

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE AFRICA CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Held in Nairobi, Kenya
August 16 to 19, 2012

XII Session

March 2013



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SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that this report refers to all that was done during XII Session of the Africa Central Conference, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from the 16th to the 19th of August, 2012, and that the above mentioned Conference accepts its contents as official.

PRESIDENT:



Bishop Eben K. Nhiwatiwa.

General Secretary

⋮
Rev. Forbes Matonga.



Chairperson: Bishop Gaspar Domingos

General Secretary: Benedita G. Penicela Nhambiu (MS)

English Assist. Secret.: Rev. Tichaenda Loyd Nyarrota (ZE)

Portuguese Assist. Secret.: Sabino Paulo Pinheiro (AW)

Statistical Secretary: Rev. James Mwoho (EA)

Treasurer: Pedro Sebastião (AW)

Coordinators

Men: Isaiás Mudiwa (ZW)

Women:

Youth: Mfundo Zonke (SA)

XI SESSION AGENDA

Wednesday, 15th August, 2012

All day Delegates and participants arrival
Registration

Thursday, 16th August, 2012

7:30 AM Breakfast

8:30 AM Holy Communion and Memorial Service

Liturgist: Angola West AC

Preacher: Bishop Gaspar Domingos

Communion: Bishop Marcus Matthews

- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Rules of Order and Plan of Organization for business of plenary sessions

10:30 AM Tea break

10:45 AM Plenary session

- Welcome by ACC President
- Addresses by invitees;
 - Rev. Dr. Stephen Kanyaru, Presiding Bishop, Methodist Church in Kenya;
 - The Secretary General, All Africa Conference of Churches
 - Vice President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency Hon. Stephen K. Musyoka
- Introduction of the delegations

13:00 PM Lunch break

2:30 PM Plenary session

- Committees Assignment

4:30 PM Tea break

4:45 PM Group I Committees

- Board of Educational Institutions and Social Service
- Board on Publication and Communications
- Committee on Ministry
- Board of World Missions and Ecumenical Relationships
- Committee on Conferences

7:00 PM Supper

8:30 PM Plenary Session

- Briefing on GC 2012;
- Petitions

10:00 PM Adjourning for the day

Friday, 17th August, 2012

7:30 AM Breakfast

8:30 AM Devotion

Liturgist: Zimbabwe Area

Preacher: Rev. Daniel Mhone

9:30 AM Plenary Session - Reports

- Report of the ACC representative in the CT
- Report of the Committee on Ministry
- Introduction of Episcopal Nominees
- Elections
- General Secretary report

10:30 AM Tea break

10:45 AM Group II Committees

- Committee on the State of the Church
- Committee on Men's Work
- Committee on Women's Work
- Committee on Youth Work
- Council of Ministries
- Committee of Finance and Administration
- Committee of Nominations and Personnel

12:30 PM Lunch break

2:30 PM Plenary session – reports/ ballots

- Board of Educational Institutions and Social Service
- Board on Publication and Comm.
- Board of World Missions and Ecumenical Relationships
- Committee on Conferences

4:30 PM Tea break

4:45 PM Plenary session – reports/ballots

- Committee on the State of the Church
- Committee on Men's Work
- Committee on Women's Work
- Committee on Youth Work
- Statistics Secretary
- Council of Ministries
- Committee of Finance and Administration
- Committee of Nominations and Personnel

7:00 PM Supper

8:30 PM Plenary session - Reports/ ballots

- Treasurer report
- Legislation to be adopted by ACC
- Considerations towards self-sufficiency

10:00 PM Adjourning for the day

Saturday 18th August, 2012

7:30 AM Breakfast

8:30 AM Devotion

Liturgist: Burundi AC

Preacher: Bishop Daniel Wandabula

9:30 AM Plenary session –

- Resolutions
- Group picture
- Executive Committee

12:30 PM Lunch break

2:00 PM Adjourning/Consecrating Service

Liturgist: Bishop Gaspar Domingos

Preacher: Bishop Marcus Matthews

4:00 PM Visit to Mrs. Sabine Ndoricimpa grave

Sunday 19th August, 2012

All day Delegates and participants departure

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Bishop Moisés Fernandes

Bishop Emílio de Carvalho

Bishop João Machado

Bishop José Quipingo

Bishop Gaspar Domingos

Bishop Daniel Wandabula

Bishop Eben Nhiwatiwa

Bishop Joaquina Nhanala

Rev. Zaqueu Ranchaze – Committee on Episcopacy

- Committee on Appeals

Rev. Isaías Face (MN) - Committee on Investigation

- Comm. on the State of the Church

Rev. Mateus Francisco - Committee on Men's Work

Beatrice Asyago (EA) - Committee on Women's Work

Horácio Ezequiel (MS) - Committee on Youth work

Rev. Júlio Vilanculos - Council of Ministries

Nomfundo Jam-Jam (SA) - Committee of Finances and Administration

- Committee of Nominations and Personnel

Betty Katiyo (ZW) - Board of Church and Society

Rev. Matonga Forbes - Board of Educational Institutions and Social Services

Rev. Letuka Thabiso Theodore - Board of Publication and Communications

Rev. Givemore Chimbwanda (ZE) - Committee on Ministry

- Board of World Missions and Ecumenical Relations

Simon Mafunda - Committee on Conferences

Benedita Penicela – Representative on the Connectional Table

Ex-officio

Rev. Forbes Matonga (ZW) - General Secretary:

