Character, 1068  
   Definition, 1067  
   Reports to Charge Conference, 1070  
   Requirements for, 1069  
 Letter of notification of transfer sent to, 136  
 Local church  
   Commission on Evangelism, 159.2, 1021.4, 1046  
   Commission on Stewardship, 159.5, 1022.4  
   Committee on Finance, 1022.4  
 Meetings, 987.2  
 Membership, 803-6, 810, 813, 815, 818  
 Minister of evangelism, local church, 1047  
 News media, 988.1

INDEX

**Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 Nominating committee, 803.2c-d  
 Officers, 807, 819, 983, 986  
 Organization, 802.2, 983, 988.6  
 Personnel, 819. *See also* Board of Discipleship, Staff  
 Powers and duties, 988  
 President, 803.2c, 807-8  
 Program-Curriculum Committee, 989-94. *For details see* Program-Curriculum Committee  
 Publications, manufactured, published, and distributed through Publishing House, 1014  
 Purpose, 981  
 Quorum, 988.2  
 Racial policies, 817.1, 819.4  
 Relative representation, 818.1  
 Retirement of staff, 817.2  
 Schools. *See* Board of Higher Education and Ministry  
 Schools of theology. *See* Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Schools of theology  
 Secretary, 807  
 Sections. *For individual sections see the division entries*  
 Staff, 802.3, 810-12, 817.2, 819  
 As Successor of corporations, 982  
 Tenure, 811, 813  
 Treasurer, 807, 986  
 United Methodist

**Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 Council on Youth Ministry, 1025, 1027.3, 1071-76  
 United Methodist Men, 160.4, 1025, 1027.3, 1052.2, 1064. *For details see* United Methodist Men  
 United Methodist Youth Ministry. *See* United Methodist Youth Ministry  
*Upper Room, The*, 984  
 Vacancies, 814, 815.1, 816  
 Vice-president, 807  
 Youth Service Fund, 1074-76  
*See also* Agencies, general

**Board of Education. See** Division of Education (Board of Discipleship)

**Board of Evangelism. See** Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship (Board of Discipleship)

**Board of Global Ministries, 1077-1188**  
 Accounting, 842.3-4  
 Administration of a Mission, 1136  
 Advance specials, 850.4, .10, .16, 1088.2b. *See also* Advance  
 Affiliated autonomous church, 640, 646.6  
 Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries, 1172-85. *For details see* Annual Conference Board of Global Ministries

**Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 Annual Conference Board of Health and Welfare Ministries, 1117  
 Annuities, 1088.1, .2a, 1090, 1151  
 Appropriations, 1079.1i, 1088.2, .4, 1090, 1151  
 Approves work of other agencies outside U.S., 1165  
 Assistant and associate general secretary, 802.3, 1082.7, 1086.2-3  
 Associate treasurer, 1086.3  
 Authority, 1078-79, 1089-90, 1170.2  
 Budget, 842.5, 1088.3  
 Bylaws, 1079.1b, 1089  
 Central Conferences, 629.6, 631.31, 1159  
 Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, conference, members on, 1101.2  
 Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service, 1137.2b, .5, .7, 1138-39  
 Committee on Personnel in Mission, 1170.3  
 Committee on Relief, United Methodist, 1141-44  
 Committee on Research and Survey, conference, 1182  
 Committee on Town and Country Ministries, 1184.2  
 Committee on Urban Ministries, 1184.1  
 Conference overseas de-

INDEX

**Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 siring to be affiliated, 647.6  
 Constitution, 1080-84  
 Cooperation with other agencies, 1079.1l-m, .2  
 Corporate officers, 807, 1085  
 Council on Ministries, representation on, 829.1a  
 Crusade Scholarship Committee, 1166-69  
 Deaconess work. *See* Deaconess  
 Department of Deaconess/Home Missionary Service, 1140.1-2  
 Development Fund, United Methodist, 1124.15  
 District organization, 1186-88  
 District mission structures, 851.14, 1128-29  
 District missionary institute, 1187  
 District missionary secretary, 1186  
 District secretary of town and country ministries, 1188  
 District United Methodist Women, 1155  
 Divisions, 1084  
 Authority, 1084.2, 1090  
 Budget, 1088.3  
 Bylaws, 1090  
 Income, 1088.2, 1090  
 Officers, 1085.2  
 Organization, 1084.2  
 Staff, 1086.2, 1087.1, .2b  
*See also individual division listings*

**Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 Elected staff, 1079.1f, 1086.1  
 Endowments, 1088  
 Executive committee, 1083  
 Finances, 631.31, 1079-1h-i, 1088-89, 1144.2, 1151  
 Foreign missions. *See* World Division  
 Functions, 1077-79  
 Funds, 1088  
 General Conference, 1080.1k, 1081.4  
 General executive committee, 1083  
 General secretary, 809, 829.1a, 1082.7, 1086.3  
 Golden Cross, 1118-22  
 Goodwill Industries, 1124.18  
 Home missions. *See* National Division  
 Incorporation, 1081  
 Jurisdictional boards, 1171  
 Liaison committee, 1159  
 Loan fund, 1127  
 Local church organization. *See* Commission on Missions (local church); United Methodist Women, local church  
 Membership, 803-4, 813, 818.1, 1082  
 Metropolitan Commission, 1135  
 Mission, 636-38, 650-51, 658-59, 1136, 1162. *See also* Missions  
 Missionaries, 1163-64, 1170.2a, .3-.6. *See also* Missionary  
 Missionary Conference, supervision of, 654,

**Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 655.2, 656  
 National Division, 1123-36. *For details see* National Division; *see also* Board of Global Ministries, Divisions  
 Objectives, 1079.1a, d  
 Office of Missionary Personnel, 1170.4-.6  
 Officers, 807, 1085  
 Organization, 1079.1b, 1082.5  
 Organizational responsibilities, 1079  
 Personnel, 819, 1087, 1170. *See also* Board of Global Ministries, Staff  
 Powers, 1078-79, 1089-90  
 President, 807, 1083, 1085, 1086.3  
 Program-Curriculum Committee, membership on, 992.2  
 Property, 843.2, 1088-89  
 Provisional Annual Conferences, 647-53  
 Provisional Central Conference, authority between General Conferences, 635, 637  
 Racial policy, 817.1, 823, 1078.2, .5, 1087  
 Recommendations by, 656  
 Recommendations to, 1138.1, 1139.3, 1124.12  
 Relief. *See* Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Committee on Relief  
 Reports by, 842.3, 1079.1k  
 Reports to, 649, 655.2,

INDEX

**Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 1124.11, 1158.7  
 Retirement, 817.2  
 Special gifts, 848-50, 1088.2. *See also* Advance  
 Staff, 802.3, 810-12, 817.2, 819, 1087  
 As successor to corporations, 1081.2-.3  
 Support, 1079.1i, 1088-89, 1148.4. *See also* Advance; World Service  
 Tenure, 811, 813  
 Treasurer, 807, 1082.7, 1085, 1086.3  
 United Methodist Committee on Relief, 1141-44. *For details see* United Methodist Committee on Relief  
 United Methodist Development Fund, 1124.15  
 United Methodist Women, 1153-56. *See further* United Methodist Women  
 Vacancies, 816, 1085.2  
 Vice-presidents, 807, 1085  
 Women, staff participation of, 1087.2  
 Women's Division, 1082.2, 1145-56. *For details see* Women's Division  
 World Division, 1157-65. *For details see* World Division  
*See also* Agencies, general

**Board of Health and Welfare. See** Division of Health and Welfare (Board of Global Min-

**Board of Health and Welfare, cont'd:**  
 istries)

**Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1189-1253**  
 Advisory relationship to all church educational institutions, 1195.2  
 Annual Conference Committee on Higher Education and Ministry, 1249-53. *For details see* Committee on Higher Education and Ministry, Annual Conference  
 Area/regional Committee/Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1252.3-.4  
 Associate general secretaries, 1212.2, 1222.1  
 Board of Discipleship, cooperation with, 1235  
 Campus-Church Relations Committee, 1206.2-.3  
 Career development, 1221.1  
 Chaplains, responsibility for, 1235. *See also* Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries  
 Christian Educators Fellowship, cooperation with, 1241.7  
 Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1252.2  
 Commission on Education Conference, 1206.3, 1228

**Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
 Local church, 1205.1. *See also* Commission on Education (local church)  
 Commission on Enlistment for Church Occupations, conference, cooperation with, 1228  
 Committee on Campus Religious Life, 1206.2  
 Committee/Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1205.1, 1228, 1252.3-.4  
 Committees on Education, recommendations to, 1198.4  
 Committees on the Lay Worker, conference, relation to, 1241.4  
 Continuing education, 1221.1  
 Cooperation with Annual Conferences, 1196.2-.7, 1198.3-.6, 1200.2, 1203, 1205, 1210.3, 1224.4, 1225.5, .9, 1244-45  
 Council of Bishops, cooperation with, 1238  
 Council on Finance and Administration, provides funds for, 1222.1  
 Courses of study. *See* Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Ministerial courses of study  
 Crusade Scholarship program, participation in, 1202.3, 1225.11  
 Directors of Christian

**Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
 education and music consecrated as lay workers, 1253.3  
 Divisions, 1194, 1195-1210, 1221-1230, 1234-1241  
 Of Chaplains and Related Ministries, 1234-38  
 Of Higher Education, 1195-1210  
 Of Lay Ministries, 1239-41  
 Of the Ordained Ministry, 1221-30  
*For details see individual division listings*  
 Educational societies and foundations, 1203  
 Educational standards, maintenance of, 1225.2  
 Executive secretary  
 Office of Personnel, 1247  
 University Senate, 1212.2, 1219  
 Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians, cooperation with, 1241.7  
 Function, 1191, 1195.2  
 General Conference, reports to, 1224.9, 1240.9, 1241.2  
 General secretary, 1222.1  
 Higher education, responsible for policy, 1195.2  
 In-service training of ministers, 1224.5  
 Investments, 1198.5-.6  
 Jurisdictional boards,

**Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
 1248  
 Lay ministry, 1239-41  
 Membership, 803-5, 818.1, 1193, 1212.1, 1221.2, 1236. *See also* Agencies, general  
 Ministerial courses of study, 1224.3, 1225.7, 1226  
 Ministerial Education Fund, 1222, 1225.8, 1231.3  
 Ministerial ethics and moral principles, 1224.6  
 Ministerial recruitment from minority groups, 1224.8  
 Ministry Sunday, 1230  
 Music, 1241.1, A. *See also* Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians  
 National Commission of United Methodists in Higher Education, representation on, 1205.2  
 National Council of Churches, representation on, 1205.2  
 National Staff of United Methodists in Higher Education, representation on, 1205.2  
 Negro education, 1196.6, 1201  
 Nominating committee, 1221.2  
 Objectives, 1195.3  
 Office of Personnel, 1242-47. *For details see* Office of Personnel  
 Organization, 803-4, 1193-94

**Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
 Personnel Information System, 1242.8  
 Placement information service, 1241.10  
 Program-Curriculum Committee, cooperation with, 1241.12  
 Purpose, 1190-91, 1204.2, 1224, 1235, 1240  
 Racial policy, 817.1, 823  
 Reports from, 1196.8  
 Reports to, 1203, 1208.2  
 Responsibilities, 1196, 1205, 1225, 1239, 1241, 1242  
 Schools of theology, 1221.1, 1225.1, 1227-29, 1231-33. *For details see* Schools of theology  
 Sections, 1195.4, 1197  
 Of Campus Ministry, 1204-10  
 Of Loans and Scholarships, 1202  
 Of Schools, Colleges and Universities, 1197-1201  
 Standards for ministers, directors, and associates of Christian education and music, 1253.1  
 Subcommittee on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1252.1  
 As successor to former boards, 1192  
 Support, 1222.1  
 United Methodist Scholarship Fund, 1202.1  
 United Methodist Student Day, 1202.2

INDEX

INDEX

**Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
 United Methodist Student Loan Fund, 1202.1  
 United Ministries in Higher Education Commission, 1252.5  
 University Senate, 1199, 1211-20. *For details see* University Senate  
 Vacancies, 816  
 Wesley Foundation, 1207-9, 1251. *For details see* Wesley Foundation  
 World Communion offering, share of, 163.1b, 1237  
 World Student Christian Federation, 1210  
 Young Adult Ministry, 1204.1  
*See also* Agencies, general

**Board of the Laity. See** Division of Lay Life and Work (Board of Discipleship)

**Board of the Ministry, 665.4-17**  
 Admission of preachers, 665.5h  
 Into associate membership of an Annual Conference, 323-24  
 Into full connection, 331-35  
 From other churches, 376-81, 665.5h  
 Into probationary membership, 325-26  
*For details see* Admission of preachers  
 Amenability, 665.16-17

**Board of the Ministry, cont'd:**  
 Chairperson, 665.4b, .25  
 Committee on Enrollment for Church Occupations, 665.6, 666  
 Committee on the Lay Worker, membership on, 667.1  
 Disability leave, recommendation for, 357.1-2, 665.5h  
 District Committee on the Ministry, 665.4d, .17-23. *See also* Committee on the Ministry, district  
 Division of the Ordained Ministry, 665.4c, .5i, .5m  
 Certification of course offerings, 1227  
 Cooperation with, 1224.4, 1225.5, 1226.3, 1228-29  
 Representation in division, 1221.2  
*See also* Division of the Ordained Ministry  
 Duties, 665.5  
 Examination of candidates, 319, 665.4  
 Joint Committee on Disability, members on, 665.25  
 Lay pastor, 338, 340, 344, 346-48, 349.4-5, 665.8-10, 20  
 License to preach, 318-20. *See also* License to preach  
 Loan fund, 665.7  
 Meetings, 665.4c  
 Membership, 322.3, 325.3, 665.4a  
 Ministerial conduct, inquiry into, 663.5

**Board of the Ministry, cont'd:**  
 Ministerial Education Fund, 665.5l  
 Ministerial recruitment, 665.5b, f, 6  
 Ministerial students, 665.5b-e  
 Officers, 665.4b  
 Pastors' schools, 1226.3  
 Probationary members of Annual Conference, 325-26, 328.2e, 329, 330.2-3, .6, 333, 665.10-11.  
 Recommendations by, 347, 353, 357.1, 358-59, 364, 366, 367.2, 368-69, 372-74, 376.2, 4-5, 665.5k  
 Recommendations to, 665.20, 25d  
 Records, 665.5b, .9, .13-15  
 Registrar, 665.13-15, 25  
 Reports by, 370, 665.5h, 8-10, .14  
 Reports to, 353, 390.7, 665.5d, .15  
 Schools of theology, cooperation with, 1233  
 Seminary loan fund, 665.7  
 Vacancies, 665.4a

**Board of Missions. See** Board of Global Ministries

**Board of Pensions, 1254-63**  
 Annual Conference administration, 1259-61  
 Annuity rate determined by Annual Conference, 1259.7  
 Endowment funds, administration of,

**Board of Pensions, cont'd:**  
 1257.4  
 Funds, financial administration of, 1262  
 Organizations, 1261  
 Annual Conference board, 1260. *For details see* Annual Conference Board of Pensions  
 Appropriations, distribution of, 1257.9  
 Authorizations, general, 1257  
 Auxiliary offices, 1254.3  
 Benefit funds, plans, and programs administered by, 1257.2-.3, .12  
 Benefits, changes in, 1257.1  
 Bequests, 1257.6-.7  
 Board of Directors, 1255.1f  
 Board of Global Ministries, consultation with, 1257.12  
 Chartered Fund, 1258.1  
 Clearinghouse for allocation of pension responsibility, 390.7, 1257.11  
 Committee on Rules and Regulations, 1256.3  
 Conference claimants, Publishing House income distributed to, 921-22, 1257.9  
 Corporations, 1254.1, 1256.1-2  
 Devises, 1257.6-.7  
 Disability leave, review of medical evidence for, 357.3  
 Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries, consultation

INDEX

**Board of Pensions, cont'd:**  
 with, 1257.12  
 Endowment funds, 1257.4  
 Executive committee, 1256.2  
 General Conference, revisions of Discipline presented to, 1256.3  
 General Endowment Fund for Conference Claimants, 1258.2  
 General secretary, 1255.1c, f, 1256.1  
 Gifts, 1257.6-.7  
 Incorporation, 1254.1  
 Joint Committee on Disability, ministerial member on, 665.25  
 Joint Distributing Committee, 1263  
 Lay Workers included in retirement plans, 507  
 Meetings, 1255.2  
 Membership, 1255.1  
 Minister not required to contribute to more than one pension program, 1261.4f  
 Ministers Reserve Pension Fund, 357.3-4, 665.25e, 1257.12  
 Officers, 1256.1  
 Offices, 1254.1  
 Organization, 1255-56  
 Pension funds and plans administered by, 1257.2-3, .12  
 Pension manual, 1257.13  
 Permanent funds, 1258  
 Powers, 1257  
 Quorum, 1255.3  
 Recommendations to, 665.25c-d  
 Reports to, 357.5, 390.7, 1260.5, 1263.3b, d  
 Retired bishops, con-

**Board of Pensions, cont'd:**  
 tributary reserve pension fund for, 862.1  
 Retired Ministers Day, 1261.5  
 Service records, 1257.10  
 As successor to boards, 1254.1  
 Vacancies, 1255.1e, 1256.1  
 World service budget, share in, 1257.7

**Board of Publication, 907-53**  
 Annual Conference committee, 953  
 Authority, 907, 912, 915, 920, 924, 931, 945  
 Bishops as ex officio members, 912  
 Bonding of corporate officers, 932  
 Book editor, 934-37  
 Church school publications, 939-48  
 Committee on Publishing Interests, 953  
 Corporations, 915-17, 923-26  
 Officers, 927-33  
 Racial policies, 817.1, 917  
 Direction of United Methodist Publishing House, 920, 924  
 District secretary of publishing interests, 953.1  
 Division of Education, Board of Discipleship, 943, 946  
 Division of Higher Education exempt from publishing provisions, 975  
 Editor of church school publications, 939-43, 946, 1016-17

INDEX

**Board of Publication, cont'd:**  
 Executive committee, 909, 912-13, 930, 952  
 Financial concerns, 921-22, 924.1, 925-26, 930, 943  
 Evangelical Press, 926  
 Illinois corporation, 925  
 Legal obligations to be met, 924.2  
 Otterbein Press, 926  
 Meetings, 909, 951  
 Membership, 908, 912  
 Methodist Publishing House. *See* United Methodist Publishing House, The  
 Objectives, 907, 919  
 Officers, 911-12, 933  
 Organization, 908  
 Periodicals and editors thereof  
   General church, 938  
   *Religion in Life*, 934-35  
 Powers and duties, 907, 913-15, 920, 924-25, 931, 933, 937, 938.6, 945  
 President. *See* Board of Publication, Publisher of The United Methodist Church  
 Printing for church agencies, 950  
 Publisher of The United Methodist Church, 908, 912, 920, 928-33, 941, 945, 1018.  
*For details see* Publisher  
 Quorum, 909  
 Real estate and buildings, 924.1, 925.1-2, 951-52  
 Refusal to publish literature, 945

**Board of Publication, cont'd:**  
 Reports by, 910, 918  
 Salaries, 929, 936, 938.5, 942  
 Section on Curriculum  
   Resources, cooperation with, 1014-15, 1018  
 Section on Local Church Education exempt from publishing provisions, 948  
 Vacancies, 908, 912  
**Board of Stewards, district, 872**  
 District Board of Trustees, election of, 1413.2  
 District parsonage, distribution of cost, 1413.2  
**Board of Trustees**  
 Amenability, 1412  
 Annual Conference board, 1410-12  
 Episcopal residence, management of, 1411  
 Subcommittee on Camps and Conference, representation on, 1034.2  
 Of a corporation, synonymous with "Board of Directors," 1424.4  
 District board, 1413.2, 3  
   Committee on Camps and Conferences, member on, 1042.3  
 Division of Health and Welfare, nominations for members on, 1111, 1117.3  
 Local church board, 1413.2, 1419-28  
   Charge Conference,

**Board of Trustees, cont'd:**  
   reports to, 1442  
   For the charge as a whole, 1422  
   Deeding church property, 1440  
   Election of, 1421.1  
   Functions of, 1427  
   Limitations, 1427  
   Loan for purchase of property or for building, 1436.9-11  
   Meetings, 1424.1, 1426  
   Membership, 1419-20  
   Officers, 1424.2-3  
   Organization of, 1424  
   Property titles, local church, 1428, 1430, 1440  
   Quorum, 1426  
   Reports by, 1442  
   Vacancies, 1425.3  
*See also* Local church, Property; Trustees, Local church  
 Methodist Corporation, The, 1409  
 Pastor notifies board of gifts, etc., 1410.4  
*See also* Trustees  
**Boards. See individual board listings**  
**Boehm, Martin, pages 11-12**  
**Bond, 845, 867, 881, 932, 1260.7**  
   Bonding, 1260.7-.8, 1408  
   Cost of, 881  
   Treasurer, conference, 879-81  
**Bonus (as ministerial compensation), 892.5, 1260.6f**  
**Book agents of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 915.1**

INDEX

**Book editor, 934, 935-37**  
**Book of Discipline, The, pages v-vi, 350.4, 354.11, 609, 631.21-22**  
**Book of Worship for Church and Home, The, 1023.6**  
**Borrowing funds**  
   Annual Conference, 622.2, 876  
   Central Conference, 631.31  
   Local church, 1436.4e, 9-11. *See also* Debts; Local church  
**Boundaries, 42-46**  
   Annual Conferences, etc., within Central Conferences, 631.11, 1703.9a-c  
   Annual Conferences, etc., within jurisdictions, 26.4, 45, 615.4, 1703.9a-c  
   Central Conferences, 27, 43  
   Circuits, 393  
   Distribution of equities when changed, 1411, 1413.3, 1422.3  
   Districts, 390.3, 1413.3  
   Episcopal areas, 624.3, 631.6  
   Jurisdictions, 15.12, 26.4 42.1, 44  
**Broadcasting and Film Commission (National Council of Churches), 831.5, 833**  
**Budget**  
   Agencies, general, 842.4-.5, 843.6, 846.1-2, 847.4. *See also*

**Budget, cont'd:**  
   *under names of agencies*  
   Church school publications, 1017  
   Conference benevolence, 866, 868.2-.3, 869-71, 878  
   Episcopal, 842.1-2c, 844, 859  
   General administration, 842.2b, 844, 853.1-2, 875  
   Interdenominational cooperation, 842.2d, 854  
   Local church, 162.3, 1022.7  
   One Great Hour of Sharing, 842.1, 851.1f  
   World service, 842.1b, 842.2a, 844, 847.1, 1257.8  
   World service and conference benevolence, 847, 868.2-.3, 869-70  
**Building**  
   Abandoned, 1441.4  
   Agencies, general, 843.1-2, 846.3  
   Board of Global Ministries, Annual Conference, 1089  
   Board of Publication, 951-52  
   Camp, 999.1, 1000.5, 1042.2-4, 1422.1  
   Charge Conference authority, 1431, 1432.1-2, 1436.3, 1442.5  
   Church school, 151.7, 1000.6, 1416.1, 1436.  
   City (metropolitan) or district missionary society, 1128, 1415.2  
   Committee, local church, 1436.3-.7  
   Construction, 1436.10

**Building, cont'd:**  
   Dedication of, 1437  
   Disabilities, planning for persons with, 1436.4c  
   District Board of Church Location and Building, 1414-17, 1436.2, 1437.5  
   Episcopal residence, 1411  
   Financing, 951-52, 1436  
   Fund, 1409.3, 1410.2-.5, 1436.10  
   Insurance, 1441.1  
   Location, 1415.1. *See further* Board of Church Location and Building, district  
   Maintenance, 1423.2  
   Metropolitan Commission, 1135, 1415.2  
   Mortgage, 1432-35  
   National Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1124.5, 1435.2  
   Parking facilities, 1415  
   Parsonage, district, 1413.1  
   Purchase, 843.1, 951, 1437.10  
   Remodeling, 951  
   Sale, 951  
   Site, 1436.2  
   United Methodist Publishing House, 951-52  
   Use of, 1403.1-4  
   *See also* Property; Board of Trustees  
**Burial of the dead**  
   Duty of pastor, 350.6  
   Report of, 135, 358, 664.3h  
**Business manager, church, 149**

INDEX

C

**Cabinet**

Appointment of preachers, 390.4, 391.1-2, .5, .6

Board of Discipleship, Annual Conference, Consultation with, 1032.1

Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Annual Conference, representatives to, 1252.2

Committee on Enrollment for Church Occupations, member of, 666.1

Counseling elder, assignment of, 353

Election by, 1032.1, 1036

New local church, consent required for, 142.1

Recommendation of candidates for probationary membership, Annual Conference, 324.5, 328.2e

Recommendations to, 665.25d

**Camps and conferences**

Conference subcommittee on, 1034.2

Directors, 1034.2

District committee on, 1042

Local church, 1042.2b, d

Property, 1042.3-4

**Campus-Church Relations Committee, 1206.2-.3**

**Campus ministry, 159.1,**

**Campus ministry, cont'd:**  
1252.2. *See also* Section of Campus Ministry; Wesley Foundation

**Candidates**

For church membership, 107-24

For deaconess, 1137.1

For local preacher's license, 318-21

For ministry, 318

For missionary service, 1137, 1163-64

**Capital punishment, opposition to, page 95**

**Card index for church membership, 133.1-2**

**Cemetery, abandoned, 354.12a**

**Central Conference, 9, 27-30, 43, 51, 629-33**

Actions of boards or agencies, appeals legality of, 1509-10

Adaptation of General Conference legislation, 1510

Adaptation to local needs, authority for, 631.9-.10

Adjourned sessions, 630.3

Agencies, administrative, 631.1

Annual Conference Amenable to, 631.1, 631.11-.14

Election of members to, 630.1-2

Minimum number of members, 629.2, 630.1

Appeals, judicial, 630.5, 1508-12. *See also* Appeal, judicial

Assignment of bishops

Appeals, judicial, 630.5, 1508-12. *See also* Appeal, judicial

Assignment of bishops

Appeals, judicial, 630.5, 1508-12. *See also* Appeal, judicial

Assignment of bishops

**Central Conference,**

*cont'd:*  
in, 30.2, 31-35, 399, 400.3, 630.4, 631.6

Associate church membership, 631.8

Authorization, 27-30, 629.1-2

Bishop, 30.2, 31-35, 51, 53-54, 383-85, 397.2, 399, 400.3, 630.2-4, 631.1-7, .17

Amenable to, 1539.1

Appeal of, 1530.2

Presides over, 390.2

*See also* bishop

Board of Global Ministries, liaison functions with, 630.6, 1159.1

Boundaries, 43, 631.11

Called session, 630.3

Church name, authority to translate, 822.1

Committee on Women's Work, 631.15

Committees, 630.1-.3, 630.6, 631.27

Constitutionality of acts, 1508

Council of Bishops, visits from members of, 630.4

Courses of study, power to prescribe, 631.20

Debts, 631.31

Declaratory decisions, petition for, 1515.2

Delegates, 14, 28, 38-40, 629.2, 630.1

Discipline, authority to publish, 631.21, .33

Ecumenical negotiations, authority to maintain, 631.26

Election of bishops from among traveling elders, 631.2

Enabling legislation,

INDEX

**Central Conference,**

*cont'd:*  
page 555

Episcopal administration in, 31-35

Episcopal areas, 631.6

Episcopal Fund, 631.4-.5. *See also* Episcopal Fund

*Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche*, authority to use name, 822.1

Executive committee, 630.2-.3, .6, 631.27

Expenses, 630.1

Financial obligations, 631.31

General Conference Authority of, 15.3; .10, 30.2, .5, 629.1

Legislation, effective date of, 631.21-22

Organized by, 629

Interdenominational relations, 631.1, .25, .26

Investigation and trial of members, 631.17.