Beatrice Ayago (EA) - Statistical Secretary

Tsitsi Grace Kagurabadza (ZE) – Treasurer

Simon Mafunda (ZE) - Men Coordinator

Ana Manuel Inglês (AE) - Women coordinator

Mfundo Zonke (SA) - Youth coordinator

GROUP I COMMITTEES

BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Rev. Abel Niyukuri

Mr. Silas Habonimana

Tsitsi Grace Kagurabadza

Rev. Alex Nzabonimpa

David Muwaya

Forbes Matonga

Alcides Jacinto Arez Martins

Rev.^a Júlia Lampião Nhamageho

Lídia Elias Ussene

Rev. Zaqueu Silva Ranchaze

Nomfundo Jam-Jam

David Chitsonga
Rodrigues António

BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Marie Manisha
Kabungaidze Tonderai Jairos
Sarah Cissy Namukose
Emmanuel Chiimba
Isaias Sozinho Coutingo
Ester Silvina Calima
Bento Bernardo Malonguete
Horácio Ezequiel Vilanculos
Rev. Letuka Thabiso Theodore
Rev. Daniel Mhone
Elivira Moises da Silva Cazombo

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Rev. Lazare Bankurunza
Givemore Chimbwanda
Rev. Isaac Kyambadde
Betty Spiwe Katiyo
Francisco Simão António
Rev. Isaias Filipe Machegane Face
Rev. Júlio André Vilanculos
Rev. Maliwa Mills
Rev. Mateus Simão António FRANCISCO
Ana da Conceição da Mata

BOARD OF WORLD MISSIONS AND ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS

Rev. Abel Ntezimana
Togara Bobo
Rev. Paul Matheri
Beatrice Asyago

Maudy Muchanyereyi
Ana Mauel Inglês
Amoné Felimone Feliciano
Rev.^a Graça Martins Paípe Chibale
Rev.^a Medy José Jeremias Neves
Mfundo Zonke
Copeland Nkhata
Moisés Luamba Mazuela Zumba

COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES

Valentine Cimpaye
Simon Mafunda
Rev. Annie Grace Chingonzo
Dianah Chideya
Rev. Charles Nyamakope
Santa Foguete Júlio
Inês Mateus Infante Sarmento
Humberto Benavides Arnaldo Guibunda
Mondleki Christopher Nyaniso
Diverson Wakhutamoyo
Orlando da Cruz

GROUP II COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Lazare Bankurunza
Simon Mafunda
Rev. Paul Matheri
Rev. Isaac Kyambadde
Betty Spiwe Katiyo
Rev.^a Medy José Jeremias Neves
Rev. Zaqueu Silva Ranchaze
Rev. Maliwa Mills

David Chitsonga

COMMITTEE OF MEN'S WORK

Silas Habonimana

Givemore Chimbwanda

Emmanuel Chiimba

Isaías Sozinho Coutinho

Rev. Letuka Thabiso Theodore

Copeland Nkhata

Rev. Mateus Simão António Francisco

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S WORK

Valentine Cimpaye

Beatrice Asyago

Dianah Chideya

Ana Mauel Inglês

Amone Felimone Feliciano

Graça Martins Paipe Chibale

Lídia Elias Ussene

Elivira Moisés da Silva Cazombo

COMMITTEE ON YOUTH WORK

Rev. Abel Ntezimana

Kabungaidze Tonderai Jairos

Maudy Muchanyereyi

Alcides Jacinto Arez Martins

Horácio Ezequiel Vilanculos

Diverson Wakhutamoyo

Moises Luamba Mazuela Zumba

Ana da Conceição da Mata

COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

Togara Bobo

Rev. Alex Nzabonimpa

Rev. Charles Nyamakope
Francisco Simão António
Rev.^a Júlia Lampião Nhamageho
Inês Mateus Infante Sarmento
Rev. Júlio André Vilanculos
Mondleki Christopher Nyaniso
Rodrigues António

COMMITTEE OF FINANCES AND ADMINISTRATION

Marie Manisha
Tsitsi Grace Kagurabadza
David Muwaya
Santa Foguete Júlio
Rev. Isaías Filipe Machegane Face
Humberto Benavides Arnaldo Guibunda
Nomfundo Jam-Jam
Orlando da Cruz

COMMITTEE OF NOMINATIONS AND PERSONNEL

Rev. Abel Niyukuri
Rev. Annie Grace Chingonzo
Sarah Cissy Namukose
Rev. Forbes Matonga
Ester Silvina Calima
Bento Bernardo Malonguete
Mfundo Zonke
Rev. Daniel Mhone

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Alcides Jacinto Arez Martins	M	?
Rev. Isaias Sozinho Coutinho	M	?
Rev. Santa Foguete Júlio	F	?
Ester Silvina Calima	F	?
Rev. Francisco Simão António	M	?
<i>Malawi Provisional Conference</i>		
Rev. Daniel Mhone	M	?
Rev. Copeland Nkhata	M	?
Rev. Steven Mbewe	M	?
Diverson Wakhutamoyo	M	?
David Chitsonga	M	?
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Orlando da Cruz	M	?
Ana da Conceição da Mata	F	?
Rodrigues António	M	?
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DAILY PROCEEDINGS

Day 1 – Wednesday, 15 August 2012

Delegates arrival and registration and Executive Committee

During the morning and afternoon delegations arrived and were registered.

The Africa central conference started by getting into the executive committee that started at 2100hrs

After the executive committee meeting business was adjourned to start the following day.

Day 2 – Tuesday, 17th August 2012

Opening Service of the XII Session of the Africa Central Conference.

On the 17th of August business started at 0830hrs

The president Bishop Gaspar Domingos called the session to order and welcomed all delegates and visitors and other dignitaries.

Rev Lloyd T Nyarota gave the opening prayer to open the XII Session of the Africa central conference.

The opening worship was led by the president Bishop Gaspar João Domingos – Details are in the opening worship Bulletin.

After the worship and communication there was presentation of the Agenda by the assistant General Secretary Rev Lloyd T Nyarota.

There was presentation of the Rules of order and plan of the organization for business by Rev Lloyd Nyarota.

Delegates were advised that if they have issues to add on the agenda they would work with Secretariat.

The central conference then went into committee meetings until after supper.

The evening session started at 2030hrs and Bishop Nhanala was in chair.

The general secretary Ms. Benedita Penicela presented the General Conference report.

After the report Bishop Daniel Wandabula, as the host Bishop, took time to welcome the Africa Central Conference.

We also received the Report from the Board on Communications and Publications.

(1st) Resolution: Recorded events of the ACC be produced into DVDs and CDs and distributed to all the Annual Conferences;

(2nd) Resolution: Literature at ACC be produced in three languages to include French so that French speaking delegates can fully participate during deliberations of the conference;

(3rd) Resolution: The ACC Book of Discipline be updated to meet new challenges as a matter of urgency.

(4th) Resolution: Petition 001/1012 be adopted up to when we have an updated version of the book of discipline for ACC.

The session closed with a prayer from Bishop Marcus Mathews at 2200hrs

Day 3 – Friday, 17th August 2012

The session started at 0830hrs with worship being led by Zimbabwe delegation.

Rev. Charles Nyamakope of Zimbabwe West Annual Conference was leading

The opening prayer was given by Rev. Nkhata of Malawi Provisional Conference

Scripture readings John 5:1-11 were read by Rev. Ann Grace Chingonzo of Zimbabwe East Annual Conference.

After the sermon, prayer was given by Bishop Eben Nhiwatiwa.

Plenary session started at 0930hrs

Report from the Connectional Table was presented

The Committee on Ministry presented its report by the chairperson and the secretary.

The report was adopted with three voting against adopting the report.

Names from Nominations ballots were presented.

Details are on the report of the Committee on Ministry

From East Africa there were no nominations from the floor. One candidate from East Africa Annual Conference, Rev. Marc Baliyanga withdrew his nomination.

Mozambique Area there were no nominations from the floor. One candidate from Mozambique Area, Rev. Zaqueu Ranchaze withdrew his nomination.

Elections were conducted and the East Africa ballot was taken followed by the Mozambique Ballot and elections were completed at 1245hrs.

As ballots were being counted the General Secretary's report was presented and discussed.

At 1315hrs the plenary break for lunch

The afternoon Session started at 1500hrs

At 1500hrs CAT the results of the ballots were announced.

(5th) Resolution: Bishop Daniel Wandabula was reelected being thus life bishop of the United Methodist Church.

(6th) Resolution: Bishop Joaquina Filipe Nhanala was reelected being thus life bishop of the United Methodist Church.

There were moments of rejoice as the newly elected life bishops were greeted by the delegates.

There were greetings from the Council of Bishops presented by Bishop Marcus Matthews. He said:

“God is good...all the time

All the time... God is good.

Allow me to reintroduce myself. I am American. I am African. I am United Methodist. But above all these titles, I am a child of God.

We serve a loving God, who can be counted on to deliver God's children from despair, God can be counted on to deliver God's people, God can be counted on to provide whatever is needful for the welfare of God's people and the building of God's kingdom.

I am reminded of an off repeated refrain in the African American religious community that never fails to bring forth a rousing chorus of knowing amens. It goes like this: Jesus never comes when I call him, but

he always comes on time. It is one more way of saying that God will deliver his people; that God will provide. Jesus never comes when I call him, but he always comes on time. Amen.

That is what we as United Methodists need to remember.

We must bring and share that hope. There is a shortage of food and water in many parts of the world. This shortage comes in both nourishment for the body and nourishment for the soul. We can't always tap ground water, but we can always bring God's word to people quenched for living water.