*See also* Trials

Journals, 630.7, 631.14

Judicial administration, 631.17, 1539.9

Local governments, recognition of, 631.23-24, .27

Maintenance of work, estimates for, 1160-61

Marriage rules, 631.19

Meetings, 630.2-.3

Membership, 629.2

Missionary Conferences amenable to, 631.1, .11, .14

Missions amenable to, 631.1, .11, .14

Number of bishops, prohibited from determining, 631.8

Officers, 631.1, .8

**Central Conference,**

*cont'd:*  
Organization, 630

Powers and duties, 631

Presiding officer, 630.3, .5

Property, 631.27-.31

Proportionate representation, rule of, 630.9

Provisional Annual Conferences in, 629.1, 630.1, .2, 647-48

Provisional Central Conference, 629.1, 630.4, 632-34

Questions of law, decisions on, 1511-12

Records, 630.7, 631.14

Reports to, 631.4, 664.1

Rights of appeal of members, 631.17

Ritual, adaptation of to local situation, 631.18-.19

Rules, 630.5

Secretary reports to General Conference secretary, 631.7

Trials, 631.17, 1539.9, 1540.5

Women's unit, 631.16

World Federation of Methodist Women, member of, 631.15

**Certificate**

Baptism, 121

Bishop's resignation, 395.2

Election to General Conference, 601

Lay speaker, 145.8

Location, 367

Medical, 357.2-4

Membership, 138, 1534. *See also* Certificate, Transfer

Organization of new

**Certificate, cont'd:**

local church, 662.10

Recognition of Ministerial orders, 379-80

Supernumerary minister, 358

Transfer, 138-41. *See also* Letter of notification.

Withdrawal from membership, 141

**Certification Council, 1110.5**

**Chancellor, 661.7**

**Chaplain**

Military personnel, membership records, 117

Pension, 1259.4c, .8

Receiving persons into church membership, 116

*See also* Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries

**Character**

Arrest of, 391.10

Elder, 665.8b

Lay church member, 69.2 (pages 66-68), 115.1, 631.12, 636

Lay pastor, 665.8

Lay speaker, 145.9

Local preacher, 665.19

Located minister, 367.1, .2, 662.4

Minister, 306, 662.4, 663.5

Preacher on trial, 325

Retired minister, 365

Student in school of theology, 665.8e

Supernumerary minister, 358

INDEX

Charge Administrative Board, 145.11

Charge Conference, 11, 48-49, 144-47

Administrative Board Amenable to, 148

Commitment of duties to, 151.6

Executive agency, 151

Implementation of proposals, 145.2

Members at large, 145.3b, 146.3

Supervision of, 145.1

Advance specials. *See* Advance

Annual Conference lay members elected by Charge Conference, 145.3a, 146.1

Appointed staff (local church), salary set by, 145.9

Benevolences, 145.10

Board of Trustees, annual report from, 144.2

Building committee, 1436.3, 7

Candidates for church-related vocations, 145.6

Candidates for the ministry, 145.4

Charge Administrative Board, 145.11

Church Conference, 147

Church member, withdrawal under complaints, 156.0

Church services, consent required for discontinuance of, 351.2

Circuit, 106.2

Committee on Finance elected by, 145.3d,

Charge Conference, *cont'd:*

161.3

Committee on Lay Speaking, district, recommendations to, 145.8

Committee on the Lay Worker, reports to, 145.7

Committee on Nominations and Personnel, charge, 145.3, .13, 162.1

Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations elected by, 145.3c, 162.2

Deaconesses, recommending candidates, 1170.2a

Decisions on questions of law, 354.11

Definition, 106.1, 144.1

District property, 1413.1

District superintendent, 144.3-.4, .6, 145.9-.10, 147

Presides over, 354.2

Duties, 145, 154

Elections by, 49, 145.3, 145.12

Honorary members, 146.7

Joint Charge Conference, 144.8

Joint Church Conference, 147

Lay leader, 145.3a, 152.1

Lay pastor

Ineligible as lay member or alternate, 146.1

Investigation of, 155.0

License renewal, 145.5

Member of Charge Conference, 341

Charge Conference, *cont'd:*

Withdrawal under complaints, 155.2

Lay speaker recommended by, 145.8

Lay worker, 145.7, 502.1, 506

License to preach, recommendation for, 318

Meetings, 144.1, .3, 7

Members, removal of, 129.4, 131.3

Membership, 144.2

Merger, plan of, 1438

Minutes, 146.2

Newly organized church, privilege of Annual Conference representation, 146.1

Organization of, 144.1

Parish, 106.3

Pastoral charge, 106.1

Pastor's salary, 145.9

Powers and duties, 145, 1423

President, 144.4

Property, authority concerning, 1429, 1431-33, 1532

Quorum, 144.5

Recommendations by, 145.4-.6, .8

Recommendations to, 151.3d

Recording secretary, 145.3a, 146.2

Renewal of lay pastor's license, 145.5

Reports by, 145.7

Reports to, 132, 135, 140, 162.3, 345, 358, 365, 1070

Responsibility, primary, 145.2

Secretary of enlistment, 145.3a, 146.5

Special sessions, 144.6

Charge Conference, *cont'd:*

Superintendent of study program, 145.3a, 152.3, 670.1

Terms of office, limitations to, 145.6

Transfer of local church, vote on, 668

Treasurer, 145.3a, 149

Charge, 145.12

Local church, 145.3a

Trial Court, selection of, 1556

Trial records, 1528.3

Trustees elected by, for new local church, 142.7, 145.3f

Work area chairpersons elected by, 145.3a, 158

Charges (against accused person). *See* Trials, Charges

Charter, corporate

Agencies, general, 982, 1089-90

*See also* Incorporation

Children, 120-24

Annuity claims, 858.4, 862.1-2, 1254.1

Baptism, 120-23

Certificate of Baptism, 121

Child-care agencies, 157.1, 1124.17

Children's Day, 163.5c

Children's Division, 995. *See also* Church school

Choirs, 157.1

Christian education of, 124, 989, 991, 995, 998.2

Confirmation classes, 124, 991

Coordinator of chil-

INDEX

Children, *cont'd:*

dren's ministries, 156.1

Ministries to children Annual Conference, 831.6

Local church, 124, 156.1, 157.1

Organizations, children-serving, 159.1, 160.1-2

Parents, duties toward, 120, 124

Pastor, duties toward, 120-24

Preparatory membership roll, 122-23

Reception into church, 124, 131.4

Children's Council, 157.1

*Christian Advocate*, 938.2, 4-6

*Christian education*

Commission/Committee on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, 1252.1-4

Program of. *See* Board of Discipleship; Church school

Sunday, 163c, 1033.2

Week, 1033.2

*Christian social concerns*, pages 83-84, 159.4, 980.

*See also* Board of Church and Society

Church and Community Committee, 1183.1; 2

Church Conference, 147.

*See also* Church Local Conference; Constituting Church Conference

Church extension

Advance specials, 850.14

Allocation of fields, 1440.2

Annual Conference program, 662.10, 850.14, 1124.13, 1181.1

Applications for aid, 1134, 1181.6

Bishop's authority, 142.1, 1181.1-5

Board of Church Location and Building, 142.1, 1181.6-7, 1414.

*See further* Board of Church Location and Building, district

Board of Global Ministries, Annual Conference, 1124.13

Certificate of organization, 662.10

City (metropolitan) and district missionary structures, 1128-35

Comity agreements, 1440.2

Commission on Town and Country Ministries, 1184.3

Committee on Parish and Community Development, 1185

Committee on Town and Country Ministries, 1184.2a

Committee on Urban Ministries, 1184.1a

District superintendent, 142, 1181.1, .3, .5

Donations for building, 1124.13, 1181.6, 7

Endowments, 1124.13

Home missions and church extension, 1181

INDEX

**Church extension, cont'd:**

Loan funds, 1124.13,  
1181.6-7, 1433-34,  
1436.9-10  
Local church program,  
142.1, 151.7  
Location, 142.1,  
1128.3c, 1134, 1181.1,  
1415.1, 1436.2  
Metropolitan Commis-  
sion, 1135  
Mortgages, 1089, 1423.2,  
1432-35  
National Division,  
Board of Global  
Ministries, 1123-44  
Organizing a local  
church, 142, 662.10  
Surveys, 142.1, 1181.2-.3,  
1182, 1183.2a

**Church Local Conference,**  
1421, 1424.2

**Church name, page 17,**  
822.1

**Church property, 1401-45.**  
*See also* Annual Con-  
ference, Property;  
Board of Trustees;  
District property;  
Local church, Property;  
Trustees

**Church school, 153, 160.1,**  
999.1. *See also* Annual  
Conference, Committee  
on Education; Section  
on Local Church Edu-  
cation and Section on  
Curriculum Resources;  
Local Church, Commis-  
sion on Education and  
Council on Ministries

**Church union, pages 16-**  
17, 1

**Circuit, 106.2, 142.7, 393**

**City, metropolitan and  
district missionary  
structures, 1128**  
Annual Conference  
promotion of, 1128.3  
Finances, 1129  
Metropolitan Commis-  
sion, 1135  
New local church or  
mission, site of, 142.1

**Civil government, page 65**

**Civil obedience and civil  
law, page 94**

**Coke, Thomas, page 9**

**Collective bargaining,**  
page 91

**College. See** Board of  
Higher Education and  
Ministry

**College of Bishops**

Called session, Jurisdic-  
tional or Central  
Conference, 621.2, .3  
Charges against bishop,  
president receives  
copy of, 1539.2  
Committee on Episco-  
pacy, jurisdictional,  
consultations with,  
624.3  
Disability of bishop,  
395.3, 396.4, 863  
Elections by, 621.2,  
803.3, 818.1d, 841.1,  
908, 983, 1032.1,  
1212.1  
Jurisdictional Confer-  
ence, special session  
of, 621.2  
President, 396.3-4

**College of Bishops, cont'd:**

Recommendations by,  
386-87  
Relative representa-  
tion on agencies,  
power to act on  
application of, 818.9  
Relieved bishop, notifi-  
cation of treasurer  
of Episcopal Fund,  
864  
Retirement of bishop,  
395  
Sabbatical leave of  
bishop, 387  
Special assignment of  
bishop, 386  
Vacancies filled by,  
816, 958, 1113

**Comity agreement, 631.25**

**Commission**

Annual Conference,  
663.4, 664.3b, 665.1,  
.3. *See also* Agencies,  
Annual Conference.  
*For individual com-  
missions see individ-  
ual commission list-  
ings*  
Chairperson, local  
church, 145.3a, 155  
Quadrennial, 1281-82

**Commission on Archives  
and History, 1264-77**

Annual Conference  
commission, 1277,  
1280.2, .3  
Annual Conference  
Historical Society,  
1273.1, .2  
Archives, 1274  
Church historian,  
1277.3  
Committee on Historic  
Shrines and Land-  
marks, 1275

INDEX

**Commission on Archives  
and History, cont'd:**

Committee on Records  
and History, 162.4  
Deposits in archives,  
1274.2  
Executive committee,  
1271, 1274.2k  
Executive secretary,  
1270-71  
Expenses of, 853  
Finances, 1272  
Historic shrines, land-  
marks, and sites, 1275  
Historical Convoca-  
tion, 1273.3  
Historical Society, 1273  
Incorporation, 1265  
International Method-  
ist Historical Society,  
1266.1  
Jurisdictional commis-  
sion, 1276  
Meetings, 1268  
Membership, 1267  
Officers, 1269  
Official historical  
agency, 1264  
Purpose, 1266  
Quorum, 1268  
Responsibility for  
established archives  
and libraries, 1266.2  
Staff, 1270  
Vacancies, 1267.1  
World Methodist  
Council, cooperation  
with, 1266.1

**Commission on Chaplains  
and Related Ministries.**

*Functions assumed by  
Board of Higher Edu-  
cation and Ministry.*  
*See* Division of Chap-  
lains and Related Min-  
istries

**Commission on Christian  
Higher Education and  
Campus Ministry,  
Annual Conference,**  
1252.2

**Commission on Ecumeni-  
cal Affairs. Functions  
assumed by** Board of  
Global Ministries. *See*  
Division on Ecumenical  
and Interreligious Con-  
cerns

**Commission on Educa-  
tion (local church),**  
159.1

Annual Conference  
Committee on Edu-  
cation, gives leader-  
ship to, 1032.2

Committee/Commis-  
sion on Christian  
Higher Education  
and Campus Minis-  
try, assistance to,  
1252.4e

Division of Higher  
Education, coopera-  
tion with, 1200.2

**Commission on Enlist-  
ment for Church  
Occupations, Annual  
Conference, 666, 1228**

**Commission on Evan-  
gelism (local church),**  
159.2, 1046

**Commission on Equitable  
Salaries, Annual Con-  
ference, 892**

**Commission on Missions  
(local church), 159.3**

**Commission on Public  
Relations and Meth-  
odist Information.**  
*Functions assumed by  
Joint Committee on  
Communications, 906*

**Commission on Religion  
and Race, 1278-80**

**Commission on Social  
Concerns (local  
church), 159.4**

**Commission on the Status  
and Role of Women,**  
1282

**Commission on Steward-  
ship (local church),**  
159.5

**Commission on Town  
and Country Ministries,**  
1184.3, 1443

**Commission on World  
Service and Finance,  
Annual Conference.**  
*See* Council on Finance  
and Administration,  
Annual Conference

**Commission on Worship.**  
*Functions assumed by  
Board of Discipleship.*  
*See* Division of Evan-  
gelism, Worship and  
Stewardship

**Commissions, standing,**  
1264-80 (Commission  
on Archives and His-  
tory, Commission on  
Religion and Race;  
*for details see indi-  
vidual commission  
listings*)

INDEX

Committee, building  
(local church), 1427,  
1436

Committee, Campus-  
Church Relations,  
1206.3

Committee, Curriculum,  
989-94. *For details see*  
Program-Curriculum  
Committee

Committee, Joint Dis-  
tributing (Annual  
Conference), 1263

Committee/Commission  
on Christian Higher  
Education and Minis-  
try, area or regional,  
1252.3

Committee of Investiga-  
tion  
Bishop, investigation  
of, 1539.2  
District Conference,  
1543  
Local church commit-  
tee, 1555

Committee of Ten  
(Council on Finance  
and Administration),  
843.6

Committee on Appeals,  
26.6 (page 24), 30.7  
(page 26)

Committee on Audit  
and Review, 841.4b

Committee on Camps  
and Conferences,  
district, 1042

Committee on Communi-  
cation, Annual Con-  
ference, 831.5, 833

Committee on Deaconess/  
Home Missionary Ser-  
vice, 1137, 1138, 1553

Committee on Education,  
1031-40

Committee on Education  
and Cultivation,  
Annual Conference,  
1177

Committee on Enlist-  
ment for Church  
Occupations, Annual  
Conference, 666

Committee on Episco-  
pacy, 55 (page 32),  
621.2, 624

Bishop, accusations  
against made to,  
1539.5

Bishop's assignment to  
churchwide respon-  
sibility, renewal of,  
386

Bishop's sabbatical  
leave, approval of,  
387

Bishop's transfer, page  
31

Committee on Estate  
Planning, 162.4

Committee on Evange-  
lism, Annual Confer-  
ence, 662.9, 1043-44

Committee on Evan-  
gelism, district, 1045

Committee on Family  
Life, 1001.4, 1026

Committee on Family  
Life, *cont'd*:  
Expenses of, 853  
Section of Curriculum  
Resources, coopera-  
tion with, 1001.4

Committee on Finance  
(local church), 145.3d,  
151.1, 162.3  
Administration of,  
151.1  
Administrative Board,  
consultation with,  
151.3d

Chairperson member  
of Administrative  
Board, 149  
Election of, 145.3d

Committee on Good  
Literature (local  
church), 162.4

Committee on Health  
and Welfare (local  
church), 162.4

Committee on Higher  
Education and Minis-  
try, Annual Confer-  
ence, 1249

Committee on Interpreta-  
tion, Annual Confer-  
ence, 831.5, 832

Committee on Lay Life  
and Work, Annual  
Conference, 1048-53

Committee on Lay Life  
and Work, district,  
1054-55

Committee on Lay Per-  
sonnel. *See* Lay Person-  
nel Committee

Committee on the Lay  
Worker, Annual Con-  
ference, 145.7, 502, 667,  
1553

Committee on the  
Ministry, district,  
665.18-24  
Lay pastor, 345-46  
License to preach,  
318-20, 665.19  
Ministers from other  
churches, reception  
of, 376  
Recommendations by,  
372, 665.20  
Recommendations to,  
145.4  
Reports to District  
Conference, 665.22,  
670.3

Committee on Nomina-  
tions and Personnel  
(local church), 162.1  
Administrative Board  
Administration by,  
151.1  
Guidance for, 162.1  
Nominations for  
officers, 150  
Secretary member of  
Administrative  
Board, 149  
Charge committee,  
145.13  
Council on Ministries,  
relationship to, 162.1  
Election of, 145.3e  
Nominations by, 145.3  
Reports by, 151.3b

Committee on Official  
Forms and Records,  
841.4c. *See also* Coun-  
cil on Finance and  
Administration, Forms

INDEX

Committee on Parish  
and Community De-  
velopment, 1185

Committee on Pastor-  
Parish Relations  
(local church), 162.2  
Administrative Board,  
149, 151.1, 3d  
Election of, 145.3c  
Recommendations by,  
162.2

Committee on Personnel  
in Mission, 1170.3

Committee on Planning  
and Research, 831.5,  
834

Committee on Public  
Relations (local  
church), 162.4

Committee on Publishing  
Interests, 953

Committee on Records  
and History, 162.4

Committee on Relief,  
United Methodist,  
1141-44

Committee on Research  
and Survey, 1182

Committee on Rules  
and Regulations, 1256.3

Committee on Town  
and Country Minis-  
tries, 1184.2a

Committee on Trial, 26.6  
(page 24), 30.7 (page  
26)

Committee on Urban  
Ministries, 1184.1a

Committee on Women's  
Work, Central Con-  
ference, 631.15

Committees, local church,  
162

Complaints. *See* Judicial  
administration

Conference benevolences,  
definition of, 869

Conference claimants  
Apportionments for  
support of, 921-22  
General Endowment  
Fund for, 1258.2  
Payments to, 921-922  
Support, Administra-  
tive Board provision  
for, 151.5

Conference secretary. *See*  
Annual Conference,  
Secretary of

Conference treasurer.  
*See* Treasurer, Annual  
Conference

Confession of Faith of  
the Evangelical United  
Brethren Church,  
pages 46-47 and 60-69

Confirmation, 115, 123-  
24

Consecration  
Bishop, 51, 384, 390.1,  
395.2, 399.1, 4  
Building, 1437  
Deaconess, 390.9  
Director of Christian  
education, 1253.3

INDEX

Consolidation of local churches, 1438-39.5, 1440

Constituency roll, 122, 131.4

Constituting Church Conference, 142.5-7

Constitution of The United Methodist Church, pages 16-38

Continuing education, pastor's, 355

Coordinators of children's ministries, youth ministries, adult ministries, family ministries, 149, 156-57

Corporation, Methodist, 1409

Correspondence courses  
Leadership training, 999.12  
Ministerial, 323.2, 348.1  
*See also* Courses of study

Council, children's, youth, adult, young adult, and family, local church, 157

Council of Bishops, pages 31, 35  
Affiliated autonomous church  
Episcopal visitation to, 643  
Representation by Council of Bishops, 641.3  
Transfer of bishops to, 642  
Alternate bishop

Council of Bishops, *cont'd.*  
named to agencies, 815.2  
Amendments to constitution, 64  
Annual regional seminars for ministers, 389  
Appeal of constitutionality of acts, 1508  
Appeal of legality of actions of boards or agencies, 1509  
Assignment of bishops by, 385-86  
Attendance on meetings, 399.3  
Autonomous church, 646.4  
Bishop's assignment to churchwide responsibility, renewal of, 386  
Board of Church and Society, election of bishops to, 957  
Board of Discipleship, election of bishops to, 983  
Board of Global Ministries, membership, 1082.1, .6  
Board of Pensions, election of bishops to, 1255.1  
Central or Provisional Central Conference, 385, 630.4  
Commission on Archives and History, 1267.2  
Commission on Chaplains and Related Ministries, 1235-36, 1238  
Commission on Ecumenical Affairs, 159.7  
Commission on Reli-

Council of Bishops, *cont'd.*  
gion and Race, appointment of bishops to, 1278.1  
Committee on Family Life, members, 1026.2  
Committee on Interpretation, consultation with, 832  
Committee on Official Forms and Records, election of bishop to, 841.4c  
Council on Finance and Administration, nominations to, 841.1  
Council on Ministries, 828.17, .21, 829.1a, .1f, 2-3  
Declaratory decision, petition for, 1515  
District superintendents, seminars for, 389  
Episcopal visitation in mission fields not in Central or Provisional Central Conferences, 639  
Evangelistic duties, 388  
Forms, statistical, 841.4c  
General Conference, 604  
Secretary, nomination of, 605  
Judicial Council  
Appeals to, 1507.1, 1509  
Nomination of members to, 1501  
Jurisdictional Conference meeting dates, 612.1, 618  
Membership, 399.3  
Methodist Corporation, The, representatives

INDEX

Council of Bishops, *cont'd.*  
to, 1409.1  
National Council of Churches, representatives to, 1285.2  
Nominations by, 803.3, 841, 1082.1, 1236, 1285.2, 1409.1-2, 1501  
President, 864  
Religion in American Life, Inc., nomination of members to Board of Directors, 1288-89  
Retired bishops, 386, 395-97, 864  
Sabbatical leave, approval of, 387  
Schedule of members elected to agencies, 818.1d  
Special days, 828.21  
Town and country work, 1184.2a  
Transfer of local churches, 668  
United Methodist Committee on Relief, discharge of, 1141-44  
University Senate, appointment of members to, 1212.1  
Vacancies filled by, 815.2, 816, 841.1, 1113  
World Council of Churches, 1286.2  
World Methodist Council, nomination of delegates to, 1284  
*See also* Bishop; Episcopal administration

Council on Ministries, local church, 153, 186.3  
Administrative Board,

Council on Ministries, local church, *cont'd.*  
151.1, 153  
Adult Council, 157.3  
Age-level and family coordinators, 149, 155-57  
Amenability, 153  
Campus ministry, 159.1.  
*See also* Section on Campus Ministry  
Chairperson, 145.3a, 149, 155-56, 158  
Children's Council, 157.1  
Christian Education Sunday, 163.1c  
Commission on Ecumenical Affairs, 159.7  
Commission on Education, 159.1. *See also* Commission on Education  
Commission on Evangelism, 159.2  
Commission on Missions, 159.3  
Commission on Social Concerns, 159.4  
Commission on Stewardship, 159.5  
Commission on Worship, 159.6  
Committee on Nominations and Personnel, relationship to, 162.1  
Coordinator, 146.5, 155-56  
Definition, 153  
Expansion of, 153  
Family Council, 157.4  
Loan Fund, 159.1  
Membership, 155  
Membership rolls, audit of, 132  
Men's groups, formation of, 160.4  
Minimum structure for local church, 153

Council on Ministries, local church, *cont'd.*  
Minister, 155, 156.1, 157.4, 158-59  
Ministries of local church, 160  
Objectives, 153  
Officers, 155  
Program agencies, 160  
Recommendations by, 151.3c  
Report by, 132  
Reports to, 129.1  
Task groups, 153, 161  
United Methodist Men, 160.4  
United Methodist Scholarship, 159.1  
United Methodist Student Day, 163.1e, 1202.2  
United Methodist Youth Ministry, 160.2. *See also* United Methodist Youth Ministry  
Women, ministry to, 160.3. *See also* United Methodist Women  
Work area  
Chairpersons, 155, 158  
Commissions, 159  
Youth Council, 157.2, 160.2