We must bring hope. The best way to bring hope is to facilitate change. I didn't say that was easy, but it is the most recognizable way of instilling hope. We can be an agent for change by bringing the Word of God to people. The power of God's Word is awe-inspiring; its potential is unlimited. It comforts the grieving; and can heal a broken community. It builds bridges to those seeking his Grace and its pages are like open, outstretched arms to the forgotten, the downtrodden and the disillusioned. You, I, we are never forgotten or overlooked by God. And in that hope for a better future, in our eternal destiny decreed by Christ, we find comfort. We find joy. And we find strength.

The United Methodist Church is more a global church now than ever. We must embrace those bonds, those connections. We want to be transformational in the world, not just in our backyards, but in the whole world. We want a dollar in a collection plate in New York to bring hope in Kenya. But just as important, we want a stirring sermon in Burundi to bring hope to parishioners in Washington, D.C. Hope works two ways – hope is the belief that God will deliver you into something better, but hope is also the belief that God is answering someone else's prayer on your behalf.

As a connectional church, we are praying for each other. We learn from each other. And we are hoping for each other. The denomination is

global, but what is really comes down to be connections. Microscopic connections on a monumentally large ball we call earth. Whether two of are meeting face to face, across town via phone, or continents apart via Skype, the Lord is always with us.”

Then the GBGM general secretary Rev. Thomas Kemper also brought greetings followed by Rev Larry Holon General Secretary of United Methodist Communications.

Bishop Isaya Deye of the Methodist Church in Kenya welcomed the Africa central conference and also gave his greetings. Rev Dr. Andre Karamaga general secretary of the All Africa Conference of Churches brought Greetings to the Africa Central Conference He mentioned that we are praying for our brothers and sisters in the Presbyterian Church who have lost their leadership in a road accident.

After all the greetings the president of the Africa Central Conference Bishop Gaspar Domingos gave the Episcopal address

The session Closed at 1835hrs with a closing prayer from Bishop Nhanala.

After supper people were to continue into committee meetings then the plenary would meet the following day.

Day 4 – Saturday, 18th August 2012

We started the day with worship at 0830hrs

A musical group provided music as people were gathering for worship.

Liturgist: Rev James Mwoho of East Africa Annual Conference (Uganda)

The opening prayer was given by Rev Bruce, a missionary in East Africa Annual Conference.

Scripture reading: Rev Paul Matheri of East Africa Africa Annual Conference (Kenya) read in Acts 3:1-13

The preacher was Bishop Daniel Wandabula. He said “let the church be the church. The church is people who confess Jesus as Lord and saviour. God is still healing, he is the same always. We need to share what God has done for us.”

Closing prayer was given by Rev Nambela.

At 0930hrs we started on reports from Committees

Committee on Ministry gave its second part report - They recommended that in the Episcopal nomination let areas nominate put only one name on the ballot paper-this resolution was adopted.

There was a lunch break at 1230 hrs.

The plenary restarted at 1430 hrs.

The report of the Committee on Conferences was submitted and adopted.

(7th) Resolution: Petition No. 003/2012 ACC regarding the United Methodist Church in Ethiopia to be part of East Africa Annual Conference was adopted.

(8th) Resolution: Petition No. 004/2012 ACC regarding the boundaries of East Africa Annual Conference to be made up of Rwanda, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia was adopted.

(9th) Resolution: The national boundaries for Burundi will be the boundaries for Burundi Annual Conference.

The nominations Committee submitted its report

(10th) Resolution: Officials of ACC 2012-2016

President: Bishop Eben Nhiwatiwa

General Secretary : Forbes Matonga ZW

Assistant Secretary for French: Godlives Manirakiza BU

Assistant Secretary for Portuguese: Júlio André Vilanculo MS

Statistician: Beatrice Ayago EA

Men Coordinator: Simon Mafnda (ZE)

Women Coordinator: Ana Manuel Inglês (AE)

Youth Coordinator: Mfundo Zonke (SA)

There was a break for tea at 1100hrs

The session resumed at 1210hrs

Committee the state of the Church reported

The report on men's work was read and adopted.

The report on women's work was read and adopted.

The report on youth work was read and adopted.

(11th) Resolution: They recommended that the ages for youth be 12-35years for youth and young adults

(12th) Resolution: They also recommended that they would like to meet twice in the quadrennium. This was approved and the first meeting will be hosted in Zimbabwe.

At 1330hrs there was a break for lunch

Afternoon session started at 1500hrs

The following reports were done

Council on ministries report was adopted

Finance at treasurer reports were discussed finance report was referred to come back with meaningful budget

(13th) Resolution: A budget of \$ 158 975,51 was approved for the quadrennium 2012-2016

(14th) Resolution: The treasurer of the ACC for the quadrennium of 2012-2016 is Ms. Tsitsi Grace Kagurabadza.

Nominations report was adopted with its recommendations.

Statistics report was also submitted and adopted.

There was discussion on how to build up support for self-sustenance as Africa Central Conference.

The Vice President of the Republic of Kenya came to address the Africa central Conference at 1700hrs.

After the vice president's address Bishop Nhiwatiwa gave a response as the New President of the Africa Central Conference.

At 1600hrs the Africa central Conference session closed.

Closing Service of the XII Session of the Africa Central Conference

The service started at 2000hrs and followed the attached order.

The General Secretary, Benedita Penicela gave charge to the General Secretary Elect, Rev. Forbes Matonga.