Council on Finance and Administration, 837-96  
Address lists, 843.8  
Administrative departments, 839-40, 841.3-4, 843  
Advance. *See* Advance American Bible Society, support for, 1287  
Annual Conference Council, 866-86, 893.3, .6

INDEX

**Council on Finance and Administration, cont'd:**

Apportionments, 871, 872, 875  
 Basic salary plan, 876  
 Budget, 868  
 Committee on Official Forms and Records provides budget form, 868.3  
 Conference benevolences, definition of, 869, 870  
 Conference treasurer, 867, 876, 877, 878-82  
 Cooperation with other boards and agencies, 883  
 Council on Ministries, recommendations from, 868.2  
 Depository, 881  
 District Board of Stewards, 872  
 District superintendents, support of, 876  
 Election of, 866, 867  
 Executive committee, 867  
 Membership, 866  
 Ministerial support, 887-96. *For details see* Ministerial Support  
 Nomination of, 866  
 Officers, 867  
 Recommendations from, 868.2, .3, 871, 873, 876  
 Reports from, 874, 880  
 Reports to, 868.4  
 Special appeals, 884, 885  
 Studies needs and askings of confer-

**Council on Finance and Administration, cont'd:**

ence agencies, 868.1  
 Sustentation Fund, 894  
 Treasury, 881, 882  
 Vacancies, 866  
 World service and conference benevolences, 870, 871, 878  
 Annual Conferences, apportionment of general administration budget to, 853.2  
 Annuities, 842.8, 848.4  
 Audits of treasuries receiving funds through, 841.4b, 842.4  
 Authorization, 842.1, .1b, .2, 847.1-2  
 Basic Salary Plan, 858, 893  
 Bequests, 842.7, 848.4  
 Bishop  
   Bishop's Reserve Pension and Benefit Fund, 1257.12  
   Contributory reserve pension fund, 862.1, 1257.12  
   Return to active service, 864  
   Serving on another agency, prohibited from, 806.1  
   Surviving spouses, increases in allowances to, 865  
 Business Manager of the General Conference, 843.11  
 Card index, 133  
 Central Conference report to, 631.4  
 Church finance, 837  
 Churchwide appeals, 846.4

**Council on Finance and Administration, cont'd:**

Commission on Equitable Salaries, 892  
 Committee of Ten, 843.6  
 Committee on Audit and Review, 841.4b  
 Committee on Official Forms and Records, 841.4c  
 Composition and organization, 841  
 Conference benevolences, 868.2, 869-71, 878, 882  
 Contributory Reserve Pension Fund, 862, 1257.12  
 Definition, 837  
 Elections by, 841.1, .3  
 Emergency financial appeal, 842.10  
 Employed personnel, 841.5  
 Episcopal budget, 858  
 Episcopal Fund, 857. *For details see* Episcopal Fund  
 Executive committee, 841.4a  
 Expenses, 842.1  
 Fiscal year for general agencies, 842.5  
 Forms, 841.4c  
 Functions, 842  
 Funds, 842.2a-e, g-i, 846-47, 853-57  
 General administration budget, 858.1, .2  
 General Administration Fund, 853. *For details see* General Administration Fund  
 General Episcopal Fund, 631.4-5, 842.1. *See also* Episcopal Fund  
*General Minutes*, 843.9

INDEX

**Council on Finance and Administration, cont'd:**

General secretary, 841.1, .3, .5, 847.2. *See also* Council on Finance and Administration, Treasurer  
 Incorporation, 839  
 Interdenominational cooperation budget, 854  
 Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, 842.2d, 854  
 Investments, review of, 842.6  
 Meetings, 841.2  
 Membership, 841  
 Membership record, loose-leaf, 133.1  
 Methodist Corporation, The, 1409.1, .3  
 Ministerial Education Fund, 842.2e, 844.5, 856  
 Ministerial support, 887-96. *For details see* Ministerial support  
 Minutes, 841.4  
 Officers, 841.3  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 842, 851  
 Organization, 841  
 Permanent church register, approval of, 133.1  
 Powers and duties, 842-43  
 Properties, power over, 843.1, .2  
 Property in District of Columbia, 843.2  
 Quorum, 841.2  
 Racial policies, 846.1  
 Religion in American Life, Inc., recommendations of

**Council on Finance and Administration, cont'd:**

amount for support to, 1288  
 Reports by, 842.1a, b, 845, 853.1, 880, 1285.3  
 Reports to, 662.11, 664.2, 828.21, 842.1-4, 843.4, 845  
 Representatives of agencies, appearance before, 847.2  
 Responsibilities, 842  
 Retirement allowance for bishops, general church officers, and staff personnel plan, funds for, 1257.12  
 Schedule of apportionments, 842.1b, c, 847.1  
 Special appeals, 846.4  
 Special days and appeals, 842.10. *See also* Special days  
 Special gifts and vouchers, 848, 848.1-2  
 Statement of apportionments, 844  
 Statistical blanks, 841.4c. *See also* Forms  
 Supplemental contributions, 848.4  
 Sustentation Fund, 894  
 Temporary General Aid Fund, 844, 855, 1257.12  
 Treasurer, 841.3  
   Funds from conference treasurer, 878-80  
   Report, 845  
*See also* Council on Finance and Administration, General Secretary  
 United Methodist

**Council on Finance and Administration, cont'd:**

Committee on Relief, 1141-44  
 Vacancies, 841.1  
 World Communion Appeal, 163.1b, 842.2f, 848.2, 852  
 World service, 839, 847  
   Budget, 847.1  
   Fund, 840, 842.1, 844. *For details see* World Service Fund  
   Special Gifts, 848  
**Council on Ministries**, 824-35  
   Advisory Committee on Research, 828.10  
   Aims of, 826  
   Amenable to General Conference, 825.2  
   Annual Conference council, 831-34. *For details see* Annual Conference Council on Ministries  
   Cooperation with other boards and agencies, 828.5, .17, .18, .20, .21, .23, 831.9a, .10c, 834.4, 840, 938, 974, 981, 988.2, 999.11, 1013, 1021.4, 1086.1, 1088.3, 1100, 1190  
   District council, 835, 1041.2, .3, .5  
   Functions, 828  
   General Conference, council amenable to, 825.2  
   General secretary, 829.5  
   Incorporation, 825.1  
   Internal structure, 829.4  
   Joint Committee on Communications

INDEX

**Council on Ministries, cont'd:**  
 amenable to council, 897, 899, 902, 903, 906  
 Jurisdictional council, 830  
 Local church council, 153-61. *For details see* Local Church Council on Ministries  
 Meetings, 829.2  
 Membership, 829.1  
 Methodist Corporation, representatives to, 1409.1  
 Missional priorities, changes in, 828.2, .3  
 Name of, 824  
 Officers, 829.3  
 Organization, 829  
 Overseas delegates, orientation of, 828.22  
 Parish council, 154  
 Powers, 827  
 President, 829.3  
 Program Council, assumes functions of, 825.1  
 Publications, coordination of, 828.13, .14, .15  
 Recommendations from, 828.4, .5, .21, 831.1  
 Recommendations to, 1071.3  
 Recording secretary, 829.3  
 Reports from, 828.24  
 Reports to, 828.14  
 Research and planning, 826.4, 828.9, .10, .11, 834.4  
 Reserve for research projects, 828.10  
 Reviews and evaluates program agencies,

**Council on Ministries, cont'd:**  
 828.6, .7, .8, .13  
 Special days, 828.21, 1110.9, 1119, 1120  
 Staff, 829.5  
 Successor to Program Council, 825.1  
 Term of office, 829.1e  
 Treasurer, 829.3  
 Vice-president, 829.3  
 World service funds, allocation of, 828.5

**Council on Youth Ministry, Annual Conference, 836, 1003. See also** United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry

**Counseling elder, 353**

**Courses of study, 318, 348.1, 1224.3, 1225.7, 1226-27**  
 Admission  
     Into full connection, 315, 333, 348-49  
     On trial, 318, 325, 326.2, 328  
 Advanced, 330.6, 1226.1  
 Board of the Ministry, Annual Conference, 665.4-.16. *For details see* Board of the Ministry  
 Central Conferences, 330.7, 631.20  
 Certification of, 1227  
 Continuing education, 355  
 Correspondence work, 348.1, 1226.4  
 Credit for equivalent work, 330.3  
 Deacon's orders, 311-12  
 Division of the Or-

**Courses of study, cont'd:**  
 dained Ministry, 1221-30. *For details see* Division of the Ordained Ministry  
 Elder's orders, 313.14  
 Five-year course of study, 318.6, 320.2, 323.2, 324.4, 328.2, 348.2, 1226.1  
 Introductory studies for the ministry, 1226.3  
 Lay pastors, 312.1  
 License to preach, 318.5, 1226.1  
 Records, 665.5d, .13-.14  
 Time limits, 329  
 Transfer to another conference, 390.6  
 United Methodist history, polity, and doctrine, 333.3, 347, 376.2, 1226.2

**Court of Appeals**  
 Charge Conference, 1533.3, .5  
 Jurisdictional, 1531

**Covenant of Cooperation, 641.4**

**Credentials**  
 Bishop, 395.2, 399.4  
 Deaconess, 1137.7, 1139.3  
 Deprivation and restoration, 1534-38.  
 Issuance, 390.9  
 Minister from another church, 376-81  
 Restoration, 670.3, 1536-38  
 Surrender, 344.1, 370, 391.9, 1535  
*See also* Certificate; License to preach; Ordination

INDEX

**Crime, page 94**

**Crusade Scholarships, 163.1b, 851.1a, c, 1202.3, 1225.11**  
 Committee, 1166-69

**Curriculum, 989-94**  
 Educational program of Church, 989  
 Program-Curriculum Committee, 990-94  
*See also* Section on Curriculum Resources

D

**Days, special. See** Special days

**Deacon, 15.2, 307, 311-12**  
 Appeal of, 1531  
 Eligibility for order of elder, 314  
 Mission, 375  
 Offenses, 1521.1  
 Ordination, 310.1, 390.9  
 Status of expelled, 1534  
 Trial, 1540  
 Withdrawal under complaint, 1541

**Deaconess, 15.2, 1137-40**  
 Administrative Board, 149  
 Annual Conference relationship, 660.2, 664.4, 1137.3-.4  
 Appointment, 390.5, 1137.2, 1139.4  
 Central Conference, 631.20  
 Charge Conference, member of, 1137.3  
 Commissioning of, 1137.1  
 Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary

**Deaconess, cont'd:**  
 Service, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1553  
 Consecration, 390.9  
 Department of Deaconess/Home Missionary Service, 1140  
 District Conference, member of, 670.1  
 Jurisdiction Association of Deaconesses/Home Missionaries, 1140.3  
 National Division, Board of Global Ministries, relation to, 1137.1, .2c, .5, .7, 1139.3-.4, 1140.1-.2  
 Pension plan, 1137.6  
 Reinstatement, 1137.7  
 Surrender of credentials, 1137.7  
 Withdrawal under complaint or charges, 1553  
 Woman's Division, Board of Global Ministries, promotes enlistment, 1148.6

Debts

Annual Conference, 662.2  
 Building, 1436-37  
 Division of Health and Welfare Ministries, 1110.11  
 Jurisdictional Conference, 620  
 Local church, 1423.1, 1442.6, 1436-37

Decisions on questions of law

Appeals, 61.2, 629.5, 1507-11, 1513-14, 1529.9-.12  
 Bishop's, 56, 61, 1511-12, 1529.10, .12

**Decisions on questions of law, cont'd:**  
 Central Conference, 629.5  
 Constitutionality, 61.1, 62, 1506-8  
 Declaratory, 1507.2, 1515-19  
 District superintendent's, 354.11, 1529.10, .12a  
 Judicial Council, 61-62, 1506-19, 1529.9-.10  
 Proposed legislation, 1507.2  
 Publication, 1519

**Declaratory decisions, 1507, 1515-19. See also** Decisions on questions of law.

Dedication

Church building, 1437  
 Week of. *See* One Great Hour of Sharing

**Deeds, trust clauses, 1403**

**Definitions of terms. See** Glossary preceding this Index

Degree

Academic, 323-24, 327-28, 330.1, 333.2b  
 Theological, 329, 333.2a

Delegates

Annual Conference. *See* Annual Conference, Membership  
 Central Conference, 14, 21, 28, 37-40, 629.2, 630.1, .9  
 District Conference, 47, 670.1  
 General Conference, 12,

INDEX

Delegates, *cont'd*:

14, 21, 37-40, 601-2,  
608, 610, 631.22, 641.3,  
644  
Jurisdictional Confer-  
ence, 14, 21-22, 24, 37-  
40, 614-17

Department of Higher  
Education, National  
Council of Churches,  
1205.2

Department of the Min-  
istry. *See* Division of  
the Ordained Ministry

Depository for funds,  
881-82, 1260.7a

Deprivation and restora-  
tion of credentials,  
1534.3, 1535-38, 1547

Detached service, minis-  
ter in. *See* Special ap-  
pointment

Devises, 842.7, 1089,  
1261.2, 1410.2-4, 1441.3.  
*See also* Bequests

Director of

Adult Ministry  
Annual Conference,  
1034.2, 1036  
District, 670.1, 835.2,  
1041.2-3, .6  
Annual Conference  
Council on Ministries,  
831.7  
Camps and confer-  
ences  
Annual Conference,  
1034.2  
Individual camp or  
conference,  
1042.1, .2e

Director of, *cont'd*:

Children's Ministry  
Annual Conference,  
1034.2, 1036  
District, 670.1, 835.2,  
1041.2-3, .6  
Christian education  
(local church), 149,  
1000.3, 1253  
Christian social con-  
cerns, district, 979  
Education, conference,  
1032, 1034.2, 1036-37,  
1252.2  
Evangelism, local  
church, 1047.2-3  
Family ministry  
Annual Conference,  
1034.2  
District, 835.2, 1041.2-  
.3, .6  
General church school  
work, district, 670.1  
Music, 149, 1000.4, 1253  
Public relations and  
United Methodist in-  
formation, conference  
or area, 906.1, 953.1  
Stewardship, Annual  
Conference, 1053.4  
United Methodist Men  
Annual Conference,  
1052.2  
District, 1052.2, 1056-  
57, 1059, 1064  
Youth Ministries  
Annual Conference,  
1034.2, 1036  
District, 670.1, 835.2,  
1041.2-3, .6

Disability

Bishop, 385, 395.3,  
396.4, 863  
Joint committee on,  
665.25  
Leave, 357  
Pastor. *See* Supernu-  
merary minister

Disability, *cont'd*:

Supernumerary minis-  
ter, 358

Disarmament, *page* 96

Discipline. *See* Book of  
Discipline, *The*

Discontinuance

Educational institution,  
1220.1  
Lay pastor. *See* Lay pas-  
tor, Termination of  
status  
Local church, 130, 351.2,  
1441  
Probationary member-  
ship of an Annual  
Conference, 369,  
665.10

Discrimination, racial, 73  
(*page* 87). *See also*  
Racial policy

Distributing Committee,  
Joint, 1263

Distribution of funds. *See*  
Ratio distribution of  
funds

District, apportionments  
to, 870-72, 875, 888-89,  
892.4, 894.3

District boards. *See* indi-  
vidual board listings

District of Columbia,  
property in, 843.2, 1409

District committees. *See*  
individual committee  
listings

INDEX

District Conference, 47,  
669-70

Adaptations by Central  
Conference, 631.13  
Advance specials, pro-  
motion of, 850.14  
Annual Conference au-  
thority over, 669,  
670.2  
Business, order of, 670.2  
Call to meet, 669  
Committees. *See* indi-  
vidual committee list-  
ings  
Council on Ministries,  
may elect member-  
ship, 835.2  
Directors or deans, con-  
firmation of nomina-  
tions, 1042.2e  
District Union, 670.4  
General Conference  
authority over, 15.3  
Lay pastor, investiga-  
tion and trial, 1543,  
1550, 1552  
Licenses to preach,  
670.3  
Membership, 670.1  
Minister from other  
church, reception of,  
376.1  
Powers and duties,  
670.2-4  
Property, 1042.4, 1413-  
18  
Board of Church Lo-  
cation and Build-  
ing, 1413.1, 1414-18  
Board of Trustees,  
1413.2  
Parsonage, 1413.1, .3  
Questions of law, deci-  
sions on, 1511-12  
Records, 1414, 1528.3  
Reports by, 670.2  
Reports to, 666.22,  
670.3, 1414

District Conference,  
*cont'd*:  
Secretary, 670.2  
Trial records, 1528.3

District chairperson of  
education, 1041.1-.5

District lay leader and  
associate, 670.1, 1056-57,  
1059, 1063

District missionary insti-  
tute, 1187

District missionary secre-  
tary, 1173, 1186, 1187

District secretary  
Of enlistment for  
church occupations,  
666.1, .4  
Of publishing interests,  
953.1  
Of town and country  
ministries, 1188

District staff of Christian  
education, 1042.1, .4  
District steward, 145.3a,  
670.1, 872

District Superintendent,  
58, 354  
Abandoned or discon-  
tinued local church,  
130, 1441.1-.2  
Agency membership,  
831.2, 835.4, 872,  
1034.2, 1042.1, 1128.2,  
1135, 1414  
Appeals to, of trial de-  
cisions, 1532.1, 1533.2  
Appointed by bishop,  
354, 391.3  
Appointment of  
preachers, 391.1  
Apportionments for  
support, 876, 888-89

District Superintendent,  
*cont'd*:

Basic salary plan, certi-  
fies vote on, 893  
Benevolences, 145.10  
Boundaries of districts,  
390.3  
Cabinet. *See* Cabinet  
Certificate of transfer,  
138  
Charge Conference  
Consultation with,  
145.9  
Meetings, 144.3  
Minutes, copy of,  
146.2  
President of, 144.4  
Special session, call  
for, 144.6  
*See also* Charge Con-  
ference  
Church Conference,  
147, 1436.6  
Church services, con-  
sent required for dis-  
continuance of, 351.2  
City, metropolitan, or  
district mission struc-  
tures, 1128.1-2, 1131  
Commission to study  
bishops and district  
superintendents, 1281  
Court of Appeals, con-  
vened by, 1533.2-5  
Decisions on questions  
of law, 354.11,  
1529.10, .12a  
Deeding church prop-  
erty, approval of,  
1440  
Director of Christian  
social concerns ap-  
pointed by, 979  
Discontinued local  
church, transfers  
members of, 130  
District Conference  
called by, 669

INDEX

**District Superintendent, cont'd:**  
 District missionary secretary appointed by, 1186  
 Division of the Ordained Ministry, cooperation with, 1228  
 Duties, 104, 354. *See also* District superintendent, Judicial Administration  
 Evangelist, approval of, 351.1, 1044.4  
 Judicial administration, 1532.1, 1533.2, 1539.2, .8, 1540.2-.5, .8, 1544-49, 1556-58  
 Lay pastor amenable to, 343  
 Mergers, approval of, 1439.1, .3  
 Missionary institutes, workshops, etc., district, 1187  
 New local church, 142, 151.7  
 Nominations by, 866, 1413.2. *See also* Cabinet  
 Parsonage for, 1413, 1416-18  
 Pension credit, 1259.3a (2)  
 Probationary member in special appointment, supervision of, 330.5  
 Provisional Annual Conference, 649  
 Reports by, 354.10, .12, 663.5  
 Reports to, 138, 353, 1414  
 Seminars for, 389  
 Special appointments, 330.5, 391.5-.6  
 Support, 151.5, 876, 887-89, 893

**District Superintendent, cont'd:**  
 Tenure, 58, 391.3-4  
 Trial of, 1540, 1540.3  
**District trustees. See** Trustees  
**District Union, 669.4**  
**Diversion of funds prohibited, 631.31, 882, 1198.6, 1257.4**  
**Division, National. See** National Division  
**Division, Women's. See** Women's Division  
**Division, World. See** World Division  
**Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1234-38**  
 Board of Discipleship, cooperation with, 1235c  
 Chaplains, responsibility for, 1235  
 Council of Bishops, 1235b, 1238  
 Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship, cooperation with, 1021.10  
 Functions, 1235  
 Location, 1234  
 Membership, 1236  
 Military service, responsible for lay persons in, 1235c  
 Pension fund, 1259.8  
 World Communion Offering, 852, 1237

**Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns, Board of Global Ministries, 1091-1100**  
 Assists other divisions of Board of Global Ministries, 1096  
 Associate general secretary, 1082.7, 1086.2, 1092, 1094-95  
 Authority, 1084.2, 1090  
 Budget, 1088.3, 1100  
 Chairperson, 1085.1  
 Church union, 1097.6, 1099  
 Conference Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Concerns, 1101  
 Council of Bishops, reports and recommendations, 1097.8, .10-12  
 Ecumenical funding, 1097.7  
 Ecumenical organizations, 1097.2, 1098  
 Executive committee, 1083, 1085.2, 1086.3, 1094  
 Finances, 1086.3, 1088  
 Functions, 1091, 1096-98  
 Meetings, 1093  
 Membership, 1082.3-.4, 1092  
 Officers, 1085.2, 1093  
 Organization, 1084.2  
 Staff, 1086.2, 1087, 1095  
**Division of Education, Board of Discipleship, 985, 987, 995-1018**  
 Amenability, 985  
 Assistant general secretaries, 992.2, 1016  
 Associate general secretary, 987.5, 992.2  
 Chairperson, 987.3, 996

**Division of Education, Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 Committee on Family Life, 1001.4  
 Cooperation with other boards and agencies, 997, 999.6, .11, .16, .18-.23, 1000.3-.4, 1001, 1010-13  
 Curriculum resources, development of, 1007, 1015, 1017  
 Editor of church school publications, 1016-17. *See also* Board of Discipleship, Editor of church school publications  
 Educational standards, 1000  
 Executive committee, 987.4, 996  
 Finances, 984  
 Functions, 995, 999, 1006  
 Interboard Committee on Christian Education, division assumes functions of, 997  
 Interboard Committee on Missionary Education, division assumes functions of, 997  
 Meetings, 987.2  
 Membership, 987.1  
 Officers, 987.3, 996  
 Organization, 987  
 Sections, 998-1018  
 Section on Curriculum Resources, 1007-1018. *For details see* Section on Curriculum Resources  
 Section on Local Church Education, 998-1006. *For details see* Section on

INDEX

**Division of Education, Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 Local Church Education  
 Staff, 987.5  
 United Methodist Publishing House, relationship with, 1014  
**Division of Education and Cultivation, Board of Global Ministries, 1102-8**  
 Advance specials, division solicits for United Methodist Committee on Relief, National and World Divisions, 1104, 1107.10  
 Amenability, 1084  
 Associate general secretary, 1082.7, 1086.2, 1102-3, 1106  
 Authority, 1084.2, 1090, 1104  
 Budget, 1088.3  
 Chairperson, 1085.1  
 Cooperation with other agencies, 1104, 1107.4-.6, .11, 1108  
 Executive committee, 1083, 1085.2, 1086.3, 1103, 1105  
 Finances, 1086.3, 1088, 1104  
 Functions, 1107  
 Membership, 1082.3-.4, 1102  
 Officers, 1085.2, 1103, 1105  
 Organization, 1084.2  
 Staff, 1086.2, 1087, 1106  
**Division of Emerging Social Issues, Board of Church and Society, cont'd:**  
 Local Church Education  
 Staff, 987.5  
 United Methodist Publishing House, relationship with, 1014

**Division of Emerging Social Issues, Board of Church and Society, cont'd:**  
 959-60, 964.2, 965-67, 968.3, 970  
**Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship, Board of Discipleship, 1019-23**  
 Amenability, 985  
*Book of Hymns and Book of Worship*, division supervises and recommends future editions, 1019, 1023.6  
 Budget, 984  
 Cooperation with other agencies, 999.23, 1021.5, .8-.14, 1022.3, .5, 1023.3, .7-.11  
 Develops standards and resources for public worship, 1023.2  
 Evangelism functions, 1021  
 Every Member Commitment program, 1022.3  
 Executive Committee, 987.4  
 Finances, 984  
 Functions, 1019, 1021-23  
 Evangelism, 1021  
 Stewardship, 1022  
 Worship, 1023  
 General Military Roll, maintenance of, 1021.10  
 Local church Commissions and Committees, division provides resources for, 1021.4, 1022.4  
 Meetings, 987.2  
 Membership, 987.1  
 Objectives, 1019

INDEX

**Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship, Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
 Officers, 987.3  
 Organization, 987, 1020  
 Sets standards  
   Architecture, church, 1023.3  
   Church administrators, 1022.9  
   Conference evangelists, 1021.9  
   Ministers and directors of evangelism, 1021.8  
   Public worship, 1023.2  
   Staff, 987.5  
   Stewardship functions, 1022  
   World Service, promotion of, 1022.6  
   Worship functions, 1023

**Division of General Welfare, Board of Church and Society, 959-60, 964.2, 965-67, 968.3, 971**

**Division of Health and Welfare Ministries, Board of Global Ministries, 1109-16**  
 Associate general secretary, 1082.7, 1086.2, 1111.3, 1114, 1116  
 Authority, 1084.2, 1090  
 Budget, 1088.3  
 Certification Council, 1110.5  
 Chairperson, 1085.1  
 Executive committee, 1083, 1085.2, 1086.3, 1113-14  
 Finances, 1086.3, 1088, 1115  
 Financial commitments,

**Division of Health and Welfare Ministries, Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
   responsibility for, 1110.11  
   Functions, 1110  
   Golden Cross, 1110.9, 1118-22  
   Health and Welfare Ministries Week, 1119  
   Incorporation, 1116  
   Institution or agency, new, 1110.6  
   Meetings, 1112  
   Membership, 1082.3-4, 1111  
   National Association, 1110.8  
   Officers, 1085.2, 1113-14, 1116  
   Organization, 1084.2, 1116  
   Personnel committee, 1116  
   Personnel service, 1110.7  
   Purpose, 1109  
   Staff, 1086.2, 1087, 1116  
   Women's auxiliaries, 1122

**Division of Higher Education, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1195-1210**  
 Annual Conferences, cooperation with, 1196.2, .7, 1198.3, 1199, 1200.2, 1203, 1205, 1210.3  
 Board of Directors as governing body for campus ministry, 1206.1  
 Campus Christian movement, promotion of, 1204.1, 1205.1  
 Campus-Church Rela-

**Division of Higher Education, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
   tions Committee, 1206.2-.3  
   Campus ministry, 1196.3, 1204-10  
     Purposes of, 1204.2  
     Responsibility of, 1205  
   Christian instruction on campuses, promotion of, 1196.3  
   Commission on Education, local church, assists, 1205.1  
   Commissions and committees, 1195.5  
   Committee/Commission on Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Conference, assists, 1205.1  
   Committee on Campus Religious Life, 1206.2  
   Credit for local churches' educational giving, 1196.8  
   Crusade Scholarship program, participation in, 1202.3  
   Department of Higher Education, National Council of Churches, representation in, 1205.2  
   Educational institutions, 1196-1201  
     Classification, 1199.2.  
       *See also* University Senate  
   Coordination of work, 1200.1  
   Donations to, 1196.8  
   Negro-related institutions, 1196.6, 1201

INDEX

**Division of Higher Education, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
   New institutions, 1196.2, 1199  
   Support, 1196.5-8, 1198, 1201  
   Educational societies, foundations, 1203  
   Educational specials, promotion of, 1196.7  
   Intercollegiate Christian movement, 1209-10.2  
   Investments, 1198.5-6  
   Loan funds, 1202.1  
   National Commission of United Ministries in Higher Education, representation in, 1205.2  
   National Staff of United Ministries in Higher Education, representation in, 1205.2  
   Negro education, 1196.6, 1201  
   Objectives, 1195.3  
   Organization, 1195.5  
   Responsibilities, 1195.2-3, 1196  
   Scholarships, 1202.1, .3  
   Sections, 1195.4, 1197-1201, 1202, 1204-10  
   Section of Campus Ministry, 1204-10.  
     *For details see* Section of Campus Ministry  
   Section of Loans and Scholarships, 1202  
   Section of Schools, Colleges, and Universities, 1197-1201. *For details see* Section of Schools, Colleges,

**Division of Higher Education, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
   and Universities  
   United Methodist Scholarship Fund, 1202.1  
   United Methodist Student Day, 163.1e, 1202.2  
   United Methodist Student Loan Fund, 1202.1  
   University Senate, 1199.1, 1211-20. *For details see* University Senate  
   Wesley Foundation, 1205.1, 1206.1, 1207-9  
   World Student Christian Federation, recognition of, 1210  
   Young Adult Ministry, relationship with, 1204.1

**Division of Human Relations, Board of Church and Society, 959-60, 964.2, 965-67, 968.3, 973**

**Division of Lay Life and Work, Board of Discipleship, 1024-27**  
 Amenability, 985  
 Committee on Family Life, 1026, 1027.6  
 Executive committee, 987.4  
 Finance, 984  
 Functions, 1024-25, 1027  
 Meetings, 987.2  
 Membership, 987.1  
 Officers, 987.3  
 Organization, 987

**Division of Lay Life and Work, Board of Discipleship, cont'd:**  
   Responsibilities, 1024-25  
   Sets standards for lay speakers, 1027.7-8  
   United Methodist Council on Youth Ministries, liaison relationship, 1025, 1027.3  
   United Methodist Men, 1025, 1027.3

**Division of Lay Ministries, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1239-41**  
 Boards of the Ministry, conference, relation to, 1241.11  
 Christian Educators Fellowship, cooperation with, 1241.7  
 Committees on Lay Worker, conference, relation to, 1241.4  
 Division of the Ordained Ministry, cooperation with, 1241.11  
 Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians, cooperation with, 1241.7  
 Ministry Sunday, 1240.2  
 Office of Personnel, cooperation with, 1241.10  
 Program-Curriculum Committee, division works through, 1241.12  
 Purpose, 1240  
 Reports by, 1240.9, 1241.2  
 Responsibilities, 1239-41

INDEX

**Division of Lay Ministries, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
Schools of theology, relation to, 1241.1

**Division of the Ordained Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1221-30**  
Associate general secretary, 1222.1  
Board of the Ministry, Annual Conference Cooperation with, 1224.4, 1225.5, 1226.3, 1228-29  
Division submits approved courses to, 1227  
Representation in division, 1221.2  
Conferences on the ministry, 1228  
Crusade Scholarship Program, participation in, 1225.11  
Division of Lay Ministries, cooperation with, 1241.11  
Educational standards, maintenance of, 1225.2  
License to preach, prescribes studies for, 1226.1  
Membership, 1221.2  
Ministerial courses of study, 1224.3, 1225.7, 1226  
Ministerial Education Fund  
Promotion, 1225.8  
Support from, 1222, 1231  
Ministerial recruitment from minority groups, 1224.8

**Division of the Ordained Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, cont'd:**  
Ministry Sunday, promotion of, 1224.1, 1230  
Office of Personnel, cooperation with, 1225.3, 1228  
Promotes ministerial vocations, 1228  
Purpose, 1224  
Reports by, 1224.9  
Responsibilities, 1221, 1223, 1224-25  
Schools of theology, 1221  
Budgets, 1231.2  
Consultation with, 1227, 1232  
Cooperation with, 1225.1, 1228-29  
Support, 1222  
Wesley Foundation, cooperation with directors of, 1228

**Division of Stewardship and Finance. Functions assumed by Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship, Board of Discipleship**

**Division of Television, Radio, and Film Communication. Functions assumed by Joint Committee on Communications**

**Division of World Peace, Board of Church and Society, 959-60, 964.2, 965-67, 968.3, 972**

**Divorce, 350.5b**

**Doctrinal statements, 68-70**  
Articles of Religion of The Methodist Church, pages 53-60  
Confession of Faith of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, pages 60-65  
General Rules of The Methodist Church, pages 65-68, 70 (pages 75-76)  
Guidelines, doctrinal, 70 (pages 75-79)  
Historical background, 68  
Holy Scriptures, 69 (pages 54, 61)  
Landmark documents, 69  
Our theological task, 70

**Drug abuse, 73 (pages 89-90), 971.1, 3**

E

**Economic order, page 91**

**Ecumenical relations, page 18. See also Division on Ecumenical and Interreligious concerns**

Editor

Book editor. See Book editor  
*Christian Advocate*, 938.2, 4-6  
Church school publications, 934, 39-40, 42, 46, 1016-17  
General church periodicals, 938.2, 4-6  
Official church papers. See General Church periodicals  
*Religion in Life*, 934-35

INDEX

**Editor, cont'd:**  
Salary, 936, 938.5  
Together, 938.2, 4, 6  
Upper Room, 984

**Educational assistants, 1253.1**

**Educational institutions**

Accreditation. See University Senate  
Appointments to, episcopal, 391.5, 6-8  
Classification of, 1218  
Committee on Higher Education and Ministry, conference, responsibility for, 1249-53  
Discontinuance of, 1199.1, 1220.1  
Endowment for, 1220.3  
Financial needs reported, 1250  
Investigation of, 1216  
Merger of, 1199.1, 1220.1  
Minimum goals for support, 1252.4d  
New institutions, 1199, 1220  
Number of, 1220.2  
Racial policies, 817.1, 1195.1  
Standards, 1253.1  
Status information, 1219  
Trustees, 1410.2, 1445  
University Senate, approval of required, 1213-16, 1231.4  
See also Board of Higher Education and Ministry; School of Theology

**Elder, 310.2, 313-14**  
Appeal of, 1531  
Counseling, 353  
Mission, 375

**Elder, cont'd:**

Ordination, 307.1, 310.2, 390.9  
Status of expelled, 1531  
Trial of, 1540  
Withdrawal under complaint or charges, 1541

**Emergency**

Aid for ministers, 894  
Appeal, financial, 828.21, 851a, 2f, 884, 1144.2  
Changes in financial plan, 828.2, 851b, 884

**Enabling legislation, 1701-6 (pages 553-56)**

**Endowments, 354.12, 1088.1, 1115, 1124.13, 1128h, 1139.8, 1201.2, 1257.4, 1258.2**

**Episcopacy, 382-400**

**Bishop**

Appointments by, 391  
Assignment to churchwide responsibility, 386  
In Central Conferences, 397.2, 399  
Consecration, 390.9  
Duties, powers, and limitations, 390-94  
Elder serving as, 395.4  
Emergency assignment, 385  
In jurisdictions, 398  
Missionary bishop, 400  
Percentage necessary to elect, 383  
Powers and limitations, 390-93  
Presiding officer at conferences, 390.2  
Resignation, certifi-

**Episcopacy, cont'd:**

cate of, 395.2  
Retirement, 395-97  
Circuit, division and union of, 393  
Deaconess, 390.5, .9  
District, formation of, 390.3  
Elder serving as bishop, retirement of, 395.4  
Evangelist, appointment of, 391.7  
Evangelistic activities of Church, 388  
General provisions, 382-89  
Ministerial member, transferral of, 390.7  
Ministers appointed to attend school, Charge Conference membership of, 390.6  
Missionary bishops, 400  
Missions, organization of, 390.8  
Non-United Methodist agencies, appointments to, 391.6  
Ordination of deacons, elders, 390.9  
Preachers, appointment of, 390.4  
Restrictive rule, page 22  
Sabbatical leave, 387  
United Methodist and United Methodist-related agencies, appointments to, 391.5  
See also Bishop; College of Bishops; Committee on Episcopacy; Council of Bishops; Episcopal administration

**Episcopal administration, pages 30-33, 382-400**  
Annual Conference ses-

INDEX

Episcopal administration, *cont'd*:

- sions, 661.2-5
- Appeals from judicial decisions, *page 34*, 630.5, 1511-13, 1520.10-12
- Assignment of bishops, *pages 31-32*, 385-87, 395.3, 397.1, 398, 400, 630.4, 631.6, 643, 863-64
- Central Conference, *page 26*, 382-85, 397.2, 399-400.3, 630.2-5, 631.6
- Decisions on questions of law, *pages 30-33*, 630.5, 1511-12, 1529.10-12. *See also* Decisions on questions of law
- Jurisdictional Conference, *page 31*, 383-84, 398, 621-24
- Mission fields, 390.8, 398, 400.1, 635, 637-39, 642-43, 648-49, 1136. *See also* Episcopal administration, Central Conference
- Outside jurisdictions and Central Conferences, 638-39
- Provisional Annual Conference, 647-51
- Tenure, 624
- Transfer of bishops, *page 31*, 624.3-4
- Vacancies, *page 31*, 385-87, 397.1, 400.3, 621.2
- Visitation, 630.4, 631.6, 639, 643, 861. *See also*, Bishop; College of Bishops; Council of Bishops; Episcopacy

Episcopal area. *See* Area, episcopal

- Episcopal Fund, 857-65
  - Apportionments, 888
  - To Annual Conferences, 859, 874
  - Statement of, 844
- Bishop
  - Official travel, 861
  - Relieved by College of Bishops, 863
  - Returned to active service, 864
  - Unofficial engagement, 861
- Borrowing for, 857
- Central Conference, participation in, 631.4
- Council on Finance and Administration, administration of funds, 842.1
- Episcopal support, 857-58, 860-61
- Estimated episcopal budget, 858
- Purpose of, 857
- Remittance of funds for, 879
- Retired bishop, support of, 395.2
- Surviving spouses of deceased bishops, allowances for, 865
- Withholding from salary for, 862.3

Episcopal Greetings, *pages v-vi*

Episcopal residence, 1411

Episcopal supervision, *pages 30-33*

Equities, distribution of, with boundary change, 1263, 1411, 1413.3, 1422.3

Error, in judicial proceedings, 1529.12

Evangelism, 1019-21. *See also* Board of Discipleship; Division of Evangelism, Worship and Stewardship; Commission on Evangelism; Committee on Evangelism

Examination

- For admission into full connection, 333-34
- For license to preach, 318

Expulsion

- Bishop, 1534.2, 1539.7-8
- Church member, 1557-59
- Minister, 391.9, 1534.3, 1537

F

Family, *pages 85, 97*

- Coordinator (local church), 156
- Administrative Board, member of, 149
- Council on Ministries, member of, 155
- Educational consultant to, 152.3
- Council, 157.4
- District coordinator of family ministry, 1041.6
- Groupings, formation of, 160

Fellowship of Suffering and Service. *See* World Communion

Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians, 1066.3f, 1241.7, 1253

Films. *See* Joint Committee on Communications

Finance, 831-95

- Advance specials, 848-51
- Agencies
  - Annual Conference, 868-70, 878, 881-82, 886. *See also* Annual Conference
  - Council on Finance and Administration
    - General, 839-40, 842-44, 847.1-2, 854, 870, 78
- See also under name of individual agency*
- Annuity, special gifts subject to, 364.12, 842.8, 848, 1090
- Appeal. *See* Appeal, financial
- Apportionments, 145.10, 151.d, 844, 847, 870-76, 878-80, 888-89, 892.4, 893.3-5, 894, 1132, 1260.6a
- Basis for, 837, 847
- Benevolences, 145.10, 868.2, 869-71, 878
- Bishops' support. *See* Episcopal Fund
- Campaign. *See* Appeal, financial
- Conference Committee on Education, 1031
- Council on Finance and Administration, 837, 853
- District superintendents' support, 145.10, 876, 877, 888-89, 893
- Educational institutions, 884, 1196, 1198-99, 1214-15, 1220, 1231

INDEX

Finance, *cont'd*:

- Emergency changes in financial plan, 851.2f, 884
- Episcopal Fund, 857
- Fellowship of Suffering and Service Fund. *See* Finance, World Communion
- Foundations, gifts from, 847.3
- General Administration Fund, 853
- General Conference authority, 601. *See also* General Conference, Fiscal responsibilities
- Higher education. *See* Finance, Educational institutions
- Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, 854
- Local church. *See below* Finance, local church
- Ministerial support, 151.3d, .5, 887-95, 1022.8, 1257.1
- One Great Hour of Sharing, 851
- Promotion, 846.4, 847.3, 848
- Ratio distribution of funds, 163d, 842.1b-d, 847.1, 851.1c, 870-71, 878
- Remittance of funds, 844, 848, 850.6, 876-79, 889
- Special days, 163, 842.10, 828.1
- Special gifts, 846.4, 847.3, 848-49, 850.4, 851-52, 1196.5, .7. *See also* Advance; Annuity

Finance, *cont'd*:

- Treasurer. *See* Council on Finance and Administration, Treasurer; Treasurer, Annual Conference; Treasurer, Local church
- United Methodist Committee on Relief, 1141-44
- Week of Dedication. *See* One Great Hour of Sharing
- World Communion, 163.1b, 848.2, 852
- World service and conference benevolences, 145.10, 870-72, 878
- World Service Fund, 847
- For details see individual listings of above topics. See also* Council on Finance and Administration and Property

Finance, local church,

- 145.10, 151.3d, 1053
- Administrative Board responsibilities, 151
- Advance specials, 848-51.2
- Apportionments, 145.10, 151.3d, 844, 847, 870-76, 878-79, 888-89, 892-94, 1132
- Basic salary plan, 893
- Benevolences, 145.10, .12, 151.4-.5, 152.5, 159.3, 266-68, 282.3-.4, 296.1, .3
- Bishops' support, 842.1, 857, 889. *See also* Episcopal Fund
- Board of Discipleship, guidance from, 981, 1022.4

INDEX

Finance, local church, *cont'd:*

Borrowing funds, 1416-17, 1436.4e, 9-11  
 Budget, 151.3e, 162.3  
 Building and remodeling costs, 151.5, 723, 1247.1-2, 1423.2, 1436.4e, 5, 7-11  
 Charge Conference responsibilities, 145  
 Christian Education Sunday, 159.1  
 Church school, 151.7, 163.5c  
 Commission on Equitable Salaries (Annual Conference), 892.2  
 Committee on Finance, 145.3d, 151.1, 159.5, 162.3  
 Conference claimants, 145.10, 151.5, 889, 1260.6  
 Contributory Reserve Pension Fund, 862.1  
 Current expenses, 145.10, 151.5, 1422.3, 1435.1, 1442.6, 1436  
 Debts, 1423.1  
 District Conference responsibility, 670  
 District superintendent  
   Duties of, 145.10, 354.3, 12  
   Support, 145.10, 151.5, 876, 889, 893.4  
 Drug and Alcohol Concerns Sunday, 163.2d  
 Episcopal Fund, 145.10, 857  
 Equitable salaries, 892  
 Expenses of pastor, 145.9, 151.3d, 5, 162.2-3, 895  
 Financial secretary, 149, 152.4  
 General Administra-

Finance, local church, *cont'd:*

tion Fund, 853  
 Golden Cross Fund, 1120  
 Golden Cross Sunday, 163.1f  
 Guarantees, personal, for debts, 1436.11  
 Human Relations Day (formerly Racc Relations Sunday), 163.1d  
 Insurance, 1442.7  
 Laity Sunday, 163.2c  
 Ministry Sunday, 163.2b  
 National Bible Sunday, 163.2e  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 163.1a, 851  
 Pastor  
   Duties, 145.10, 350  
   Salary and expenses, 145.9, 151.3d, 5, 162.2, 887, 1260.6  
   Pledges, 160.3d-e  
 Racc Relations Sunday.  
   *See* Finance, Human Relations Day  
 Records, 152.4, 1260.6, 1442a-c  
 Remittance of funds, 145.12, 152.4-5, 850.6, 878-79, 889, 1260  
 Reports, 880, 1442  
 Retired Ministers Day, 1261.5  
 Rural Life Sunday, 163.2a  
 Special  
   Days, 163  
   Gifts, 159.3, 848-50, 884-85, 1144, 1196.7-8  
   Offerings, 163, 851.1a, 885, 1237  
 Stewardship, 159.3, 5, 1022, 1053  
 Sustentation fund, 894

Finance, local church, *cont'd:*

Treasurer. *See* Treasurer, local church  
 United Methodist Student Day, 159.1, 163.5e  
 United Methodist Women, 160.3  
 Week of Dedication.  
   *See* One Great Hour of Sharing  
 World Communion Sunday, 163.2  
 World service and conference benevolences, 145.10, 151.5, 152.5, 159.3  
 Youth Service Fund, 160.2, 1074  
*For details see individual listings of above topics. See also Ministerial support; Property*

Financial secretary (local church), 152.4  
 Administrative Board, member of, 149  
 Committee on Finance, member of, 162.3

Fiscal policy, 820

Fiscal quadrennium, 1291

Fiscal year, 820, 842.4-5

Forms

Annual Conference, 660.6, 662.10-11, 664.1, 6  
 Treasurer of, 880.  
   *See also* Forms, Pastor's report  
 Baptism, 121-22  
 Charge Conference, 146.2

INDEX

Forms, *cont'd:*

Committee on Official Forms and Records, 841.4c  
 Council on Finance and Administration, 133, 664.6, 841.4c, 842.11, 880  
 Deeds, 354.9, 1403, 1433-34, 1436.8, 1442.1-2, 3  
 Director of Christian education or music, 1253.1-2  
 District superintendent's reports, 138.  
   *See also* Forms, Charge Conference  
 Membership records, 133.1-2, 350.4a  
 Membership transfers, 135, 138  
 Pastor's report  
   To Annual Conference, 133.2, 163f, 350.10, 660.6, 850.13-15, 851e, 895  
   To Charge Conference, 145.10, 350.4a  
 Recognition of ministerial orders, 379-80, 390.9  
 United Methodist Publishing House, 930  
 University Senate, 1219  
 Withdrawal from ministry, 370  
*See also* Certificate; Credentials; License to Preach

Founding dates, 822.2

Full connection, minister in. *See* Admission of preachers; Annual Conference; Pastor

Fund

Advance, 849  
 Basic Salary Plan, 893  
 Bishops' pensions, 862.1  
 Building, 1442.5-6  
 Church extension, 1181  
 Contributory Reserve Pension, 1257.12  
 Depository for, 881-82  
 Endowment, 354.12, 1088.1, 1115, 1124.13, 1139.8, 1257.4  
 Episcopal, 857-65  
 Equitable salary, 888-89, 892.5  
 Fellowship of Suffering and Service. *See* Fund, World Communion Appeal  
 General Administration, 842.1-2a, 853.  
   *See further* General Administration Fund  
 General Conference expense, 853  
 Home Office Pension Fund, 1257.12  
 Interdenominational Cooperation, 854  
 Investment, 354.12, 631.31, 842.6, 1088, 1257.3-4, 1442  
 Jurisdictional Administration, 1531.5  
 Loan, 163e, 665.7, 1124.13, 1181.6-7, 1202.1  
 Ministerial Education, 1222.2. *See further* Ministerial Education Fund  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 842.1, 844, 848.2-3, 851, 879  
 Permanent, 842.6, 848, 1088.1, 1139.8, 1258.1  
 Student Loan, 163e, 665.7, 1202.1  
 Sustentation, 894

Fund, *cont'd:*

Temporary General Aid, 875, 879, 1257.12  
 Trust, 354.12, 631.31, 1088.1, 1139.8, 1403, 1410.2, 5, 1442.9  
 United Methodist Committee on Relief, 1141-44  
 United Methodist Development Fund, 1124.15  
 Week of Dedication.  
   *See* One Great Hour of Sharing  
 World Communion Appeal, 852  
 World Service, 847.  
   *For details see* World Service, Fund  
 Youth Service Fund, 1074

Funds, general Church, 846-56

Funerals

Duty of pastor, 350.6  
 Report of, 350.10, 354, 366

G

Gambling, page 93

General Administration

Fund, 828.10, 842.1, 2b, 853, 1409.3  
 Affiliated autonomous and united churches, expenses of, 1284.2  
 Agencies continuing to receive funds, 846.3  
 Apportionments  
   To Annual Conferences, 875  
   Statement of, 844  
 Bequests, 842.6-7  
 Budget, 853.1-2

INDEX

**General Administration Fund, cont'd:**  
 Expenses of agencies provided for, 853.3  
 Funds  
     Administration of by Council on Finance and Administration, 842.1, 2b, 844  
     Disbursement, 853.3  
     Remittance of, 879  
 General Conference expenses, 853.1  
 Judicial Council, 853.1  
 Legacies, 842.7  
 Methodist Corporation, 1409.3  
 Religion in American Life, Inc., support of, 1288  
 Remittance to central treasury, 879  
 Reports from agencies, 842.3

**General Advance special, 850.4. For details see Advance**

**General agencies. See Agencies, general. For individual agencies see under Board; Commission; etc.**

**General Aid Fund, Temporary, 842.1**

**General boards. See Agencies, general. For individual general boards see individual board listings**

**General church periodicals, 938**  
 Editorial director, 938.2

**General Conference, pages 18-23, 601-11**  
 Affiliated autonomous Methodist churches, delegates from, 641.3, 644  
 Agencies of, 15.8 (page 21). *See further*  
     Agencies, general  
     Amendments to the Constitution, pages 35-38  
 Appeal to, 828.4  
 Assistant secretaries, election of, 605-6  
 Auditing and bonding of fiscal officers, 1408  
 Benevolences, 15.9 (page 21), 842.10, 846.4, 847. *See also*  
     World Service  
 Bishops, 15.5, .11, 17, 51, 390.2  
 Board of Church and Society  
     Amendments to constitution, 976  
     Amount for support of, 964  
 Board of Discipleship amenable to, 988.2  
 Board of Global Ministries, divisions subject to, 1081.4  
 Board of Higher Education and Ministry amenable to, 802.1  
 Board of Pensions, representation on, 1255.1  
 Boards. *See* individual board listings; *see also* Agencies, general  
*Book of Hymns, The*, 15.6, 1023.6  
*Book of Worship for Church and Home*, 1023.6

**General Conference, cont'd:**  
 Called session, page 19  
 Central Conference, examination of journal of by General Conference, 630.7  
 Charge Conference amenable to, 145.15  
 Commission on Archives and History, appropriations for, 1272  
 Committees, 603, 609.4, 641.3  
 Composition, page 19, 601  
 Conference overseas desiring to become autonomous, 646  
 Constitutionality of acts, 1507  
 Date of, page 19  
 Declaratory decision, petition for, 1515.2  
 Delegates, pages 19, 27-28, 601, 602.1-2, 608, 631.22, 641.3, 644  
 Discipline, revisions of, presented to, 1256.3  
 Effective date of legislation, 631.21, .22  
 Election of delegates to, 601  
 Elections by, 829.1a, 803.3, 841.1, 987.1, 1236, 1255, 1286.2, 1288, 1409.1, 1501  
 Episcopal Fund, approval of percentages for, 874  
 Expenses of, 853  
 Fiscal responsibilities, 15.9, 842.1, 847.1, 853-54, 862, 865, 964.1, 1088.2a, 1115, 1288