The service ended at 2130hrs.

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tampa, Florida, USA, 24th April to 4th May 2012

About a thousand delegates from all parts of the world where the United Methodist Church is established, and around 2500 visitors gathered at the Convention Center in Tampa, Florida, United States of America, from 24th April to 4th May this year, for the **GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**. This highest legislative church body establishes general policies of the United Methodist Church, meets every four years to determine the direction of the denomination. It is the only body that officially speaks on behalf of more than twelve million members who compose the United Methodist Church.

The **THEME of the General Conference of 2012** was “*MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST TO TRANSFORM THE WORLD*”. Delegates considered more than a thousand petitions, established policies, plans and budgets approved and dealt with various other matters. There was simultaneous translation into Swahili, English, French, German, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Russian and American sign language. The Africa Central Conference was represented by 36 delegates, being 12 from West Angola, 1 from East Angola, 2 from South Mozambique, 2 from North Mozambique, 3 from South Africa, 2 from East Zimbabwe, 2 from West Zimbabwe, 2 from Malawi e 10 from East Africa.

The **Opening Session** began at 4.00 PM on the 24th April, with a liturgical celebration that included the service of Holy Communion. Bishop Larry Goodpaster, the Annual Conference of Charlotte, North Carolina and chairman of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church was the preacher, and spoke of "Radical Invitation," reflecting on the theme of the first day, and inviting the over 4500 people present to hear the call of Jesus "in the midst of legislation that will fill all our time and consume our energies ..." The following are **most noteworthy aspects** of the General Conference.

1) The **EPISCOPAL MESSAGE** was given by Bishop Peter Weaver of the Boston Annual Conference, during the Plenary session of the 25th April, followed by **the Laity and the Young Adults Addresses**. This fact marked the 2000th anniversary of the first episcopal message. Bishop Weaver's message was entitled *Revolution of the Resurrection: Christ's Resurrection with Resurrection of the People for a World Risen*.

Mrs. Betty Spiwe Kativo, Zimbabwe, who spoke on behalf of the laity, challenged the plenary: "Imagine if every layperson brings one person to Jesus Christ in every year," she said.

2) **13 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES** of the General Conference worked diligently in petitions and other matters. The debate of over 70 petitions on *homosexuality* resulted in the reaffirmation of the traditional principle and discipline of the United Methodism, whereby this practice "is incompatible with Christian teaching." There were demonstrations of groups seeking changes in church law, on and off the floor, which prohibits the ordination of persons who practice homosexuality and the marriage of persons of the same sex. It was also approved a proposal to terminate the *guaranteed pastoral appointments* in the United Methodist Church. A proposal that would allow elders and deacons be ordained soon as they complete their educational requirements was not approved. The General Conference celebrated on the night of April 30 **the decision to enter into full communion** with the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Union Methodist Protestant Church and the American Union Methodist Episcopal Church . He also welcomed the representatives of the global Wesleyan denominations present in the Conference.

3) **RESTRUCTURING SCHEDULED FOR 2012 DID NOT OCCUR.** As the final session took its last steps, the Judicial Council dropped a bomb that struck the assembly: the **PLAN OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** (Plan UMC), which provided for the realignment of the 13 general agencies that serve the United Methodist Church, was declared as "unconstitutional." The decision came at the request of a "declaratory decision" of the constitutionality of the plan, which restructured the United Methodist Church, which had already been approved by the plenary of the General Conference. In short: there is no "restructuring," therefore the structure adopted by the General Conference in 2008 will remain intact.

4) The 2012 General Conference voted to make **United Methodist Women Division** a structurally autonomous agency of the General Board of Global Ministries, of which has been a member, keeping at the same time a missional relationship.

5) The 2012 General Conference **created a new Episcopal Area at the**

CENTRAL CONGO Annual Conference, in the Congo Central Conference, thereby increasing the number of bishops this area (from three) to four. The costs associated with the addition of a fourth bishop in Central Congo Annual Conference shall be borne by the budget of the Episcopal Fund of the Church United Methodist. Restored the BURUNDI Annual Conference, as a part of the East Africa Annual Conference, within the Africa Central Conference. The United Methodist Church in MALAWI became a Provisional Annual Conference, under the Zimbabwe Annual Conference, of the Africa Central Conference. As particular note, Bishops Hans Vaxby, Eurasia Area, and Leo Soriano, Davo Area, in the Philippines, retired from active service in this session of the General Conference.

6) On April 30, the General Conference did not approve a petition that would create a "set aside president" for the Council of Bishops, among the Bishops of the Church, who would be free residential and presidential of responsibilities in Jurisdictional or Central Conferences while assuming this office. In order to be approved, it required a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates, since it was a paragraph of the Constitution. This proposal was not adopted, as had already happened in the legislative committee that dealt with this subject. This problem of a non-resident bishop who would assume the duties of President of the Council of Bishops, is dragging since the 1968 General Conference. Several delegates have expressed fears that a full-time president of the Council of Bishops would have too many powers, or that this position would be considered to be “the face of the United Methodist Church,” whether or not this was the intention of the proposal. The Council of Bishops had expressed through the whole process, that that position would be to just lead and let the Council of Bishops to concentrate, to give more time and energy to the process."