**General Conference, cont'd:**  
 Founding date, designation of, 822.2  
 Funds, budgets, approval of, 842.1  
 Journal, 607  
 Judicial Council, 1501-2  
 Jurisdictional Conference, page 23, 44, 625  
 Meeting place, 13  
 Membership, 601  
 Memorials. *See* General Conference, Petitions to  
 Per diem expense, 603, 1284.2  
 Petitions to, 609, 656  
 Plan of organization, 607  
 Powers and duties, page 20  
 Presiding officers, 604  
 Property, 1409.1-2, 1423.1, 1436.11  
 Provisional Annual Conference, 647-48  
 Quorum, 608  
 Recommendations to, 828.18, 842.1a, c, .10, 847-1, 854-56, 858-59, 862.2, 964.1, 1282.3, 1283, 1288  
 Religion in American Life, Inc., Board of Directors, representation on, 1288  
 Reports to, 656, 828.14, .24, 842.1, 845, 846.4, 853.1, 1079.1k, 1097.10, 1224.9, 1270, 1283  
 Representation, special rules regarding, 602  
 Reserve delegates, 38  
 Resolutions of, 611, 1415.2

INDEX

**General Conference, cont'd:**  
 Restrictive rules, 16-21  
 Rules of order, 607  
 Schedule of apportionments presented to, 847.1  
 Secretary  
     Board of Publication membership, notification of, 908  
     Commission on Archives and History, member of, 1267.2  
     Delegate changes, 601  
     Election of, 605-6  
     Petitions, processing of, 609  
     Reports to, 631.7, 828.24, 829.5  
     Schedule of number of delegates, 602.4  
     Tabulations by, 818.1b, c  
     Speaking for Church, 611  
     Special session, 13  
     Territory outside U.S. not in Central Conferences, authority in, 638  
     Transfer of local churches to other jurisdictions, 15.12, 42, 44  
     Translation of legislation, 631.22  
     United Methodist Publishing House, real estate and buildings, 951  
     World Council of Churches, representation on, 1286.2  
 Worship materials, 15.6, 16.1. *See also Book of Worship for Church and Home*

**General Conference boards. See individual board listings**

**General Endowment Fund for Conference Claimants, 1258.2**

**General Military Roll, maintenance of, 1021.10**

**General Rules of The Methodist Church, pages 49, 65-68**

**General secretary, 802.3a, 847.2, 968**  
 Board of  
     Church and Society, 954-80  
     Discipleship, 981-1076  
     Global Ministries, 1077-1188  
     Higher Education Ministry, 1189-1253  
     Pensions, 1603  
     Council on Finance and Administration, 837-96  
     General Conference. *See* General Conference, Secretary

**Germany Central Conference, 822.1**

**Gifts. See Bequests; Special gifts**

**Glossary, pages 557-67**

**Golden Cross, 1118-22**  
 Fellowship, 1121  
 Fund, 1120  
 Health and Welfare Ministries Week, 1119  
 Society, 1119

INDEX

Golden Cross, *cont'd*:  
 Sunday, 1120  
 Women's auxiliaries,  
 1122  
*See also* Division of  
 Health and Welfare  
 Ministries

H

Health certificate (for  
 admission to Annual  
 Conference), 318, 323.6,  
 326.5, 333.4, 376

Health and Welfare Min-  
 istries Week, 1119

Health and welfare repre-  
 sentative (local  
 church), 145.3b, 146.4,  
 149, 152.6

Higher Education  
 Commission or Com-  
 mittee on Christian  
 Higher Education  
 and Campus Minis-  
 try, Annual Confer-  
 ence area, or re-  
 gional, 1205.1, 1208.1,  
 1228, 1249-50, 1252-53  
*See also* Board of  
 Higher Education  
 and Ministry; Edu-  
 cational institutions

Historical shrines, land-  
 marks, sites, 1275

Historical Society, 1273  
 World Methodist,  
 1266.1

Historical statement,  
*pages 7-15*

Holy Communion. *See*  
 Lord's Supper

Home Office Pension  
 Fund, 1257.12

Honoraria, bishop's  
 acceptance of, 861

Hospital

Appeal for funds,  
 special, 884-85. *See*  
*also* Golden Cross  
 Chaplain, 1235. *See*  
*also* Chaplain  
 Committee on Health  
 and Welfare (local  
 church), 162.4  
 Golden Cross, 163f,  
 1118-22  
 Racial policies, 817,  
 1110.6a, b  
*See also* Division of  
 Health and Welfare  
 Ministries

Hospitalization and  
 Medical Expense Pro-  
 gram, 1257.12

Human relations, rights,  
*pages 87-91*

Human Relations Day,  
 163.1d, 973.3. *See also*  
 Special Days

I

Inactive church mem-  
 ber, 129.1

Infants. *See* Children

Information, United  
 Methodist. *See* Joint  
 Committee on Com-  
 munications, United  
 Methodist Information  
 and Public Relations

Insurance plans, 881,  
 1442.7

Interboard Committee  
 on Christian Educa-  
 tion. *Functions as-  
 sumed by* the Division  
 of Education, 997. *See*  
*also* Division of Edu-  
 cation

Interboard Committee  
 on Enlistment for  
 Church Occupations.  
*Functions assumed by*  
 Board of Higher Edu-  
 cation and Ministry.  
*See* Office of Personnel

Interdenominational  
 agencies  
 American Bible Society,  
 1287  
 Council of Bishops,  
 primary liaison with,  
 1289

National Council of  
 Churches, 1285  
 Religion in American  
 Life Inc., 1288  
 World Council of  
 Churches, 1286  
 World Methodist  
 Council, 1284

Interdenominational Co-  
 operation Fund, 842.1,  
 854

Apportionments  
 To Annual Confer-  
 ences, 875  
 Statement of, 844  
 Funds  
 Administration of,  
 842.1, 2b  
 Promotion of, 906.3a  
 Remittance of, 879  
 National Council of  
 Churches, support  
 of, 1285.1  
 World Council of

INDEX

Interdenominational Co-  
 operation Fund, *cont'd*:  
 Churches, support of,  
 1286.3

Interdenominational  
 relations  
 Affiliated autonomous  
 churches, 640-46  
 American Bible Society,  
 1287  
 Central Conference,  
 631.1, 25-26  
 Commission on Ecu-  
 menical Affairs,  
 159.7. *See also* Divi-  
 sion on Ecumenical  
 and Interreligious  
 Concerns  
 Cooperative publica-  
 tion, 1010  
 Curriculum planning  
 and construction,  
 1010-11  
 Expenses, 853, 906.2c,  
 1287-88. *See also*  
 Interdenominational  
 Cooperation Fund  
 Local church, 159.3-4,  
 160.1, 1184.2b, 1440  
 Ministerial education,  
 355, 1226.3, 1227  
 Ministers from other  
 churches, admission  
 of, 376-81, 662.3,  
 665.8  
 Mission fields, 649  
 National Council of  
 Churches, 854,  
 906.2d, 1010-11, 1285  
 National Division,  
 Board of Global  
 Ministries, 1124.14,  
 1126, 1128.3g  
 Property of local  
 church, 1440  
 Relief agencies, 1144  
 Religion in American  
 Life, 1288

Interdenominational rela-  
 tions, *cont'd*:  
 Transfer of member-  
 ship, 119, 139-40  
 Trustees of institu-  
 tions, 1445  
 World Council of  
 Churches, 854, 1011,  
 1286  
 World Federation of  
 Methodist Women,  
 631.15  
 World Methodist  
 Council, 1266.1, 1284

Interjurisdictional Com-  
 mittee on Episcopacy,  
 612

International relations,  
*pages 95-97*

Interpretation, function  
 of Joint Committee on  
 Communications, 906.3

Introductory studies for  
 the ministry, 312.1,  
 349.4, 1226

Investigation. *See* Com-  
 mittee of Investigation;  
 Judicial administra-  
 tion, Investigation

Investments, 354.12,  
 631.31, 1410.2, 1413.3,  
 1422.3, 1427, 1442, 1444

J

John Wesley, *pages 7-9,*  
*40-43, 49-50*

Joint Commission on  
 Education and Culti-  
 vation. *See* Division of  
 Education and Culti-  
 vation

Joint Committee on Com-  
 munications, 897-906  
 Amenable to General  
 Council on Minis-  
 tries, 897  
 Areas of Work, 904,  
 906  
 Audio-visuals, 906.2  
 Board of Managers,  
 899, 903  
 Broadcasting and Film  
 Commission  
 (National Council  
 of Churches), 906.2c  
 Cooperation with other  
 boards and agencies,  
 897, 906  
 Elections, 899, 901-3  
 Ethnic representation,  
 899  
 Executive Committee,  
 902  
 Finance, 905  
 Functions, 906  
 Incorporation, 898  
*Interpretation*, 906.3  
 Local church, 906.1  
 Meetings, 900  
 Membership, 899  
 Officers, 901, 903  
 Organization, 899, 904  
 Program journal for  
 pastors, 906.3a  
 Staff, 903  
 Television, Radio, and  
 Film Communica-  
 tion, 906.2  
 United Methodist In-  
 formation and Public  
 Relations, 906.1

Joint Committee on Dis-  
 ability, 665.25

Joint Committee on  
 Missionary Personnel.  
*Functions assumed by*  
 Board of Higher Edu-  
 cation and Ministry.  
*See* Office of Personnel

INDEX

Joint Distributing Committee, 1263

Journal

Annual Conference.  
See below Journal, conference  
Central Conference, 630.7, 631.14  
General Conference, 608, 628.1-.2, 1519  
Judicial procedure, 1519, 1529.11  
Jurisdictional Conference, 619, 627-28

Journal, conference,

664.2-.3  
Agency secretaries' expenses, 886  
Bishops' responsibility to, 390.9  
Central Conference authority over, 631.14  
Content and arrangement, 664.3  
Council on Finance and Administration, copies sent to, 664.2  
Deaconesses, 664.4, 1137.2c  
Directors of Christian education and of music, 1253.2  
Financial reports, 880, 886, 895, 896, 1196.8, 1612.7  
Investments listed, 1262.7  
Jurisdictional Conference authority over, 627  
Ministers of Christian education and of music, 1253.2  
Pastors' salaries and paid expenses, 895-96  
Reports of agencies, 842.11, 1130, 1174.2

Journal, conference, cont'd:

Treasurer's annual statement, 842.11  
Trial Court proceedings, 1540.7

Judicial administration, 1501-60

Annual Conference authority, 37, 662.4, 1515, 1540.6-.7, .9-.10, .12, 1528.3, 1529.2, 1531  
Appeals, 18, 26.6, 30.7, 61, 1508-11, 1529-33.  
For details see Appeals, judicial  
Bishop  
Appeal of, 1530  
Appeal from ruling of, 61.2-.3, 1511  
Central Conference, 1539.9  
Decisions on questions of law, 56, 61, 354.11, 1508, 1511-12, 1529.10, .12  
Presiding over trials, 1540.5, .7. See also Trials  
Suspension of, 1534.1-2, 1539.6-.7  
Trial of, 1520-28  
Withdrawal under complaint, 1541  
Central Conference, 630.5, 631.17, .31  
Charges, 1521.1, 1554  
Church member, 1533, 1554-60  
Committee of Investigation, 662.4-.6, 1539.2, 1540.6, .8, 1543, 1554-55  
Complaints, 662.4, 1525.2, 1560  
Counsel, 1524

Judicial administration, cont'd:

Court  
Appellate, 1529.2-.8, 1531, 1533.2-.4  
Trial, 1533.2, 1539.3-.6, 1540.5, .7, 1556-57. See also Trials  
Credentials, deprivation of, 662.4, 1534.3, 1535-38  
Deaconess, 1553  
Decisions on questions of law, 56, 61-62, 354.11, 1506-19, 1529.9. For details see Decisions on questions of law  
Declaratory decisions (Judicial Council), 1507.2, 1515-18  
Deposition of  
Bishop, 1534.1-2, 1539.6-.7  
Ministerial member, 1534.1-2, 1540.4-.5, .7  
Lay pastor, 1537, 1544, 1547-48  
District superintendent  
Decisions on questions of law, 354.11, 1529.10, .12a  
Investigation, 1540.3-.4  
Presiding over trials, 1545, 1557. See also Trials  
Episcopal decisions.  
See Decisions on questions of law  
General Conference authority, 15.7, 18  
General directions, 1522  
Investigation of  
Bishop, 1539.2, .5, .9  
Church member, 1555

INDEX

Judicial administration, cont'd:

District superintendent, 1540.3-.4  
Lay pastor, 1544  
Ministerial member, 1540.4  
Judicial Council. See Judicial Council  
Lay pastor, 1532, 1543-51, 1552  
New trial, 1558  
Notices, 1525  
Offenses of  
Bishop, 1521.1  
Church member, 1554-59  
Lay pastor, 1544  
Ministerial member, 1540  
Penalties  
Bishop, 1539.4, .6-.7  
Church member, 1557  
Lay pastor, 1544-50  
Ministerial member, 1540  
Provisional Annual Conference, 1551  
Questions of law. See Decisions on questions of law  
Records, 1528, 1529.11, 1531.4b, 1541.10, 1544-45  
Bishop, 1539.4-.5  
Lay pastor, 1537  
Ministerial member, 1534.3, 1540.5  
Restrictive rule, 18  
Suspension of  
Bishop, 1539.6-.7  
Lay pastor, 1544, 1547  
Ministerial member, 1540.4-.7  
Testimony, 1527  
Trials, 18, 631.17, 662.4,

Judicial administration, cont'd:

1520-60. For details see Trials  
Witnesses, 1526.8, 1527.2  
Judicial Council, 60-62, 1501-19  
Absence from, 1503.3  
Annual Conference, appeal of, 1529.2  
Appeal of, 630.5  
Annual Conference presiding bishop, 1529.10  
Bishop's decision, 1511  
Central Conference, 1529.10  
Decline of appeal, 1506  
Authority of, 1516  
Bishop, appeal of, 1513, 1530  
Central Conference, 61.1, .4, 630.5, 1508-10, 1515.2, 1539.9, 1530.2, .3  
Composition, 1501-5  
Constitutionality, 61-62, 1506-8, 1515.1-2  
Decisions, 61-62, 1506-19, 1529.9-10. For details see Decisions on questions of law  
Declaratory decisions, 1507.2, 1515-19  
Determinations of, 1507-11  
Election of, 1501  
Expenses of, 853  
Finality of decisions, 62, 1512, 1514.3  
Functions, 1506-17  
Jurisdictional Conference, 61.1, .4, 623, 1508-10, 1514, 1539.5-.6, 1530.1, .3

Judicial Council, cont'd:

Meetings, 1506  
Membership, 1501, 1505  
Organization, 1506  
Powers and duties, 61, 1506-19  
Procedure, 1506  
Publication of decisions, 1519  
Questions of law carried to, 1529.9  
Quorum, 1506  
Restriction on members, 1505  
Retirement, 1501-2  
Right of appeal to, 623  
Term of office, 1504  
Vacancies, 1503  
Vote required, 1506  
Writ of certiorari, 1514.3  
See also Judicial administration

Judicial Court, 30.6

Jurisdiction, vacancies in boards or agencies, 1285.2, 1290

Jurisdictional agencies,

26.3, 625, 810, 1505  
Association of  
Deaconess/Home Missionary, 1140.3  
Board of  
Church and Society, 977  
Discipleship, 1028  
Global Ministries, 1171  
Higher Education and Ministry, 1248  
Commission on Archives and History, 1276  
Committee on Episco-

INDEX

**Jurisdictional agencies, cont'd:**  
 pacy, 386-87, 621.2, 624, 1539.5  
 Council on Ministries, 830  
 Court of Appeals, 1531  
 United Methodist Women, 1145, 1153.4

**Jurisdictional Conference, 8, 22-26, 42, 51, 53-57, 612-28**  
 Agencies. *See* Jurisdictional agencies  
 Annual Conference journals, authority over, 627  
 Appeals, 26.6, 1509, 1514, 1530-31, 1540.5, 7  
 Apportionments, distribution of, 870-71  
 Authority over Annual Conference, 44-45  
 Bishop  
 Amenable to, 395, 396.2-.3, 623, 863, 1539.1  
 Assignments, 53-54, 386-87, 395.3, 398, 621.2, 863  
 College of, 53. *See also* College of Bishops  
 Election, 15.10, 26.2, 51, 383-84  
 Number of, 398  
 Presides over, 57, 390.2, 622  
 Retired, 395-97, 863-64  
 Supervision, residential and presidential, 54  
 Trial, 1511, 1530.1-.3, 1539  
*See also* Bishop;

**Jurisdictional Conference, cont'd:**  
 Episcopacy; Episcopal supervision  
 Boards. *See individual board listings*  
 Boundaries, 42, 44-45  
 Called session, 621  
 Charge Conference amenable to, 145.15  
 Commission on Religion and Race, conference elects members to, 1278  
 Committee on Episcopacy, 624  
 Composition. *See* Jurisdictional Conference, Delegates  
 Constitutionality of acts, 1508  
 Decisions on questions of law, 1511-12  
 Declaratory decision, petition for, 1515  
 Delegates, 14, 22, 24, 38-40, 612, 614-17, 621.3  
 Elections by, 15.10, 26.2, 51, 339.2, 612, 624, 626, 803.1, 1082.1, 1255.1  
 Equality of all conferences, 613  
 Expenses, 620  
 Higher education, 665.7  
 Historical sites, designation of, 1275.4  
 Historical Society, cooperation with, 1273  
 Interjurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy, 612  
 Journal, 619, 628  
 Loan fund, seminary, 665.7

**Jurisdictional Conference, cont'd:**  
 Meetings, 25, 618, 621  
 Membership, 614  
 Missionary bishop, 400.2  
 Number of bishops in, 398  
 Organization, 619  
 Powers and duties, 26, 45, 383-84, 619-28  
 Presiding officers, 57, 390.2, 397.1, 622  
 Provisional Annual Conference, 645  
 Quorum, 619  
 Race relations, 625  
 Records, 627-28  
 Reports to, 624.2, 627, 1079.1k  
 Representation on general agencies. *See* Jurisdictional Conference, Elections by  
 Reserve delegates, 38, 616  
 Retired bishops, 395-97, 863-64  
 Rules, 619  
 Secretary, 628.1, 1528.3  
 Seminary loan fund, 665.7  
 Special rules regarding representation, 615  
 Special sessions, 621  
 Student aid fund, 665.7

L

**Laity Sunday, 163.2c**

**Lay delegates, 12, 14, 24, 28, 37-38, 40, 67 (Amendment I), 601, 602, 610, 614-17, 621.3, 624.1, 629.2, 630.1, 644, 648, 655.3, 660.1a, 2-.5, 670.1**

INDEX

**Lay Employee's Pension Fund, 1257.12**

**Lay leader and associate Annual Conference, 1027.4, 1050-52, 1053.2, .3, 1257-58 District, 670.1, 1056-57, 1059, 1063 Local church, 145.3a, 149, 152.1, 155, 162.3, 670.1**

**Lay missionaries, outside U.S. seated in Annual Conference, 660.2**

**Lay pastor, 307.3, 338-49 Amenable to Annual Conference, 349.3 Annual Conference, 146.1, 660.2 Annuity rate, 1259.7 Appeal of, 1532 Appointment, 338-43 Assistant pastor, 341 Associate membership, eligibility for, 339 Authority to administer Sacraments, 349.1 Charge Conference, member of, 341 Classification of, 348 Conference relation, 339 Course of study, 1226.4 Credentials, deprivation of, 1537 Definition, 307.3, 338 District Committee on the Ministry, annual approval by, 346.1 Educational requirements, 318, 340, 348, 349.4, 1226.4 Evangelist, 1021.8, 1044 From other churches, 347**

**Lay pastor, cont'd:**  
 Full membership, eligibility for, 339  
 Full-time, 348.1  
 Investigation and trial of, 1543-51  
 Leaving United Methodist Church, 344  
 License, renewal of, 145.5, 320  
 Membership, church, 344  
 Offenses of, 1521  
 Order of deacon, eligibility for, 312.1  
 Ordination, 309-12  
 Part-time, 348.2  
 Pension credit, 1259  
 Probationary membership, 325-29, 339  
 Records of, 664.3  
 Reinstatement of status, 344.2  
 Reports to Charge Conference and district Committee on the Ministry, 345  
 Restoration of credentials, 1538  
 Retired, salary, 893  
 Service record of, 1257.10  
 Student, 347, 348.3  
 As student pastor, 343  
 Termination of status, 344.1, 665.10  
 Trial of, 1543-51  
 Withdrawal under complaints or charges, 1552  
*See also* Pastor

**Lay Personnel Committee, 162.2**

**Lay speaker, 145.8, 631.20, 1027.7, .8, 1044.4, 1067-70**

**Lay speaking. See** Subcommittee on Lay Speaking, district

**Lay worker, 501-8 Affirmation of candidates, 145.7 See also** Committee on the Lay Worker

**Leave, 356**

**Legacies. See** Bequests; Devises

**Legal counsel, 843.3, 1524**

**Letter of notification, 136, 138**

**Liability, legal, 631.31, 662.2, 1110.11, 1423.1, 1436.11**

**Liaison Committee, World Division, 1060**

**License to preach, 318-21 Authority, 321 Course of study for, 318.6, 1226 Division of the Ordained Ministry provides studies for, 1226.1, .4 Issuance of, 317, 354.8, 665.19, 670.3, 1136.4 Recommendation, 145.4 Renewal of, 320 Requirement of, 308 Surrender of, 370, 1534-37**

**Limitations on appointment of pastors, 348, 358, 367.2, 368, 391.1, .3, .6, .7, 1044.4**

INDEX

Literature

- Book of Hymns, The*, 1019
- Book of Worship, The*, 1019
- Book of Worship for Church and Home, The*, 1023
- Church school, 159.1, 160.1, 939-41, 991, 999, 1007
- Committee on Good Literature, 162.4
- Distribution of, 350.4c, 950
- Evangelistic, 1021.1, 4, .13, .14, 1043
- General church periodicals, 938
- Historical, 1266, 1277.2
- Religion in Life*, 935
- Stewardship, 1022.1, 3, 4, 8
- Subcommittee on Use of United Methodist Curriculum Materials, 1037
- United Methodist Publishing House, *The*, 919, 938, 939
- See also *United Methodist Publishing House, The, Upper Room, The*
- See also Editor; Periodicals; Publications

Loan fund, United Methodist Student, 163.1e, 665.7, 1202.1

Local church

- Abandoned or discontinued, 1441
- Administrative Board, 148-52. For details see Administrative Board
- Admission into the

Local church, cont'd:

- church, 115-19. For details see Membership, Admission into the Church
- Affiliate and associate membership, 126
- Age-level and family coordinators and councils. See Age-level
- Board of Global Ministries, financial aid from, 1124.5, .13, .15, 1126, 1128.3h, 1134
- Board of Trustees, 1419-44. For details see Board of Trustees, Local church board; Trustees, local church
- Budget, 151.3e, 162.3
- Building, 151.7, 1415-18, 1423.2, 1427, 1434-37. See also Board of Trustees, Local church board; Trustees, local church
- Building committee, 1427, 1436.3
- Care of members, 127-30. For details see Member, care of
- Certificate of organization, 662.10
- Chairpersons, work area, 158
- Charge Conference, 48-49 (page 30), 106.1, 144-46, 1423. For details see Charge Conference
- Children and the church, 73c (page 88), 77, 120-24, 157.1. For details see Children

Local church, cont'd:

- Church Conference, 147
- Church Local Conference, 1421, 1424.2
- Church membership, 107-9. For details see Membership
- Church school, 160.1. See also Church school
- Circuit, 106.2
- Commissions, work area (ecumenical affairs, education, evangelism, missions, social concerns, stewardship, worship), 159
- Committees, (estate planning, finance, good literature, health and welfare, lay personnel, nominations and personnel, pastor-parish relations, public relations, records and history), 162
- Constituting Church Conference, 142.5-7
- Construction, 1436
- Council on Ministries, 153-61, 824-36
- Administrative Board Administration of Council on Ministries by, 151.1
- Chairperson of, member of Council on Ministries, 155
- Chairperson of Council on Ministries, member of, 149
- Adult Council, 157.3
- Age-level and family

INDEX

Local church, cont'd:

- Coordinators, 149, 152.3, 155-57
- Councils, 157
- Groupings, formation of, 160
- Amenability, 153
- Campus ministry, 159.1. See also Division of Higher Education, Section on Campus Ministry
- Chairperson, 145.3a, 155-56, 158
- Children's Council, 157.1
- Christian Education Sunday, 163.5c
- Commission on Ecumenical Affairs, 159.7
- Commission on Education, 159.1. See also Commission on Education
- Commission on Evangelism, 159.2
- Commission on Missions, 159.3
- Commission on Social Concerns, 159.4
- Commission on Stewardship, 159.5
- Commission on Worship, 159.6. See also Commission on Worship
- Committee on Nominations, United Methodist Women, 160.3
- Committee on Nominations and Personnel, relationship to, 162.1
- Coordinator, 146.5, 155-56
- Definition, 153

Local church, cont'd:

- Division of the Local Church, school resources, 160.1
- Expansion of, 153
- Family Council, 157.4
- Lay leader member of, 152.1
- Loan Fund, 159.1
- Membership, 155
- Membership rolls, audit of, 132
- Men's groups, formation of, 160.4
- Minimum structure for local church, 153
- Minister, 155, 156.1, 157.4, 158-59
- Ministries of local church, 160
- Officers, 155
- Program agencies, 160
- Recommendations by, 151.3c
- Report by, 132
- Reports to, 129.1
- Superintendent of study program, 155
- Task groups, 161
- United Methodist Men, 155
- United Methodist Scholarship, 159.1
- United Methodist Student Day, 163.5e, 1202.2
- United Methodist Youth Ministry, 155. See also United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry
- United Methodist Women, president member of, 155

Local church, cont'd:

- Women, ministry to, 160.3. See also United Methodist Women
- Work area
- Chairpersons, 155, 158-59
- Commissions, 159
- Youth, 155
- Council, 157.2, 160.2
- Ministry, 160.2
- Dedication of, 1437
- Definition, 101-3
- Discontinuance, 130, 351.2, 1441
- Division. See Section on Local Church Education
- Educational program in, 159.1, 160.1. See also Church school
- Elections, 142.6-.7, 145.3, .12, 146-47, 150, 151.2, .3b, 152.1, .3, 153, 155-59, 160.3, 162, 1420-22, 1424.2, 3, 1425.3
- Episcopal visitation, 861
- Evangelistic responsibility, 102, 105
- Finance. See Finance, local church
- Financial secretary, 149, 152.4, 162.3
- Financial system standardization of, 883
- Incorporated, treasurer of, 1424.3
- Incorporation, 142.8, 1423.1, 1424.3, 1430-31, 1433
- Joint Church Conference, 147
- Lay leader. See Lay leader
- Members at large,

INDEX

**Local church, cont'd:**  
 142.6, 144.2, 145.3b,  
 146.3-4, 149  
**Membership. See** Mem-  
 bership, church  
**Membership secretary,**  
 134-35, 145.3a, 149  
**Merger,** 1438-39  
**Minister. See** Minister  
**Mission, organizing,**  
 142.1  
**New building, dedica-  
 tion of,** 1437  
**New local church,** 142,  
 146.1, 151.7, 662.10  
**Nominations,** 142.6-7,  
 145.3, .13, 150, 153,  
 155-56, 158, 162.1, .2,  
 1420-21. *See also*  
 Committee on Nomi-  
 nations and Personnel  
**Official Board. See** Ad-  
 ministrative Board  
**Organizational plans,  
 modification of,** 104  
**Parish,** 106.3  
**Parsonage (housing),**  
 162.2, 1403.2, 1422  
**Pastoral charge, defini-  
 tion of,** 106  
**Preparatory members,  
 120-23, 131.2**  
**Program agencies,** 160  
**Program planning,  
 148.1, 151, 152.1, .3,  
 153, 156-61**  
**Property, 1419-44**  
 Abandoned or dis-  
 continued, 1441  
 Board of Church Lo-  
 cation and Build-  
 ing, 1414-18  
 Board of Trustees,  
 1419-20, 1422-28,  
 1432.4, 1434, 1436.3,  
 1440, 1441.1, 1442.  
*See also* Board of  
 Trustees, local  
 church board

**Local church, cont'd:**  
**Building committee,  
 1436.3-7**  
**Building, remodeling  
 plans,** 1436  
**Charge Conference  
 authority,** 1423  
**Church Local Con-  
 ference,** 1421,  
 1424.2  
**Deeding property to  
 other churches,  
 1440**  
**Definition of "trus-  
 tee" and "Board of  
 Trustees,"** 1424.4  
**Exceptions in Cen-  
 tral, Provisional  
 Central, and Pro-  
 visional Annual  
 Conferences and  
 Missions,** 1444  
**Of incorporated local  
 church,** 1430-31,  
 1433  
**Mortgage of,** 1435  
**Sale of,** 1434-35  
**Trustee. See** Board  
 of Trustees, Local  
 Church board of  
 unincorporated  
 local church, 1428-  
 29, 1432  
**Protection of rights of  
 congregations,** 143  
**Public relations,** 906.1  
**Purpose, pages 16, 17,  
 Part III (pages 83-  
 97), 101-3, 105**  
**Racial policies,** 4,  
 (page 17), 73 (page  
 87), 1406  
**Records and reports,  
 131-33. For details see  
 Membership, records  
 and reports**  
**Relocation,** 1443  
**Remodeling,** 1436  
**Responsibility, evange-**

**Local church, cont'd:**  
 listic and member-  
 ship, 105  
**Right to ordain,  
 change, or abolish  
 rites and ceremonies,  
 69 (page 59, Art.  
 XXII)**  
**Special days,** 163  
**Stewards. See** Local  
 Church, Members at  
 large  
**Stewardship,** 159.3,  
 160.1, 160.5, 162.3,  
 1019, 1022.3, 4, 7, .9  
**Superintendent of  
 study program,** 149,  
 152.3, 155, 160.1,  
 1032.2  
**Task groups,** 161  
**Transfer of,** 46 (page  
 29), 668  
**Transfer and termina-  
 tion of membership,  
 135-41.**  
**Treasurer. See** Treas-  
 urer, local church  
**Trustees, 145.3f, 151.1,  
 1419-20, 1424-28,  
 1432.4, 1434, 1440,  
 1441.1, 1442. See also**  
 Board of Trustees,  
 Local church board;  
 Trustees, Local  
 church  
**Union. See** Local  
 church, Merger  
**United Methodist Men,  
 160.4, 1025, 1027.3**  
**United Methodist  
 Women, 160.3,  
 1147.2a, 1156**  
**United Methodist  
 Youth Ministry, 144.2,  
 149, 155, 160.2, 836,  
 1074. See also** United  
 Methodist Council  
 on Youth Ministry  
**Work areas,** 158, 159

INDEX

**Local church, cont'd:**  
**Young Adult Council,  
 157.3**  
**Young Adult Fellow-  
 ship. See** Local  
 Church Young Adult  
 Ministry  
**Young Adult Ministry,  
 157.3**  
**Youth, 125, 144.2,  
 145.3a, 146.3, 149,  
 155-56, 157.2, 159,  
 160.1, .2, 162.1. See  
 also** United Method-  
 ist Council on Youth  
 Ministry; Youth  
 Ministry. *See*  
 Local Church, United  
 Methodist Youth  
 Ministry  
**Local laws, conformity  
 to,** 1506-7

Lord's Supper

**Authority to adminis-  
 ter,** 311, 313, 349  
**One Great Hour of  
 Sharing offering. See**  
 One Great Hour of  
 Sharing  
**Pastor's duty,** 350.2  
**Significance of,** page 58  
**World Communion  
 Sunday. See** World  
 Communion

M

Marriage

**Authority to solemnize,  
 page 85, 311, 313,  
 350.5, .5b, 358**  
**Counseling,** 350.5, .5a, c  
**Divorce,** 350.5b  
**Of ministers,** 69 Art.  
 XXI  
**Parenthood,** 72a, d

Marriage, cont'd:

**Planned Parenthood,  
 73h**  
**Register of,** 350.4a  
**Report of,** 358, 365  
**Sex in Christian Life,  
 72c**

Medical care, 73e, j, 74e

Medical Expense Pro-  
 gram, Hospitalization  
 and, 1257.12

Member

**Appeal of,** 1533, 1558  
**Care of**  
 Church relationship,  
 127  
 Council on Ministries,  
 duties, 127-29.1, .5  
 Location of member,  
 129.3  
 Obligation for mem-  
 ber, 127, 129.5  
**Of discontinued church,  
 130**  
**Enlistment of,** 127  
**Expelled,** 1559  
**In full connection, An-  
 nual Conference,** 331-  
 35  
**Groups,** 128  
**Honorary,** 146.7  
**Investigation and trial  
 of,** 1554-59  
**As ministers,** 301  
**Neglectful,** 114, 129  
**Negligent, report of,  
 129.1**  
**Nonparticipating and  
 indifferent,** 127  
**Nonresident,** 128  
**Offenses of,** 1521.1  
**Outside the communi-  
 ty,** 129.2  
**Pastor's duties,** 127  
**Primary responsibility  
 of vows,** 129

Member, cont'd:

**Removal of,** 129.1-4  
**Right to trial and  
 appeal,** 63  
**Spiritual growth of,** 127  
**Trial of,** 1554-59  
**Unknown address of,  
 129.3**  
**Visitation of,** 129.1, .5  
**Withdrawal,** 140-41,  
 1560

Membership, Church, 4,  
 105, 107-9

**Absentee,** 129.1  
**Addresses of church  
 members,** 129.2-5  
**Admission into the  
 Church, 115-19**  
 Baptism, 115.1, .4,  
 116-17, 119, 120-23.  
*See also* Baptism  
**Candidate for mem-  
 bership unable to  
 appear,** 118  
**Central Conference  
 authority,** 631.9, .12  
**Chaplain,** 116-17  
**Confirmation,** 115.2,  
 .3, 123-24  
**Membership training,  
 115.2. See also** Con-  
 firmation  
**Military personnel,  
 reception of;** 116  
**From other denomi-  
 nations,** 119  
**Pastor's duties,** 115.1-  
 .2, 124  
**Preparatory member-  
 ship roll,** 115.4,  
 121-23, 131.2  
**Profession of faith,  
 110, 115.1**  
**Reception into mem-  
 bership where local  
 church not avail-  
 able,** 116-17

INDEX

Membership, Church,  
*cont'd:*

Requirements for, 107  
 Affiliate, 126, 131.5  
 Associate, 126  
 Basis of jurisdictional elections, 398, 626  
 Care of members, 127-30  
 Certificate of membership, 115.1, 1534.1, 1535  
 Certificate of transfer, 123, 138-39, 142.3  
 Chaplain, 116  
 Children, 120-24  
 Church school preparation for, 159.1, 160.1, 991, 995. *See also* Membership, church, Training for  
 Classes, 124. *See also* Membership, church, Training for  
 Commission on Evangelism, 158.2  
 Commitment, evidence of lack of, 114  
 Confession of faith, 108  
 Connectional, 103-4, 107, 109, 144.1  
 Council on Ministries, 114, 127-29.1, .5  
 Covenant, 110  
 Definition of, 108  
 Discontinued local church, 130  
 Eligibility for, 107, 115.1  
 Essential for Charge Conference and Administrative Board membership, 144.2, 145.3a, b, 146.3, 149, 152.1  
 Expulsion from, 1554-60  
 Faithful membership

Membership, Church,  
*cont'd:*

and participation, 111-12  
 General Conference authority, 15.2  
 General Rules, *pages* 65-68  
 Groups for ministry to the community, 128  
 Inactive, 129, 159.2  
 Instruction in. *See* Membership, church, Training for  
 Meaning of, 110-14  
 Military service personnel, 117, 1021.10  
 New local church, 142.3, .5  
 Preparatory, 115.4, 121-23, 131.2  
 Privileges and duties, 110-12, 142.5-7, 145.7, 146.1, .3, 147, 149, 159.2, 601.3, 602.1-.3, 631.9, 1559  
 Qualifications for, 110  
 Racial policy, 4, 107  
 Records and reports, 131-34  
 Affiliate Membership Roll, 131.5  
 Annual Conference, reports to, 133.2  
 Associate Membership Roll, 131.6  
 Card index, 133.2  
 Charge Conference, receives reports on membership, 132  
 Constituency Roll, 131.4  
 Council on Ministries, 132  
 Council on Finance and Administration, approval of, 133.1  
 Full Membership

Membership, Church,  
*cont'd:*

Roll, 108, 131.1  
 General Military Roll, 1021.10  
 Loose-leaf membership record, 133.2  
 Members removed by Charge Conference action, 129.4, 131.3  
 Membership secretary, 134  
 Pastor, 132, 133.2, 134  
 Permanent church register, 133.1  
 Preparatory Membership Roll, 115.4, 131.2  
 Removal by Charge Conference, 129.4-.5  
 Residence of members, 129.2-.3, 350.4a  
 Responsibility for, 105  
 Restoral, 129, 1559  
 Rolls  
 Affiliate Membership Roll, 131.5  
 Associate Membership Roll, 131.6  
 Audit of, 132  
 Constituency Roll, 131.4  
 Full Membership Roll, 108, 131.1  
 Maintenance of, 131  
 Removal from, 108, 129.1-.4  
 Secretary, 134-35, 145.3a, 149  
 Training for, 115, 124-25, 159.1, 160.1-2, 350.8  
 Transfer and termination of, 135-41  
 Certificate of transfer, 123, 138-39, 142.3  
 Change of residence of member, 136

INDEX

Membership, Church,  
*cont'd:*

Charge Conference, 129.4, 135, 140  
 Church too distant to participate in, 137  
 Discontinued local church, 130  
 District superintendent, certificate of transfer sent to, 138  
 Member requests transfer, 139  
 Notice of withdrawal, 141  
 Pastor, 135-38, 140. *For details see* Pastor  
 Visitation, 127-29.1, .5  
 Vows, 103, 107, 110, 115.2, 118-19, 129.1  
 Withdrawal, 140-41, 1560  
 Youth, course for, 125

Men, ministry to. *See* United Methodist Men

Mental health, 73G

Mergers, 1438-39

Methodist Corporation, The, 1409

Methodist Social Creed, United, 77

Metropolitan Commission, 1135, 1415.2

Metropolitan missionary societies. *See* City (metropolitan) or district missionary structures

Military

Chaplain, 116-17  
 Reception into church membership, 116-17, 1021.10  
 Service, 75D

Minimum Salary Fund, 888-89. *See also* Commission on Equitable Salaries; Ministerial support

Minister. *See* Pastor  
 Of Christian education, 1253  
 Of evangelism, 159.2, 1021.8, 1044  
 Of music, 1253

Ministerial credentials. *See* Credentials

Ministerial delegates. *See* Delegates; *also under* appropriate organization

Ministerial education, 355, 1191, 1195.2, 1221.1, 1222.2, 1224, 1225.2, .6, 1226-28

Board of the Ministry, 665.4. *For details see* Annual Conference Board of the Ministry  
 Correspondence studies, 665.5e, 665.14, 1226.4  
 Counsel, 350.10, 354.3  
 Course of study, 1226-27. *For details see* Courses of study  
 Examinations and credits, 318-20, 323-24, 326-30, 333, 335, 340, 343, 347-49, 665.13, .14, 1226.2, 1227  
 Fund, 842.1, 856, 1231.1, .3  
 Lay pastor, 312.1, 340,

Ministerial education,  
*cont'd:*

343, 347-48  
 Pastors' school, 665.14, 906.1, 1226.3-.4  
 Requirements for  
 Admission into full connection, 333  
 Lay pastor, 340  
 License to preach, 318, 320  
 Ordination, 309, 314, 332  
 Probationary membership, 324-29, 335, 373-81  
 Transfer from other churches, 376  
 Schools of theology, 1231-33. *For details see* Schools of theology  
 Standards, 312-14, 318, 320, 323-24, 326, 328-29, 340, 1226.4, 1227  
 Support, 1196.5, .6, 1222.1, 1231  
 Time limits, 320.2, 329, 348.1-2

Ministerial orders, 309-14

Ministerial Qualifications, District Committee on. *See* Committee on the Ministry, district

Ministerial recruitment, 350.10, 665.5b, .16, 666, 1224.1, 1225.3

Ministerial student, 308.4

Ministerial support, 151.5, 887-96  
 Apportionments, 151.3d, .5, 859, 888, 892.4, 893.3, .5  
 Appropriations for, de-

INDEX

Ministerial support, *cont'd:*

termination of, 888  
 Basic Salary Plan, 893  
 Bishop, 15.5, 26.2, 30.2, 151.5, 386-87, 395.3, 631.4, 857-65, 887-89  
 Board of the Laity program. *See* Ministerial support, Division of Lay Life and Work  
 Borrowing funds, 857, 876  
 Church's obligation for, 887  
 Commission on Equitable Salaries, 892.2  
 Conference claimants, 20, 151.5, 887-89, 921-22, 1258.2. *For details see* Pensions  
 District superintendent, 145.10, 151.5, 876, 887-89  
 Division of Lay Life and Work, 1027.4  
 Expense reports, 895  
 Equitable salaries for pastors, 888-89, 892.5  
 Ministerial Education Fund, 856  
 Mission, 651  
 Moving expenses, 895  
 Nature of, 887  
 Pastor, 145.9, 151.5, 890-95  
     Expenses, report of, 895  
     Salary determined by Charge Conference, 890  
 Payments to claimants, 889  
 Proportional payment, 888-90, 1260.6  
 Provisional Annual Conference, 651  
 Report on salary, 886, 896

Ministerial support, *cont'd:*

Retired ministers. *See* Pensions  
 Salary claim, limitations, 891  
 Schedule of equitable salaries, 892  
 Sustentation Fund, 894. *See also* Finance  
 Temporary General Aid Fund, 855  
 Unpaid salary claims, 891  
 Ministry Sunday, 163.2*b*  
 Minutes  
     Annual Conference, 664. *See also* Journal, conference  
     Charge Conference, 146.2  
     Council on Finance and Administration, 841.4  
     General, 1519

Missions, 53, 658-59

Administration of, 637-39, 647, 651-52, 658-59, 1136, 1162  
 Aid to charge from Board of Global Ministries, 652  
 Annual meeting, 658, 1136.2  
 Appointment of preachers, 390.4, 397.1, 655.3, 1131, 1136.4  
 Central Conference, representation on, 629.1, 630.1  
 Commission on (local church), 159.3. *See further* Commission on Missions  
 Conferences, 53. *See also* Missionary Conference; Provisional

Missions, *cont'd:*

Annual Conference  
 Duties of ministerial members, 1542  
 Episcopal administration, 53, 391.8, 393, 397.1, 398.1, 400.1, 635, 637-39, 1136  
 Financial support, 651-52  
 Foreign fields, 659  
 Home fields, 658, 1181  
 Lay members, 1136.2  
 Lay pastor, 1532.2, 1551  
 Oklahoma Indian Mission. *See* Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference  
 Pension for service in, 1259.15  
 Powers, 637, 1136.4  
 Property of local churches, 1444  
 Provisional Annual Conference, 629, 632, 635  
 Provisional Central Conference, 629, 632, 635  
 Racial groups, 1126, 1128.1  
 Responsibility for, 1126  
 School of, 159.3  
 Superintendent, 658, 1136.4  
 Visitation, 639, 643

Missionary

Acceptance as, 1124.10, 1158.6, 1170  
 Affiliated autonomous churches, 641.2, 642, 1164  
 Annual Conference relationships, 641.2, 642, 645, 660.2, 1163, 1164.2  
 Assignment of, 1124.9, 1137.2, 1158.6

INDEX

Missionary, *cont'd:*

Audio-visual materials, 1107.7  
 Bishop, 400. *See also* Bishop, Central Conference  
 Committee on Personnel in Mission, 1170.3  
 Conference, 53, 630.1, 654-57  
 Deaconess/Home Missionary Service:  
     Committee on, 1137-38  
     Department of, 1140.1  
     Jurisdiction Association of, 1140.3  
     Education, *See also* Committee on Education and Cultivation, Division of Education and Cultivation; Education.  
     Enlistment, 159.3, 1078.2, 1170.1.  
     Institutes, 1107.8, 1187  
     Lay, 660.2, 1136.2, 1163  
     List of, 664.4  
     Literature, 159.3, 1107.7  
     Meeting, 1136.2, 4  
     Mission Membership, 1136.2  
     Office of Missionary Personnel, 1170  
     Other churches, 1164  
     Outside United States, 1165  
     Personnel in Mission, Committee on, 1170.3  
     Secretary Annual Conference, 1173, 1178.2  
     District, 851.2*f*, 1173.1, 1186-88  
     Standards and Qualifications, 1170.2*a*  
     Structures, City, Metropolitan and District, 1128  
     Workshop, 1187

Mortgage, 1423.2, 1433-35.1  
*See also* Borrowing funds; Debt; Property

Music

Assistant, 149, 1000.4, 1253  
*Book of Hymns, The*, 1019  
 Choirs, 999.1  
 Church school, 157.1  
 Commission on Worship. *See* Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship  
 Director of, 144.2, 149, 1000.4  
 Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians, 1000.4  
 Minister of, 1000.4, 1253.1

N

Narcotics, page 89. *See also* Drug abuse

National Association of Health and Welfare Ministries, 1110.8

National Council of Churches, 1285

National Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1123-27  
 Administration of a Mission, 651-52, 658, 1136  
 Administration of funds for capital-funds emergency projects, 851.1*c*  
 Advance specials, 850.4, 850.12, 1124.13. *For details see* Advance

National Division, Board of Global Ministries, *cont'd:*

Annual Conference, remittance from, 850.16  
 Annuities, 1088.2*a*, 1090  
 Appropriations, 1088.1-4, 1090, 1126  
 Architecture, church, 1181.1, .6  
 Assistant general secretaries, 1087.2*b*  
 Associate general secretary, 1086.2, 1087.2*a-b*, 1123.1, 1125  
 Authority, 1089, 1126-27  
 Bishops  
     Communications with, 1125  
     Cooperation with, 1125  
 Board of Liaison and Society, liaison member on, 957  
 Budget, 1124.12  
 Buildings, church, 1124.5, 1128.3*c*, 1134, 1181.6  
 Bylaws, 1090  
 Child-care agencies, 1124.17  
 Church and Community Committee (Annual Conference, cooperates with division), 1183.2*d*  
 Church extension, 1124.13, 1128.3*c*, 1181. *See also* Church extension  
 City, metropolitan, district mission structures, 1128  
 City work, 1126, 1128  
 Committee on Deaconess/Home Missionary Service, 1137-38.

INDEX

National Division, Board of Global Ministries, *cont'd*:

See also Deaconess Committee on Family Life, 1001.4, 1026.2  
 Committee on Research and Survey (Annual Conference, cooperates with division), 1182  
 Committee on Town and Country Ministries (Annual Conference, cooperates with division), 1184.2b  
 Community centers, 1124.4, .17  
 Conference Advance specials, 850.12  
 Cooperation with other agencies, 1124.10  
 Corporate officers, 1085  
 Deaconess, 1137.2c, .5, 1138.2, 1139.3, 1140.1-.2. See also Deaconess Department of Deaconess/Home Missionary Service, 1140  
 Education and cultivation. See Division of Education and Cultivation  
 Educational work, 1104, 1124.13, .16  
 Elected staff, 1086  
 Elections, 1085.2, 1087.1, 1123.1-.2  
 Executive committee, 1123.2  
 Fields of labor, recommendations of, 1079.1c, 1124.9  
 Finance and field service, 1124.12-.13, .15, 1127, 1128.3h  
 Functions, 1124

National Division, Board of Global Ministries, *cont'd*:

Goodwill Industries, 1124.18  
 Home Missionary, 1137  
 Home Missions and church extension (Annual Conference cooperates with division), 1181.1, .4, .6  
 Homes, retirement, 1124.4  
 Hospitals, 1124.4  
 Income, 1088.2a, c, .3, 1124.13  
 Incorporation, 1081  
 Interdenominational cooperation, 1184.2b  
 Loan fund, 1088.1, 1181.6-.7  
 Medical work, 1124.4, .17  
 Meetings, 1123.1  
 Membership, 1123.1  
 Metropolitan Commission, 1135  
 Missionaries, 1124.9. See also Missionary Missions, 1126, 1136  
 Nominations, 1086.3, 1087, 1140.2  
 Officers, 1085  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 851.1a. See further One Great Hour of Sharing  
 Organization, 1085.2, 1087.1, 1123  
 Pension responsibilities, 1259.15  
 Powers and duties, 1090, 1123.2, 1124, 1126-28  
 Racial policies, 1087  
 Recommendations to, 1139.3-4  
 Reports to, 1124.11, 1129.4, 1181.3

National Division, Board of Global Ministries, *cont'd*:

Research and survey, 1127.3c, 1182  
 Social welfare, 1124.17, 1126  
 Special gifts, 848.2, 849.2, 850.4-.5, .12, 1088.2a, 1107.10, 1124.13. See also Advance  
 Staff, 1086.2-.3, 1087, 1126  
 Support, 1088  
 Town and country work, 1184.2b. See further Town and country ministries  
 United Methodist Development Fund administered by, 1124.15  
 Vacancies, 1085.2  
 Women, staff participation of, 1086.2-.3, 1087.1-.2a-b  
 Women's Division, members on, 1146  
 World Service funds administered by, 1124.13

National Fellowship of Methodist Musicians of The United Methodist Church. See Fellowship of United Methodist Musicians

National youth organization. See United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry

New church. See Organization of a new local church; Church extension

INDEX

Notice

Bishop's status, 396.3-.4, 862-63  
 Judicial procedure, 1525, 1526.1, .4, 1527.3, 1529.1, .11, 1530.1-.3, 1531.2-.3, 1533.2-.3, 1539.2, 1540.4-.5, .10, 1544, 1553  
 Meeting, 144.7, 1433.1, 1436.3, .6  
 Sabbatical leave, 356

Notification, letter of (membership transfer), 126, 136, 138-39

O

Offerings, special. See Special offerings

Office of Missionary Personnel, 1170.4-.6

Office of Personnel, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1242-47

Annual Conference, relation to, 1244-45  
 Division of Lay Ministries, cooperation with, 1241.10  
 Division of the Ordained Ministry, cooperation with, 1225.3, 1228  
 Executive secretary, 1247  
 Functional and cooperative relationships with other boards and agencies, 1243  
 Personnel Information System, maintenance of, 1242.8  
 Responsibilities of, 1242

Official Board. See Administrative Board

Official church papers. See Periodicals

Official Forms and Records, Committee on, 841.4c. See also Council on Finance and Administration, Forms

Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, 657

One Great Hour of Sharing, 832.1, 842.1, .2g, 844, 851  
 Administration of, 851.2  
 Agencies participating, 851.1a, c, 1144.2, 1168  
 Council on Finance and Administration, administration of funds, 842.1

Expenses of, 851.1f  
 Funds, distribution of, 851.1c  
 Promotion of, 851.1f, 851.2a, 906.3a  
 Remittance of funds for, 851.1d, 879  
 Report to Charge Conference, 145.10  
 Treasurer of, 851.2b  
 Voucher, 851.1e

Ordained ministry, 302-6

Orders, 309-14

Order of Deacon, 311-12. See also Deacon  
 Order of Elder, 313-14. See also Elder

Ordination, 309-14, 390.9

Organization of a new local church, 142. See also Church extension

Otterbein, Phillip William, *pages 11-12, 14-15*

Overseas Relief Fund, 851.1c

P

Parish Council on Ministries, 154

Parenthood, 72H, 73h

Parsonage

Building or purchase of, 1124.16, 1416, 1436-37  
 District, 876, 1413-18  
 Episcopal residence, 1411. See also Building; Property