7) On April 25, dedicated as World Malaria Day, delegates to the General Conference of 2012 were reminded of the existence of this evil. Bishop Thomas Bickerton of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference, and Bishop John Yambasu of Sierra Leone were among the figures who announced that the United Methodist Church was in the forefront of the struggle to end to malaria in Africa. The campaign work *IMAGINE A WORLD WITHOUT MALARIA* has been concentrated primarily in our continent, because 90% of the global burden of malaria falls on sub-Saharan Africa, where children and pregnant women are the

most vulnerable.

8) On the 27th April the General Conference conducted an Act of Repentance of the injustices caused by the Americans to Native American populations. Rev. " Tink" Tinker George, himself a Native American, brought the message during the act of repentance for the healing of relationships with indigenous peoples.

9) In sidelines of the General Conference of 21,012, bishops and clergy and lay delegates present, of the Africa Central Conference, had consultation meetings, to agree on dates, procedures and other matters relating to the completion of XII Session of the Africa Central Conference. Nairobi. Kenya from 15 to 19 August 2012. The theme is the same of the General Conference: "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ That Transform the World." The agenda will consist of episcopal elections, Central Conference legislation, considerations on self-sustainability, issues discussed in the General Conference including the positioning of the Central Conference concerning them and training on petitions. The executive committee of the Africa Central Conference ratified unanimously the decision of the General Conference that reinstates the BURUNDI ANNUAL CONFERENCE. It further resolved that each Annual Conference participates with six delegates to the session of the Conference Center, and approved the budget this session, which would be covered with the donation of the General Board of Global Ministries and the contribution of the Annual Conferences.

10) In what concerns the constitution of Committees of the General Conference Africa was well represented: - Mateus Francisco district superintendent of the Regions, who served as vice chairman of the Credentials Committee, and the Subcommittee on Discipleship; Evariste Kimba Kyakutala, North Katanga, served as secretary of the Committee for the Affairs of the Central Conference; Mande Raymond Mutombo Mulumishimba and Nelly W. Wright, North Katanga and Liberia, who served as vice-presidents of the Commission on Church and Society (A and B); Robert Kilembo, of Zambia, served as vice chairman of the Committee on Conferences and Betty S.Katiyo, West of Zimbabwe, as vice chairman of the Committee on General Administration; Jean Marie Nkongwe, of South of the Congo, as vice chairman of the Committee on Global Ministries; Mariama SB Bockart, Sierra Leone, as vice president of the Independent Commissions and Julius Sarwold Nelson. Jr. Liberia,

as president of the Independent sub-committee; Anthony G. Dioh, Liberia, as vice president of the Commission on Higher Education and Ministry and Ndala Joseph Mulongo, North Katanga, who served as vice chairman of the Committee on Superintendency.

Still to sidelines of the General Conference, African bishops met to plan the meeting of the COLLEGE OF BISHOPS OF AFRICA scheduled for 3 to 7 September 2012, in the Africa University in Zimbabwe. The impact and assessment of the recent General Conference session on our continent, the issue of homosexuality, joint projects, visits to churches and prospects of holding the next meeting in Angola in 2013, are some subjects that will appear in the agenda.

11) The Commission on the General Conference, spoke about the determination of hold a General Conference in one of the Central Conferences no later than 2024. For reasons of size, structure, and duration of the problem of the division of delegates, and the fact that they continue to think that the General Conference is held in a location where the presence of the United Methodist Church is significant, led the Commission on

General Conference to conclude that *holding* a General Conference session outside the United States would incur in significant costs. However, members of this Committee concluded that it would be up to the General Conference to determine in the future whether or not it would be worthwhile to gather outside the U.S., making it a priority for our Church.

12) Bishops Nkulu Ntanda Ntambo of Northern Katanga, and Joaquina Nhanala of Mozambique, presided over the proceedings of the General Conference on the morning of April 27, and the evening session on April 29, 2012, respectively.

13) Rev. Dr. J. Kabamba Kiboco, South of the Congo, and currently living in the United States, and Dr. Oswald Tweh, Liberian lawyer and former president of the National Association of Lawyers of Liberia, were elected members of the Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church. In turn, Dr. Kasap Owant, president of the Katanga United Methodist University, was elected member of the University Senate of the United Methodist Church.

14) The General Conference established a Fund for Central Conferences Theological Education, that will be used outside the United States to develop theological colleges and courses of studies, libraries and contextualized development resources, scholarships and teachers development as well as to support organizations and networks of teachers and schools. The Fund will also support new initiatives in the field of theological education. The General Board of Higher Education will administer the fund, which at first will be 5 million dollars. With the rapid growth of United Methodism in many of the Central Conferences, there is a growing need to contextualize relevant theological education outside the United States. The Church at large should implement a stable fund for theological education in Central Conferences.

15) As to financial participation of Central Conferences the overall budget of the United Methodist Church, each episcopal area of the Central Conference will participate with 10% of the total episcopal plan expenditure of their respective areas. It was also proposed that the Central Conferences increase their contribution to the general budget of the Church, and that they do not rely only on the United States. Self-sufficiency should be the ultimate goal.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

Bishop Mattew Marcus conducted the elections of the executives which came out as follows:

Chairperson: Rev. Givemore Chimbwanda – Zimbabwe East

Vice-chair: Rev. Mills Maliwa – South Africa

Secretary Betty Spiwe Katiyo – Zimbabwe West

Bishop Marcus Mattews explained the role of the committee and indicated that the secretary will be called upon to present the outcome of the ballots from the Mozambique and East Africa Episcopal Areas.

The following agenda items were agreed upon:

- Clarity on retirement of bishops
- Itinerancy of Bishops

- Tenure of Bishops
- ACC Bishops nomination process

Retirement age of Bishops

The retirement age of Bishops used to be of 65 years until 2004 General Conference, which added 2 years to make the retirement age 67 years. Currently the Jurisdiction retirement age is 72 years.

After discussing this issue the committee unanimously agreed that as ACC we leave the retirement age as 68 years taking into account that average life expectancy, our social situation. We reaffirm that the retirement age of Bishops be 68 years.

Itinerancy of Bishops

The committee discussed the possibility of itinerancy within the ACC. It was felt that there were vast differences in culture within the ACC such that it would pose as a challenge if bishops were to itinerate.

It was agreed, however, that in a country where there are more than one Episcopal Area the bishops in that country can itinerate.

Tenure of Bishops

The committee discussed the possibility of having a term limit of say 12 years for bishops. After discussion it was felt that there would be challenges if some bishops were elected into office at an early age as we would have several retired bishops who would still be under the retirement age.

ACC Bishops nomination process

According to both the English and Portuguese ACC Books of Discipline, the nomination ballot should be sealed uncounted and presented to the ACC. The committee is proposing that the nomination ballot by Annual Conferences be counted soon after the nominations and that only the top ten ballots be put in an envelope and sealed per the procedures in the

ACC Book of Discipline. The other ballots may be put in a separate envelope and kept for audit purposes.

As a follow up after counting the current ballots, the committee is recommending that:

- (a) Delegates should only vote for one name instead of two names as per ACC Book of Discipline paragraph 303 a. This will make them easier to count.
- (b) In future, any Annual Conference which fails to adhere to the nominations process as per ACC Book of Discipline will be disqualified

Betty Spiwe Katiyo

Secretary

SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

The Committee on ministry gathered in the Chapel soon after adjourning from the day's business to count the ballots.

Membership of the Committee

We started counting at 10.20 PM and finished at 2.20 AM. The analysis is as follows:

East Africa Episcopal Area

The nominations envelope was properly sealed and had a seal. The nomination ballot was carried out on the 17th May 2012 and there was a signed report by the Annual Conference Secretary indicating that there were 142 laity and 142 clergy.

The ballots counted were 285. After counting, the outcome was as follows:

Rev. Daniel Wandabula 240
Rev. Marc Baliyanga.....39
Spoilt.....5

Blank.....1

TOTAL 285

Mozambique Episcopal Area

(a) South Africa Provisional Conference

The envelope was sealed but there was no report of when the ballot was held and there were no statistical details. The ballot papers were plain with no stamp. The committee agreed that these were null and void.

(b) Mozambique North Annual Conference

The envelope was sealed and had a report signed by the secretary with the following details of delegates present: laity – 40, Clergy – 24; Total 64. Bishop Nhanala presided.

The result of the counting is as follows.

(c) Mozambique South Annual Conference

The envelope was properly sealed. The session was held on the 7th December 2011 and Bishop Machado Presided. There was a signed report from the Conference Secretary indicating that there were 259 delegates.

The outcome of the counting was as follows:

Mozambique North	64
Mozambique South	<u>261</u>
Subtotal	325
Less invalid	<u>-5</u>
	320
	<u>×2</u>
	640
Less spoilt $7 \times 2 = 14 + 29$	<u>-43</u>
TOTAL	<u>597</u>

The counting results were as follows:

Joaquina Filipe Nhanala	269
Zaqueu Silva Ranchaze	177
Fernando Simone Matsimbe	119
Jacob Jenhuro Lucas	18
Isaías Machegane	<u>14</u>
TOTAL	<u>597</u>

Betty Spiwe Katiyo

Secretary

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY TO THE AFRICA
CENTRAL CONFERENCE**

Glory be given to God the father for the opportunity that gives his servants to serve in His vineyard! It was an honor to be able to contribute to His work as General Secretary of this body of the United Methodist Church in Africa, during the period of 2008 to 2012.

Once again, however, funding constraints were the Achilles heel for the completion of the work that I wanted to pursue.

Visits

During the period under review, it has not been possible to make any visit.

However, as a member of the Standing Committee on the Central Conference Affairs I participated in the establishment of objective criteria for the creation of new Episcopal areas. The criteria take into account not only the membership of the area in question, but also

(1) the number of charge conferences and number of active clergy in Episcopal areas;

(2) the geographical area of Episcopal areas and the number of time zones and countries included;

(3) the structure of episcopal area measured by the number of annual and total number conferences, by the membership of the annual, provisional and missionary conferences in the episcopal area.