Pastor

Administrative Board, 148.2, 151  
 Admission into Annual Conference, 331, 333, 662.3  
 Age-level and family councils, member of, 157  
 Amenability, 315, 350.4a  
 Annual appointments of, 391.1  
 Appointment of, 308.3. For details see Appointment of preachers  
 Associate, 149  
 Baptism of children, 120-23  
 Benevolences, 145.10  
 Camps and conferences, 1042.2

INDEX

Pastor, *cont'd*:

Candidates for church membership, instruction of, 115.1-3, 350.8  
 Candidates for the ministry, recruitment of, 350.10  
 Care of members, 127-28  
 Certificate  
     Of baptism, 121  
     Of transfer, 138, 142.3  
 Charge Conference, presides over, calls special sessions, 144.6, 350.9  
 Church Conference, call of, to approve building project, 1436.6  
 City, metropolitan, or district missionary structures, support of, 1128, 1133  
 Committee on Nominations and Personnel, Chairperson of, 162.1  
 Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations, 162.2  
 Community, participation in, 350.11  
 Conference relations, 37, 356-70, 663.5-6  
 Confirmation preparation, 115.1-3, 124  
 Continuing education of, 355  
 Council on Ministries, member of, 155  
 Courses of study, 1226.1-3  
 Disability, 357-58  
 Discipline, administration of provisions therein, 350.4  
 Discontinuance of church services, 351.2  
 District Committee on

Pastor, *cont'd*:

the Ministry, 670.3.  
*For details see* District Committee on the Ministry  
 District Conference membership, 670.1  
 Division of Education and cultivation, cooperation with, 1108  
 Division of Higher Education, cooperation with, 1200.2  
 Duties of, 350-51  
 Ecumenical affairs, 350.11  
 Education. *See* Ministerial education  
 Evangelist, 351.1  
 Examination of conduct, 662.4  
 Expenses, report of, 895  
 Financial aid, emergency, 894  
 Instruction of candidates for membership, 115.1-3, 350.8  
 Lay. *See* Lay pastor  
 Leaves of absence for study, 355  
 Letter of notification, 136  
 License to preach, 665.19. *For details see*  
     License to preach  
 Local church, organization and structure of, responsibility for, 104  
 Located minister, 367  
 Mail addresses, 843.8  
 Marriage, 350.5  
     Of minister, 69 Art. XXI  
 Membership. *See* Membership  
 Membership rolls, responsibility for, 129, 134, 140-41

Pastor, *cont'd*:

Moral and social responsibility, 318.7  
*note 5, 326.3e*  
 New local church, organization of, 142  
 Notification  
     To Annual Conference Board of Trustees of gifts, property, etc., 1410.4-5  
     To local church Board of Trustees of gifts, property, etc., 1419-21  
 From other churches, 376-81  
     Certification of ordination from other church, 380  
     Certification of recognition from bishop, 379  
 Transfer from other United Methodist churches, 381  
 Ordination, 309-14. *For details see* Orders, ministerial  
 Parsonage. *See* Parsonage  
 Pastoral charge, arbitrary organization of prohibited, 351.3  
 Pastoral relations, 162.2  
 Pension. *See* Pension  
 Preaching, 350.1. *See further* Preaching  
 Premarital conferences, 350.5a  
 Preparatory Membership Roll, 115.4, 121-23, 131.2  
 Proportional payments, 1260.6  
 Qualifications, 301-6, 318-20

INDEX

Pastor, *cont'd*:

Records, 120-42, 350.4a, .10  
 Renewal of license, 145.5, 320  
 Reports, 117, 121-23, 129-34, 135-41, 145.10, 163.5e-f, 350.4a, 660.6, 850.15, 895, 1410.4  
     To Annual Conference, 133.2, 350.4a, .10, 895-96  
     To Charge Conference, 132, 135, 140, 350.4a, 358, 367  
     Concerning transfer of membership, 119, 135, 138-40  
     Requirement to receive appointment, 391.10  
     Restrictions on, 351  
     Retirement, 359-65  
     Right to trial and appeal, 63  
     Sabbatical leave, 356  
     Sacraments, administration of, 349, 350.2, 353  
     Salary, 145.9, 151.3d, .5, 890-93. *See also* Ministerial support  
     Schools, 162.2, 333.3b, 665.14, 906.1, 1225.6, 1226.3-4  
     Service record of, 1257.10  
     Special appointment, 352, 896. *See also*  
         Special appointment  
     Superannuated minister, 359-64  
     Supernumerary minister, 358  
     Supervision of, 350.9-10, 354.4  
     Support. *See* Ministerial support  
     Surrender of ministerial office, 370

Pastor, *cont'd*:

Sustentation Fund, 894  
 Termination of membership, 135-41  
     record of, 141  
 Training for children, 124  
 Transfer  
     Of church member, 119, 129.1-2, 135-39  
     Of pastor to other United Methodist churches, 381  
     Trial of, 1521.1, 1540-42. *See also* Trials  
     Unpaid salary claims, 891  
     Visitation, 127-29.1, .5, 334.15, 350.7  
     Withdrawal, 370, 1541  
     Withdrawal of church member, 140-41  
     Women, 308.2  
     Work area chairpersons and commissions, 158-59

Pastors' schools, 1046.3

Peace and world order, *pages 95-97*; 972  
 Penal system, *page 94*; 971.1

Pension

Credits, 1257.15, 1259, 1263.3  
 Home Office Pension Fund, 1257.12  
 Lay employees pension plan, 1257.12  
 Minister's reserve pension fund, 666.25, 1257.12  
 Pastor not required to contribute to more than one pension program, 1261.4f

Pension, *cont'd*:

Payments, defaults, 1260.6  
 Plan, lay workers to have benefit of, 507, 1254.1, 1257. *See also* Annuity and Board of Pensions

Pentecost Sunday, 1101.4f

Periodicals

Church school. *See* Church school, Publications  
 General church, 350.4c, 938, 1196.4  
 Editorial director, 938.2  
 Promotional, approval of, 836.2  
*Religion in Life*, 934-35  
*Upper Room*, 984

Permanent funds, 1258

Personnel Committee, 1116

Physical examination (for admission to Annual Conference), 333.4, 376

Plan of Union, *pages 17-18*

Polity, United Methodist, 333.3, 334.11, .13, 1226.2, 1227, 1232

Pornography, *page 86*

Poverty, *pages 92-93*

Power, responsible use of, *page 96*

Preacher. *See* Pastor

INDEX

**Preaching**

Authorization, 308.1, 311, 313, 318, 321, 350.1. *See also* License to preach  
 Gifts for, 145.4, 303, 320  
 Duty of, 334.10, 350.1, 354.1  
 Mission, 861  
 Place  
     Discontinuance of, 130, 351.2, 1441  
     New, 354.5. *See also* Organization of a new local church; Church extension  
 Report of, 345

**Preparatory members,**

121-22, 124, 350.8, .10  
 Roll of, 115.4, 121-23, 131.2

**Printing.** *See* United Methodist Publishing House, The

**Probationary member,**

325-29  
 Appeal of, 1531  
 Offenses of, 1521.1  
 Qualifications for, 326-30  
 Service record of, 1257.10  
 Status of expelled, 1534  
 Trial of, 1540  
 Withdrawal under complaints, 1541

**Program agencies, local church,** 160

**Program Council.** *See* Council on Ministries

**Program Curriculum Committee,** 989-94, 999.19

**Project Review Committee** (United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry), 1075-76

**Property,** 1401-45

Abandoned, 354.12, 1441  
 Adjustments for boundary changes, 615.4, 1263.1, 1411, 1413.3, 1422.3  
 Agencies, general, 842.6, 843.1-2, 848.  
     *See also under names of agencies below*  
 Alienation, 631.30  
 Annual Conference, 1410-12  
 Auditing and bonding, 1408  
 Board of  
     Church and Society, 964.2, 1409.1  
     Discipleship, 982, 986  
     Global Ministries, 1079.1*h*  
     Higher Education and Ministry, 1196.2, 1201.2  
     Pensions, 1257  
     Publication. *See* Property: United Methodist Publishing House, The  
     Building. *See* Building  
     Camps and conferences, 1034.2, 1042.2-.4  
     Central Conferences, 631.27-.28, 1444  
     Charge Conference authority, 1421-33, 1436.3  
     Council on Finance and Administration, 843.1-2  
     Deeds, 1428, 1430, 1433-34, 1436.8,

**Property, cont'd:**

1441.2, 1442.1-2, 8  
 District, 1413-18  
 District of Columbia, 1409.1  
 District superintendent's duties, 354.9  
 Educational institutions, 1198.5-.6, 1201.2, 1214  
 Episcopal residence, 1411  
 General Conference, 843  
 Gifts of, 848  
 Income from, 1442.4  
 Insurance, 1441.1, 1442.7  
 Inventory, 1442.3  
 Leasing by general agency, 843.1  
 Limitation on use of building funds, 1413.3, 1435  
 Local church, 1419-44.  
     *For details see* Local church, property  
 Local laws, 1406-7, 1440  
 Location and building, 142.1, 1414-18, 1436.8  
 Merger of local churches, 1438-40  
 Mortgage, 1423.2, 1432-35  
 National Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1088.1, 1090, 1124.5-.15, 1128.3, 1181.1, .6  
 Parsonage, 1403.2, 1441, 1413, 1418, 1436  
 Purchase, 822.2, 1423.2, 1428-31, 1436, 1437.8  
 Repairs, remodeling, 1416, 1423.2, 1436, 1442.5

INDEX

**Property, cont'd:**

Sale, transfer, mortgage of, 1423.2, 1432-35, 1441, 1443-44  
 Special gifts of, 848  
 Title to, 1428, 1430  
 Trust clause, 1403, 1428, 1430  
 Trustees. *See* Board of Trustees  
 United Methodist Publishing House, The, 924.1, 925, 951-52  
 Used by other churches, 354.11  
 Woman's Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1147  
 World Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1088, 1181.1, .6. *See also* Building

**Provisional Annual Conference,** 10, 647-53

Aid to charge from Board of Global Ministries, 652  
 Appeal of legality of actions of board or agency, 1510  
 Appointment of preachers, 390.4, 397.1  
 Auditing and bonding of fiscal officers, 1408  
 Authorizations, 648  
 Bishop, presiding officer, 649  
 Board of Global Ministries, 653, 1159.1  
 Central or Provisional Central Conference, election of delegates to, 648  
 Chartered Fund, 1258.1  
 Distributing Committees for merging conferences, 1260

**Provisional Annual Conference, cont'd:**

Educational institutions, requirements for acquiring, 1220.4  
 General Conference authority over, 15.3  
 Judicial administration, 1551  
 Lay pastors, no power to try, 1551  
 Membership minimum, 647  
 Merger of, 1263.1, .3  
 Ministerial members, duties of, 1542  
 Ministerial support, 651  
 Missionary Conference or Mission established as, 647  
 Pension for service in, 1259.15  
 Powers, 648  
 Presiding officer, 650  
 Property of local churches, 1444  
 Standing committee on amount needed to support each pastoral charge, 651  
 Superintendent, 649-50  
 United Methodist Publishing House, The, Shares in proceeds from, 648  
*See also* Annual Conference

**Provisional Central Conference,** 632-39

Becoming a Central Conference, 630.8  
 Board of Global Ministries, authority between General Conferences, 635, 637  
 Estimates for maintenance of work, 1161

**Provisional Central Conference, cont'd:**

Organization of, 629.1, 632-33  
 Powers granted by General Conference, 629.1, 634, 637  
 Visits from members of Council of Bishops, 630.4

**Psychological tests** (for ministerial candidates), 318.5, 333.4

**Publication.** *See* Board of Publication

**Public relations.** *See* Joint Committee on Communications, United Methodist Information and Public Relations

**Publisher,** 920, 928. *See also* Board of Publication and United Methodist Publishing House Agency membership, 908, 912, 941, 992.2

Authority, 931, 945  
 Board of Discipleship, relation to, 992.2, 1017-18

Board of Publication, 908, 912. *See also* Board of Publication

Bond required for, 932  
 Council on Ministries, cooperation with, 828.15*b*, 938.4

Responsibility for Books, 934

Church school publications, 941, 943, 992.2, 1018

INDEX

**Publisher, cont'd:**  
 General church periodicals, 938.4  
 Salary, 929  
 Section on Curriculum Resources, sitting with, 1018  
 Successor to Book Agents, 923

**Publishing House. See** United Methodist Publishing House, The

**Publishing policies, duplication of, 828.15b**

Q

**Quadrennial commissions and committees, 1281-83**

**Quadrennium, 820, 1291**

R

**Race Relations Sunday. See** Human Relations Day; Special Days

**Racial policy, 4, 73 (page 87), 107, 662, 817.1, 842.6, 1078.2, .5, 1082.3, 1087.1, 1088.1, 1110.6, 1406**

**Radio. See** Joint Committee on Communications

**Ratio distribution of funds:**  
 Conference benevolences, 868.2, 869-72, 874-76, 878  
 General Administration Fund, 853  
 Local church, 151.5, 152.5, 160.3 (Art. 6), 162.3, 859, 889, 1260.6

**Ratio distribution of funds, cont'd:**  
 Ministerial support, 859, 889, 1260.6  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 851  
 World Communion, 852  
 World service, 847  
 World service and conference benevolences, 868.2, 869-72, 874-76, 878  
 Youth Service Fund, 836, 1074

**Ratio of representation, 14, 23, 28, 601, 614, 630, 829, 1703.10e, .10g. See also** Delegates

**Readmission of a minister, 372-74, 391.8, 1259.3a, 1536**

**Real estate. See** Building; Property

**Reception into church membership. See** Membership, Admission into the Church

**Record blanks, official. See** Forms

**Recording secretary, Administrative Board, 145.3a, 146.2, 150**

**Records**  
 Annual Conference, 627, 664, 665.5d, .9, .13, 666.2e, 1257.10, 1408  
 Board of the Ministry, 665.9, .13  
 Publication, 910

**Records, cont'd:**  
 Central Conference, 630.7, 631.14  
 Committee on Official Forms and, 841.4c  
*See also* Council on Finance and Administration, Forms  
 Discontinued Church, 1441.2  
 Pastor, 350.10, 665.10  
 District Conference, 670.2  
 Judicial administration, 1528  
 Judicial Council, 1519  
 Local-church. *See below* Records, local-church  
 Trustees, Annual Conference, 1410.5

**Records local-church**  
 Administrative Board, 152.4  
 Audit, annual, 162.3  
 Baptisms and marriages, 122-23, 345, 350.4a, 358, 365, 367.2  
 Charge Conference, 145.9, 146.2, 147, 162.4  
 Church school, 233.4, 243  
 Financial secretary, 152.4  
 Membership, 121, 126, 131-34, 135, 138-41  
 Organization meeting for church, 142.3  
 Pastor's, 350.4a, .10  
 Treasurer, 152.5  
 Trustees, 1427

**Recruitment for church vocations, 145.6, 152.2, 350.10, 665.6, 666, 1139, 1170, 1224.1, .8, 1225.3,**

INDEX

**Recruitment for church vocations, cont'd:**  
 1228, 1235, 1240.2, .8, 1241.9, 1242-47

**Rehabilitation, (page 94)**  
 Overseas. *See* United Methodist Committee on Relief

**Religion in American Life, Inc., 1288**

**Religion in Life, 934-35**

**Remittance of funds, 844, 848, 876, 878-79, 889**  
 Advance specials, 850.6, .16, 879  
 Basic salary, 893.4  
 Conference benevolences, 878  
 Conference claimants, 889, 1260.6

Contributory Reserve Pension Fund, 862.1  
 District superintendent's support, 876, 889  
 Episcopal Fund, 860, 879, 889

Equitable Salary Fund, 889, 892

General Administration Fund, 879

Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, 854, 879

Local church, 145.10, 152.5, 160.3, (Art. 6), 862, 878, 889, 1074, 1076, 1260.6

Minimum salary fund. *See* Remittance of Funds, Equitable Salary Fund  
 Ministerial Education Fund, 856.1-2

**Remittance of funds, cont'd:**  
 One Great Hour of Sharing offerings, 851.1d, 879  
 Sustentation Fund, 894  
 Temporary General Aid Fund, 855  
 United Methodist Committee on Relief, 1144.2  
 United Methodist Women, 160.3 (Art. 6)  
 World Communion Appeal, 852  
 World service, 844, 848, 878-79  
 World service and conference benevolences, 145.10, 152.2, 878  
 Youth Service Fund, 1074, 1076

**Remodeling and repair, 1416, 1423.2, 1436, 1436.4c**

**Removal by local church (names from membership roll), 129**

**Renewal of license to preach, 320, 344.2, 670.3, 665.19**

**Research, 828.9-.10. See also** Committee on Planning and Research

**Reserve delegates, 38, 616. See also** Delegates

**Reserve Pension Fund. See** Board of Pensions, Ministers Reserve Pension Fund, and Council on Finance and Administration, Contribu-

**Reserve Pension Fund, cont'd:**  
 tory Reserve Pension Fund

**Restrictive Rules, 16-21, (pages 21-23)**

**Retired**  
 Bishop, 395-97, 631.5, 858, 860, 862-63  
 Deaconess, 1137.6, .7  
 Lay pastor, 344.1, 1259.3b, .4a, .4e-g, .7  
 Minister. *See* Superannuated minister

**Retired Ministers Day, 1261.5**

**Rolls (local church)**  
 Affiliate membership, 126, 131.5  
 Constituency, 123, 131.4  
 Membership, 124, 129, 131-34, 138-41, 142.5  
 Military service personnel, 117  
 Names removed by local church action, 129

**Rules. See** General Rules of The United Methodist Church; Restrictive Rules

**Rural work. See** Town and country ministries

S

**Sabbatical leave, 356**

**Sacraments, 69 [Art. XVI (page 57)], 69 [Art. VI (page 62)]**

**Salary**  
 Basic plan, 876, 893

INDEX

Salary, *cont'd*:

Bishop, 386, 857-64.  
 Board of Publication, officers, 927  
 Book editor, 936  
 Claim of pastor, 358, 891  
 Commission on Equitable Salaries, 892.2  
 Conference agency personnel, 886  
 District superintendent, 876. *See also* District superintendent, Support  
 Editor of church school publications, 942  
 Equitable (formerly termed minimum), 892  
 Lay pastor, 348.2  
 Minimum, 348.2, 855. *See above* Salary, Equitable  
 Minister in special appointment, 896  
 Pastor. *See* Pastor, Salary  
 Sustentation fund, 894  
 Withholding from, 862.3  
*See also* Ministerial support

Sanctification, 69 (pages 60, 63)

Scholarships

Crusade, 163.1b, 851.1a, c, 1166-69, 1202.3, 1225.11  
 Joint Committee on Communications, 906.2d  
 Scholarship Fund for Minority Groups, 163.1b

Scholarships, *cont'd*:

United Methodist, 159.1, 163.1e, 1202.1

School

Accreditation of. *See* University Senate  
 Appointment to attend, 390.6, 391.8, 665.5k, .8e  
 Theological. *See* Schools of theology  
*See also* College; Educational institutions; Student

Schools of theology, 122.1,

1225.1, 1231-33  
 Accreditation, 1211, 1216, 1220.4, 1231.4. *See also* University Senate  
 Appointment to attend, 391.8  
 Board of the Ministry, 665.5c-e, .6, .11, .14, 1233  
 Candidates, admittance of, 1233  
 Course of study, 1224.3, 1225.7, 1226-27. *See also* Pastor, Courses of study and Courses of Study  
 Division of Lay Ministries, relationship to, 1241.1  
 Division of the Ordained Ministry, 1221.1, 1225.1, 1229.1  
 Consults with, 1227  
 Establishes budget for, 1231.2  
 Financial support, 1222.2, 1231.1, .3  
 Graduation from required, 333.3a, 665.4a  
 Lay pastors in, 343, 347.

Schools of theology,

*cont'd*:  
 348.3  
 License to preach, studies at required for, 318.6, 320.1  
 Probationary membership, studies at required for, 327.2, 328.1, 329.1, 330.3  
 Purpose, 1231.1, 1232-33  
 Racial policies, 817.1, 1195  
 Recruitment for ministry, 665.6, 1233. *See further* Ministerial recruitment  
 Research, 1199.1, 1220.1  
 Responsibilities, 1231-33  
 Support, 1220.2, .4, 1222.2, 1231  
 United Methodist studies, 333.3, 1227, 1232  
 University Senate, approval of, 1220.4, 1231.4

Scriptures, Holy. *See* Bible

Secretary of enlistment (local church), 145.3a, 146.5, 149, 152.2

Section of Campus Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1204-10

Campus-Church Relations Committee, 1206.2-.3  
 Ecumenical campus ministry, 1204.3, 1206.4, 1207-8.1, 1209-10  
 Functions, 1204.1, 1205  
 Governing bodies for

Section of Campus Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, *cont'd*:

campus ministry, 1206  
 Intercollegiate Christian Movement, 1209-10  
 Purpose, 1204.2  
 Reports to, 1208.2  
 Representation in national agencies, 1205.2  
 Wesley Foundation, 1206.1, 1207-8  
 World Student Christian Federation, 1210.2  
 Young Adult Ministry, relationship to, 1204.1

Section on Curriculum Resources, Board of Discipleship, 1007-18

Assistant general secretary, 1016  
 Board of Publication, relationships with, 1015-18  
 Church's official positions, reflection of, 1009  
 Committee on Family Life, 1001.4  
 Cooperation with other boards and agencies, 1008, 1010-13, 1015  
 Editor of church school publications, 1016-17  
 Executive committee, Division of Education, membership on, 996  
 Missionary education, 1013  
 Program-Curriculum Committee, coopera-

INDEX

Section on Curriculum Resources, Board of Discipleship, *cont'd*:

tion with, 991, 1008  
 Promotion of resources, 1014  
 Publisher sitting with, 1018  
 Publishing concerns, 1014-15, 1017-18  
 Purpose, 1007  
 Responsibilities, 1007-9

Section of Loans and Scholarships, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1202-3

Section on Local Church Education, Board of Discipleship, 998-1006

Church school extension, 1004  
 Committee on Family Life, 1001.4  
 Cooperation with other boards and agencies, 998.1 note 20, 998.2, 999.6, .11, .16, .18-23, 1000.3-4, 1001, 1003.1, 1004.2

Educational conferences, 1002

Executive committee, Division of Education, membership on, 996

Funds, 1005

Functions, 998-1000, 1006

Missionary education, 1001.5

Program-Curriculum Committee, 991, 992.2

Recommendations to, 991

Setting standards, 1000  
 Youth ministry, 1003

Section on Schools, Colleges, and Universities, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1197-1201

Appropriation of funds, 1198.1-2, .4  
 Educational institutions, classification of, 1199.2, 1220  
 Negro-related institutions, 1201  
 Recommendations by, 1199  
 Responsibility, 1197  
 Support of educational institutions, 1198, 1201

Selective service, 75D (page 95), 972.1

Seminaries, theological. *See* Schools of theology

Senate, University. *See* University Senate

Servicemen overseas, 851.1a, c

Sex, 72C, 971.1

Abortion, 72D  
 Discrimination forbidden, 308.2, 817  
 Pornography, 971.1  
 Premarital counseling, 350.5a-b  
*See also* Marriage

Social creed, 77. *See also* Social principles

Social concerns. *See* Board of Church and Society; Commission on Social Concerns (local church)

INDEX

Social principles, pages 83-97

Solicitation of funds. See Appeal, financial

Special appeal. See Appeal, financial

Special appointment, 352, 391.5-.8  
Bishop, 386  
Conference journal listing, 896  
Probationary, 330.5  
Salary, report on, 886, 896

Special days, 163, 829.21  
Christian Education Sunday, 159.1, 163.1c  
Drug and Alcohol Concerns Sunday, 163.2d  
Fellowship of Suffering and Service, 163.1b  
Golden Cross Sunday, 163.1f, 1120  
Human Relations Day, 163.1d, 973.3  
Joint Committee on Communications, responsibility of, 906.3  
Laitty Sunday, 163.2c  
Ministry Sunday, 163.2b  
National Bible Sunday, 163.2e  
One Great Hour of Sharing, 163.1a. See also One Great Hour of Sharing  
Rural Life Sunday, 163.2a  
United Methodist Student Day, 163.1e  
World Communion Sunday, 163.1b. See also World Communion

Special gifts  
Advance. See Advance Annuities. See Annuities  
Bequests. See Bequests  
Council on Finance and Administration, 842.7, 847.3  
Definition, 848  
Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries, 1237  
Educational, 1196.5, .7  
Permanent funds, 848  
Property, 848  
Remittance, 850.6, .16, 879  
Soliciting, 847.3, 1005.1  
Supplemental contributions, 848.4  
Vouchers, 163.1, 848.1-3, 850.7, 851.1e, 852, 1144.1f  
World service, 842.7, 847.3, 848

Special offerings, 163.1, 829.21, 842.10, 851-52, 885, 1005.2. See also Special days; Special gifts

Spokesmen for The United Methodist Church, 611

Steward, district, 145.3a, 670.1, 872

Stewards, District Board of, 872, 1413.2

Stewardship, 837  
Church school, 160.1, 999.2-.3  
Commission on Stewardship (local church), 160.5  
Commission on Stew-

Stewardship, cont'd:  
ardship and Finance, conference, 1053  
Cultivation of, 999.2-.3, 1019, 1022  
Director of, Annual Conference, 1053.4  
Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship, 1019, 1022  
Education in, 1022.7  
One Great Hour of Sharing, 163.1a, 851. See also One Great Hour of Sharing  
Section of Stewardship and Finance. See Division of Evangelism, Worship, and Stewardship

Student

Aid fund, seminary, 665.7  
Appointment to attend school, 390.6, 391.8, 665.8, .12-.13, 673-74  
Day, United Methodist, 163.1e, 1202.2  
Evangelistic work, 1205.2b  
Lay pastor, 343, 347, 348.3  
Loan Fund, 163.1e, 665.7, 1202  
Local church program for, 160.2, 1205.1, 1206.3  
Missionary education, 1000.20, 1001.5  
Religious activities, 1032.3, 1033.1, 1196.3, 1204-10. See also United Methodist Youth Ministry; Wesley Foundation Scholarships. See Scholarships

Student, cont'd:

Theological, 308.4, 312.2, 327-29, 330.1-3, .6, 333, 335, 343, 347, 348.3, 350.10, 665.6, .8, .11, .13-14, 1232-33, 1380. See also Student: Appointment to attend school  
Wesley Foundation, 1205.1e, 1206.1, .4, 1207.9

Study, sabbatical leave to, 356

Subcommittee

On Camps and Conferences (Annual Conference), 1034.2  
On Christian Higher Education and Campus Ministry (Annual Conference), 1252.1  
On Family Life (Annual Conference), 1036  
On Lay Speaking (District), 1060  
On Use of United Methodist Curriculum Materials (Annual Conference), 1037  
On Women's Work (World Division, Board of Global Ministries), 1159.2

Suffering and Service.

See World Communion

Sunday school. See Church school

Superannuated (retired) minister, 359-65

INDEX

Superintendent, church school, 670.1. See also Superintendent of study program (local church)

Superintendent, district. See District superintendent

Superintendent of study program (local church), 152.3, 160.1, 1041.4  
Addresses, 1040  
Administrative Board, member of, 149  
Council on Ministries, 154  
District Conference, 670.1

Supernumerary minister, 358

Surrender of ministerial office, 344.1, 370.1, 1535, 1537, 1547, 1550. See also Withdrawal

Suspension, judicial. See Judicial administration

Sustentation Fund, 894

T

Task groups (local church), 161

Teacher, 124, 157.1, 159.1, 988.2, .8, 991

Television, Radio, and Film. See Joint Committee on Communications

Temporary General Aid Fund, 875, 879, 1257.12

Tenure in office

Bishop, Central Conference, 399.4, 631.3, .6  
Bishop, Jurisdictional Conference, 624  
District superintendent, 391.3  
General agency member, 813  
Trustee (local church), 1420

Theological schools. See Schools of theology

Theological students, 312.2. See also Schools of Theology; Student

Time limits, ministerial studies, 320.2, 348.2

Title

"Methodist," use of, 1402  
Of executives, general agencies, 802.3  
Predecessor churches before union, 1404  
To property, 6, 1428, 1430, 1436.8, 1442.2  
In trust, 1401-5  
Land, use of, 1405  
United Methodist Church, held for, 1401  
Trust clauses in deeds, 1403

Tobacco, 731

Town and Country Ministries

Commission on, 1184.3  
Committee on, 1184.2  
Committee on Urban Ministries, 1184.1a

INDEX

Transfer

- Annual Conference, to another jurisdiction, 814
- Annual Conference member, 390.7, 641.2, 642, 662.5-.7, 665.8, 814
- Bishop, 54, 386, 624.2
- Church member, 119, 130, 135-39, 142.3, 641.1
- Local church, to another jurisdiction, 44, 814
- Pastor. *See* Pastor, Transfer of

Travel expenses

- Bishop, 388, 858, 861
- Delegates, 641.3, 644, 1284.2
- District superintendent, 876
- Pastor, 151.3*d*, 162.2, 829, 895

Treasurer, Annual Conference, 877-82

- Accounts, 664.6, 877, 881, 882
- Agencies, service to, 882
- Auditing, 877, 881, 1408
- Bond, surety, 867, 881, 1408
- Borrowing funds, 876
- Depository, 881-82
- Disbursements, 850.6, 851.1*d*, 852, 876, 878-79, 882, 1074
- Election, 867, 877
- Remittance to, 145.10, 152.5, 163, 850.6, 851.1*d*, 878-79, 882, 1074
- Reports by, 842.11, 880, 1408
- Reports to, 844, 848.4
- Supervision, 877

Treasurer, Local Church

- Administrative Board, member of, 149
- Committee on Finance, 162.3
- Conference treasurer, remittance to, 152.5
- Duties, 152.5
- Election of, 145.3*a*
- Proportional payment, responsibility for, 1260.6*b*

Treasury, Central, 848, 870, 1285.3. *See also* Council on Finance and Administration

Trials, 1520-60

- Accusation, 1521, 1539.2, .5, 1540.3-.4, .6, 1544, 1546, 1554-55, 1560. *See below* Trials, Charges; Trials, Complaint
- Accused, absence of, 1526.4
- Annual Conference, 662.4, 1534.2, 1540.6-7, 9-10, .12, 1529-33. *For details see* Appeal, judicial
- Associate member, appeal of, 1531
- Bishop, 1539
  - Appeal of, 1530
  - Investigation, 1539.2
  - Offenses, 1521.1
  - Penalties, 1539.4
  - Status of deposed or expelled, 1534
  - Trial court, 1537.3
  - Withdrawal under complaint or charges, 1541
- Central Conference, 631.17, 1530.2-.3, 1539.1, .9

Trials, *cont'd*:

- Certificate of membership, 1534.1, 1535
- Charges, 1523
- Church member, 1556-59
  - Appeal of, 1533
  - Investigation, 1554-55
  - Offenses, 1521.2
  - Withdrawal under complaint or charges, 1560
- College of Bishops, president or secretary of, 1539.2-.3
- Commissioner, appointment of, 1527.3
- Committee on Episcopacy, 1539.5
- Committee of Investigation
  - Annual Conference, 1540.1
  - District, 1543
  - Local church, 1555
- Complaint, 662.4, 1550, 1552-53, 1560. *See above* Trials, Accusation
- Constitutional right, 18
- Counsel, right to, 1524
- Court, 1539.3, 1540.5, .7, 1545, 1556
- Court of Appeals
  - Charge Conference, 1533.3, .5
  - Jurisdictional Conference, 1531.1
- Credentials, 1535-37
- Deacon (ordained), appeal of, 1531
- Deaconess/Home Missionary, 1553
- Decisions, report of changes in, 1529.2
- Duty to testify, 1526.2
- Elder (ordained), appeal of, 1531

INDEX

Trials, *cont'd*:

- Errors, 1529.8, .12, 1531.4*b*
- Investigation, 1539.2, 1540.1-.4, .6, .8-12, 1543-44, 1548-50, 1554-55
- Judicial Council, appeal to, 1529.9-10, 1530, 1531.1, 1539.4, .6, .9
- Jurisdictional Conference, 1539.1, 4-.5
- Lay pastor, 1545-47
  - Appeal, 1532
  - Credentials, deprivation and restoration of, 1537
  - Investigation, 1543-44, 1548-50
  - In Provisional Annual Conferences or Missions, 1551
  - Withdrawal under complaints or charges, 1552
- Limitations, 1522
- Ministerial member, 1540
  - Investigation, 1540.1-.4, .6, .8-12
  - Offenses, 1521.1
  - Status of expelled, 1534
- Trial Court, 1540.5
- Withdrawal under complaint or charges, 1541
- Mission, 1542, 1551
- New trial, 1529.8, 1533.3, 1558
- Notice of, 1525
- Oath not required, 1520
- Objections, 1526.6-.7
- Offenses, 1521
- Penalty, 662.4, 1529.8, 1539.4, .6-.7, 1540.5,

Trials, *cont'd*:

- .7, 1545, 1547, 1550, 1553, 1557
- Pleas, 1526.3
- Pleading to charge, 1526.3
- Presiding officer, 1526.9, 1527.3
- Probationary member, appeal of, 1531
- Procedure, 1526
- Provisional Annual Conference, 1542, 1551
- Records, 1527.1, 1528
- Regularity, objections to, 1526.6-.7
- Secretary of court, 1527.1, 1528, 1539.4, 1540.5, .7, 1545
- Testimony, 1527
- Time and place, setting of, 1539.3, 1540.5. *See also* Trials, Notice of
- Trier of appeals, 1533.1
- Verdict, 1526.5, 1529.8, 1531.4*a-b*, 1539.4, .6, 1540.5, 1545, 1557
- Withdrawal under complaint or charges, 1541, 1552, 1560
- Witnesses, 1526.2

Trust clauses, 1403, 1430

- Trust funds, 354.12, 631.-31, 839, 964.2, 968.3, 1079.1*h*, 1088.1, 1115, 1139.8, 1408, 1410.2-.5, 1442

Trustees, 1424.4

- Of church institutions, 1445
- Local church
  - Administrative Board, responsibility for, 151.1

Trustees, *cont'd*:

- Chairperson, 149
- Committee on Finance, representation on, 162.3
- Election of, 145.3*f*
- Loan, no personal guarantee required, 1436.11
- Property titles, 1428
- See also* Local church, Property
- District, members of District Conference, 670.1
- New local church, 142.7
- Termination of trusteeship, 1425.1-.2
- See also* Board of Trustees

U

- Union, church, page 16, page 17, note 1
- Local church, 106.3, 1184.3, 1438-40

United Methodist Committee on Relief, 1141-44

- Advance specials, 850.4, 1144.2. *See also* Advance
- Authority of, 1143
- Board of Global Ministries, Annual Conference, 1177
- Commission on Missions (local church), 159.3
- Council of Bishops, 1144.1*e*
- Council on Finance and Administration, 1144.1*e*
- Executive secretary, 1143.2
- Expenses, 1142

INDEX

**United Methodist Committee on Relief, cont'd:**  
 Functions, 1144  
 Fund, 848.2, 850.4-5, 879  
 Interdenominational cooperation, 1144.1b-e  
 Membership, 1141  
 Officers, 1143.2  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, 851.1a, c, 879, 1144.2. *See also* One Great Hour of Sharing  
 Powers and duties, 1143-44  
 Promotion, 159.3, 850.4, 851, 1144.2, 1177  
 Remittance of funds for, 879  
 Special-gift vouchers, 848.2  
 Staff, 1142  
 Subcommittee, 1142  
 Support, 851.1c, 1144.2  
 World Council of Churches, 1144.1d  
 World Service, 1144.1d

**United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry, 1071-76**  
 Board of Discipleship, relation to, 1025, 1073  
 Functions, 1071  
 Membership, 1072  
 Name, 1071  
 Project Review Committee, 1075  
 Youth Service Fund, 1074, 1076

**United Methodist Development Fund, 1124.15**

**United Methodist Information and Public Relations, function of Joint Committee on Communications, 906.1**

**United Methodist Information Committees, 906.1**

**United Methodist Men, 160.4, 1052.2, 1057, 1064**  
 Annual Conference, president of, 1052.2  
 Committee on, Annual Conference, 1052.2  
 Director of Conference, 1056  
 District, 1052.2, 1057, 1064  
 Division of Lay Life and Work, development of, 1025  
 Local church, 160.4, 1065  
 Council on Ministries, 155, 160.4  
 President, 149  
 Resources for organization, 160.4

**United Methodist Musicians, Fellowship of, 1000.4, 1241.7**

**United Methodist Publishing House, The, 915-53**  
 Annual Conference committee, 831.5, 953  
 Appropriations to conference claimants, 921-22  
 Board of Discipleship, publications, 943  
 Board of Publication controls Publishing

**United Methodist Publishing House, The, cont'd:**  
 House, 920, 924. *See also* Board of Publication  
 Book editor, 934-37  
 Church school publications, 939-48. *See also* Literature, Church school  
 Editor of, 939-40, 942-43, 946, 1016-17  
 Committee on Official Forms and Records, representation on, 841.4c  
 Committee on Publishing Interests, Annual Conference, 953  
 Conference claimants, 20, 646, 921-22  
 Cooperative publication, 1010  
 Corporations, 915-17, 923, 924.1-.3, 925-26  
 Curriculum materials, 919, 934.1, 1007-11, 1014-18. *See also* United Methodist Publishing House, The, Church school publications  
 District secretary of publishing interests, 953.1  
 Editors, 934, 936, 938.2, .5, 939-40, 942-43, 946  
 Executives, 920, 923, 928-30, 932-33  
 Extension of business, 931  
 Forms and report blanks, 133.1, 841.4c  
 General church periodicals, 938  
 Editorial director, 938.2

**United Methodist Publishing House, The, cont'd:**  
 Income, 921-22  
 Jurisdictional Conference journals, printers of, 628.2  
 Meetings, 909  
 Objectives, 919  
 Officers of corporations, 927  
 Organization, 908, 912  
 Permanent church register, preparation of, 133.1  
 Powers and duties, 924-26  
 President of, 920, 928, 931-32. *See also* Publisher  
 Printing for church agencies, 841.4c, 907, 949  
 Program-Curriculum Committee, 941, 989, 992.2  
 Publisher, 920, 928, 956, 1018. *See also* Publisher  
 Real estate and buildings, 951-52  
*Religion in Life*, 934-35  
 Salaries, 929  
 Section on Curriculum Resources, 1017-18

**United Methodist Scholarship Fund, 1202.1**

**United Methodist scholarships, 159.1**

**United Methodist Student Day, 159.1, 163.5e, 1202.2**

**United Methodist Student Loan Fund, 159.1, 1202.1**

INDEX

**United Nations, 76D**

**Upper Room, The, 984**

**Urban life, page 90**  
 Urban ministries, Conference Committee on, 1184.1a. *See also* Town and Country Ministries

**United Methodist Women, 160.3, 1145-56**  
 Annual Conference United Methodist Women, 1154  
 Representation on other agencies, 831.2, 979, 1056  
 Assembly, 1152  
 Board of Global Ministries, nomination of lay members, 1082.1-.3  
 District United Methodist Women, 1155  
 Representation on other agencies, 670.1, 979, 1056  
 Jurisdiction United Methodist Women, 1153  
 Local-church United Methodist Women, 160.3, 1156  
 President, 149, 155, 670.1  
 Recommendations to, 1147.1, .2b, 1148.1  
*See also* Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries

**United Methodist Youth Fellowship, 160.2. See also** Council on Youth Ministry, Annual Conference; United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry; Youth

**University Senate, 1211-20**  
 Accrediting, 1211, 1216  
 Classification of institutions, 1213, 1218  
 Committees, 1212.2  
 Conference Committees on Education, 1215-16  
 As consultant and counselor, 1215  
 Definition, 1211  
 Division on Higher Education, cooperation with, 1212-15, 1217, 1220  
 Educational institutions  
 Adequate endowment for, 1220.3  
 Approval required, 1220.4  
 Classifications of, 1218  
 Ineligibility for support, 1215  
 Maintenance of standards, 1213  
 Number of, 1220.3  
 Status information on, 1219  
 Study of need for new, 1220.1  
 Executive secretary, 1212.2, 1219  
 Establishing new school, 1220.1-.2, 4  
 Finance, 1217  
 Foundations, educational, 1220.4  
 Investigations conducted by, 1214  
 Meetings, 1212.2  
 Membership, 1212.1  
 Ministerial education in approved schools, 1214, 1216, 1219  
 Officers, 1212.2  
 Plans of educational institutions to be

INDEX

**University Senate, cont'd:**  
 approved by, 1220.4  
 Recommendations and consultations with educational institutions, 1215  
 Regular meetings, 1212.2  
 Reports by, 1214-15  
 Reports to, 1219  
 Requests for investigations, 1216  
 Special meetings, 1212.2  
 Staff, 1212  
 Standards for educational institutions, 1213  
 Studies of educational needs, 1220.1  
 Support, 1217, 1220.2  
 Vacancies, 1212.1

V

**Vacancies, 1290. See also under names of various agencies**

**Vocation. See Committee on Enlistment for Church Occupations (Annual Conference)**

**Voting by orders, 610**

**Vouchers**  
 Bishop's travel, 861  
 Special gift, 848, 850.6, 851.1e, 852

**Vows, membership, 103, 115.1, 116, 129**

W

**War and Peace, pages 95-96**

**Week of Dedication. See One Great Hour of Sharing**

**Wesley Foundation, 1206-08, 1250, 1251, 1252.1, 4c-e**  
 Accreditation, 1208  
 Administration of, 1205.1, 1251  
 Annual Conference control, 1206.4, 1251  
 Board of Directors, 1251  
 Building plans, approval of, 1252.4c  
 Committee on Higher Education, responsible for, 1208, 1251.1  
 Cooperation with local church, 1251.1, .3  
 Division of the Ordained Ministry, cooperation with, 1207-09, 1228  
 Evaluation of ministry of, 1208.1  
 Financial needs, 1208.2, 1250  
 Membership, 1251.1, .2  
 Property, 1251.2  
 Reports, 1208.2, 1252.4c  
 Section of Campus Ministry responsible for, 1208  
 Support of, minimum goals for, 1252.4d

**Wesley, John, pages 7-10, 39-43, 45, 48-53, 70**

**Widow and orphans, bishop's, 857-58, 860, 862, 865**

**Withdrawal**  
 Bishop, 1541  
 Deaconess, 1553  
 Member of church, 140-41, 1560  
 Minister, 370  
 See also Judicial ad-

**Withdrawal, cont'd:**  
 ministration; Location of minister

**Withholding from salary, of bishop for Contributory Reserve Pension Fund, 862.3**

**Women's auxiliaries, 1122**

**Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1081.1, 1082.2, 1084, 1086.2, 1088.2a, 1145-56**

Annuitants, 1088.1-2, 1090, 1151  
 Appropriations, 1088.1, 1090, 1151  
 Assembly, 1152  
 Associate general secretary, 1086.2  
 Associate treasurer, 1086.3  
 Authority, 1090  
 Auxiliary organizations, 1147.2  
 Board of Church and Society, cooperation with, 1150  
 Bylaws, 1090  
 Committee on Family Life, cooperation with, 1001.4  
 Corporate officers, 1085.2  
 Crusade Scholarship Committee, representation on, 1166.2  
 Division of Education and Cultivation, representation on, 1146  
 Elected staff, 1086.2  
 Elections, 1085.2, 1086.2, 1146, 1166.2  
 Executive committee, 1146

**Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 Finances, 1551  
 Functions, 1148  
 Income, 1088.2, 1147-48, 1151, 1158.5  
 Incorporation, 1081, 1085.2  
 Meetings, 1145  
 Membership, 1145  
 National Division, representation on, 1082.2, 1123.2, 1146  
 Nominations by, 1086.2, .3  
 Officers, 1085.2, 1086.2, 1146  
 Organization, 1085.2, 1086.2, 1145, 1150  
 Racial policy, 1078.2, .5, 1082.3, 1087.1, 1088.1  
 Relation to Board of Global Ministries and other divisions, 1081.4, 1082.2, .4, 1084.1, 1090, 1146, 1151  
 Representatives on other agencies, 1146, 1153 (*Art. 3*), 1166.2  
 Responsibilities and scope, 1149  
 Sections, 1150  
 Staff, 1086.2  
 United Methodist Women. See United Methodist Women  
 Vacancies, 1085.2  
 Vice-president, 1085.1  
 Women's Society of Christian Service. See United Methodist Women  
 World Division, representation on, 1082.2, 1146

**Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**

**Work and leisure, page 92**

**Work area**  
 Chairpersons, 145.3a, 149, 155, 158  
 Commissions, 159

**World Communion (formerly Fellowship of Suffering and Service), 163.1b, 832.1, 852, 906.3**  
 Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries, share of, 1237  
 Funds of  
 Council on Finance and Administration controls, 842.2f  
 Remittance of, 879

**World Council of Churches, 1286**  
 Delegates to, expenses of, 854  
 Funds for, 854  
 Section on Curriculum Resources, cooperation with, 1011

**World Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1081, 1084, 1157-65**  
 Administration of a mission. See Missions, Administration of  
 Advance specials, 848.2, 850.4, 1088.2. For details see Advance.  
 Affiliated autonomous churches, 1164. See also Affiliated autonomous churches  
 Annuitants, 1088.2, 1090  
 Appropriations, 1088.1, 1090, 1151  
 Assistant general secretaries, 1086.2

INDEX

**Work and leisure, page 92**

**Work area**  
 Chairpersons, 145.3a, 149, 155, 158  
 Commissions, 159

**World Communion (formerly Fellowship of Suffering and Service), 163.1b, 832.1, 852, 906.3**  
 Division on Chaplains and Related Ministries, share of, 1237  
 Funds of  
 Council on Finance and Administration controls, 842.2f  
 Remittance of, 879

**World Council of Churches, 1286**  
 Delegates to, expenses of, 854  
 Funds for, 854  
 Section on Curriculum Resources, cooperation with, 1011

**World Division, Board of Global Ministries, 1081, 1084, 1157-65**  
 Administration of a mission. See Missions, Administration of  
 Advance specials, 848.2, 850.4, 1088.2. For details see Advance.  
 Affiliated autonomous churches, 1164. See also Affiliated autonomous churches  
 Annuitants, 1088.2, 1090  
 Appropriations, 1088.1, 1090, 1151  
 Assistant general secretaries, 1086.2

**World Division, Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**

Associate general secretary, 1086.2, 1087.2, 1157.1, .3  
 Authority, 1090  
 Budget, 1088.3  
 Bylaws, 1089  
 Corporate officers, 1085.2  
 Crusade Scholarship Committee, representation on, 1166.2  
 Education and cultivation. See Division of Education and Cultivation.  
 Elected staff, 1086.2  
 Executive committee, 1157.3  
 Functions, 1158  
 Funds, 848.2, 1088, 1090  
 Income, 1088  
 Incorporation, 1081.1  
 Interdenominational cooperation, 1164  
 Liaison Committee, 1159  
 Meetings, 1157.2  
 Membership, 1082.3-.5, 1083, 1086.3  
 Missionaries  
 Assignment of, 1158.6  
 Meetings of, 1136.2-.4  
 In other churches, 1164-65  
 Outside United States, 1165  
 See also Missionary  
 New commitments, administration of, 1162  
 Nominations, 1086.2  
 Officers, 1085.2, 1086.2-.3, 1087  
 One Great Hour of Sharing, administration of funds from, 851.1c. See also One

INDEX

**World Division, Board of Global Ministries, cont'd:**  
 Great Hour of Sharing  
 Organization, 1085.2, 1086.2, 1157  
 Powers and duties, 1090, 1157.3, 1158  
 Racial policy, 1078.2, .5, 1082.3, 1087.1, 1088.1  
 Representatives on other agencies, 1166.2  
 Special gifts, 848.2, 849-50, 1088.2. *See also* Advance  
 Staff, 1086.2, 1087.2  
 Subcommittee on Women's Work, 1159.2  
 Support, 1079.1i, 1088, 1090, 1158.4-5  
 Vacancies, 1085.2  
 Women, staff participation of, 1087.2  
 Women's Division, representation on, 1146

**World Methodist Council,** 854, 1098, 1284

**World Order Sunday,** 972.3

**World Service, 847-48**  
 Additional solicitation prohibited, 847.3  
 847-48, 964.1, 1115, 1222.1, 1231.1  
 Apportionments, 842.1c, .10, 844, 847, 870  
 Benevolent responsibility of Church, 847  
 Board of Pension shares budget of, 1257.8  
 Budget, 842.1-.2, 847.1-.2

**World Service, cont'd:**  
 Church school offerings, 1250  
 Council on Finance and Administration, administration of funds, 842  
 Fund, 842.1-.2, 4, 7, .10, 844, 847-48, 878  
 Local church, 145.10, 151.4-.5, 152.5, 878  
 Overpayments, 878  
 Promotion, 906.3a, 1022.6  
 Receipts, 842.10  
 Special gift, 842.2, 844, 847.3, 848, 879  
 Treasurer, local church, 152.5

**World Service and Finance, Council on. See** Council on Finance and Administration

Y

**Young Adult Council,** 157.3

**Young adults**  
 Administrative Board, members at large, 146.3  
 Ministry, Section on Campus Ministry, 1204.1

**Youth, 36 (pages 26-27), 67 [Amendments II, VI, VII, (pages 35-38)], 125, 157.2, 160.2, 836, 1071-76**  
 Administrative Board, representation on, 149  
 Annual Conference,

**Youth, cont'd:**  
 representation on, 36 (pages 26-27), 67 [Amendments II, VI, VII, (pages 35-38)]  
 Camps and conferences, 999.1, 1000.5, 1033.1, 1034.2, 1042. *For details see* Camps and conferences  
 Church school, 160.1-.2  
 Class for advanced instruction by pastor, 125  
 Committee on Enlistment for Church Occupations, representation on, 666.1-.2  
 Coordinator of, 146.3, 155, 156.1, 1072  
 Council (local church), 146.3, 157.2, 160.2  
 Council on Ministries, representation on, 155  
 Council on Youth Work. *See* United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry  
 Director of youth ministry  
 Annual Conference, 666.1, 1034.2, 1036  
 District, 670.1, 1056  
 Education, 160.1, 998.2, 999.1, 1032  
 Fellowship: *See* United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry  
 Members of  
 Conference agencies, 1173  
 General agencies, 803.2, 1082.3, 1087, 1092, 1111.3, 1123.1  
 Local church bodies, 146.3, 149, 157.2, 160.2, 1173.1

INDEX

**Youth, cont'd:**  
 National youth organization. *See* United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry  
 United Methodist Council on Youth

**Youth, cont'd:**  
 Ministry. *See* United Methodist Council on Youth Ministry  
 United Methodist Youth Fellowship. *See* United Methodist

**Youth, cont'd:**  
 Council on Youth Ministry  
*See also* Student  
**Youth Service Fund,** 160.2, 1074