After the application of objective criteria to the Standing Committee will carry out further analysis in the context of the missional potential of changes in the episcopal area.

By the application of these criteria and the absence of resources for creating more Episcopal areas, the creation of a new episcopal area in the Congo Central Conference was prioritized. The petitions duly submitted to create new Episcopal areas in the Africa Central Conference did not pass at this time.

The Standing Committee also developed legislation that allows the Central conferences to create the provisional annual conferences. Previously these were created by the Central Conference by the General Conference, due to inconsistent language in the Book of Discipline. Now the General Conference only ratifies the provisional conferences created by Central Conferences. The provisional conferences shall have the right to send a delegate to the General Conference, with all the rights and privileges of other annual conference delegates, except the right to vote.

The Standing Committee found that some central conferences do not have the ability to work in accordance with their mandate. During the current quadrennium more effective and efficient structures as well as the number and boundaries of the Central conferences will be studied in addition to trying to develop new creative ways to structure the work of the United Methodist Church.

Other activities

Compilation of minutes of the 11th session of the Central Conference

Were compiled and edited in English and Portuguese the minutes of the XI Session of the Central Conference.

We propose the adoption of the same as the official document of the Conference of Central Africa.

Petitions

I received the following petitions to the Africa Central Conference:

Petition of the East Africa Annual Conference requesting to split same in two with the creation of the Annual Conference of Burundi. It proposed that the Conference boundaries be the geographical areas of Burundi and Rwanda. The petition was exceeded since the General Conference has already taken action on this subject.

Petition of the Burundi Annual Conference requesting the creation of an episcopal area. The petition was referred to the Committee on conferences. This petition shall be referred to the Standing Committee on Central Conferences Affairs.

Petition of United Methodist Church in Ethiopia to become part of the East Africa annual Conference. The petition was referred to the Committee on conferences.

Petition for splitting of East Africa Annual Conference in two creating a Provisional Conference in Kenya within East Africa episcopal area. The petition was referred to the Committee on conferences.

Petition that the General Book of Discipline is adopted as a Central Conference Discipline, abolishing the Africa Central Conference Book of discipline. The petition was referred to the Commission on publishing and communications.

Compilation of statistical data

With a view to updating of statistical data of Central Africa, the Conference Secretary General worked with the various annual conferences. The numbers obtained were directed to the update of statistics that CGFA there were. This action, however, was not the time to change the proportional representation of some annual General Conference conferences, that kept the minimum number of two delegates

to the General Conference. We hope to reverse that situation with the data that are presented in this session and which will be included in the official report to be submitted to the General Council of Finance and administration.

Stamp of the Central Conference

The Secretary-General ordered a stamp of the Central Conference as to date such did not exist.

Questions raised by the Standing Committee on the Central Conference Affairs.

That Commission referred the following questions to the Central conferences:

1-As Central Conference what are your plans and mission objectives for the quadrennium?

2-What are the biggest obstacles for the Central Conference to achieve its mission objectives and plans for the quadrennium?

3 – What could strengthen the efforts of the Central Conference to achieve the plans and objectives of the Mission for the quadrennium? What is more needed?

4 – Would Africa Central Conference like to share something with the Standing Committee?

These questions were referred to the Commission on the State of the Church and the Council of Ministries for deliberation and submission to the plenary session

Executive Committee of Africa Central Conference

This body met only once, on May 3, 2012 in Tampa, Florida, on the side of the General Conference. In this session deliberations on the budget, representation of annual conferences and agenda of the XII Session of the Conference of Central Africa were made were made.

The action of the General Conference to create the Burundi Annual Conference was also recognized.

The question of the representativeness of the members of the Central Conference of Africa in General Conference bodies was also seen as a concern to be taken into account by the College of Bishops of Africa Central Conference when meeting within the Council of Bishops for appointments.

4. Difficulties

Communication

The communication difficulties persisted in this period. Combined with the lack of financial resources these limit the action of the Africa Central Conference to Episcopal elections and reaction to acute crises that bubble up.

It is important to overcome this situation by giving more attention to communication at all levels.

Failure to comply with appropriate budgetary duties by annual conferences

The annual conferences have not paid on time their apportionments to the Africa Central Conference. This situation renders impossible the meetings of the Executive Committee between sessions and any relevant action by the Secretary-General.

Language barriers

In recent quadrennia Portuguese and English have been used as official languages of the Africa Central Conference. However, it has been verified that the French also is a language with relevance to this session. I would like to make this point of reflection on how could minimize this barrier between us.

5. Acknowledgments

I would like to thank all those who cooperated with me during this period, in particular:

- the President of the Africa Central Conference, Most Reverend Bishop Gaspar João Domingos,
- Most Reverend Bishop Daniel Wandabula, host of the XII session of the Africa Central Conference,
- the General Secretary of JGMG, Rev. Thomas Kemper and his staff,
- the College of Bishops of Central Africa Conference that always have supported me
- my family, and especially to God the Creator who gives us strength to serve.

General Secretary

Benedita Penicela

REPORT OF THE AFRICA CENTRAL CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVE IN CONNECTIONAL TABLE

Please request from relator

Forbes Matonga (Rev.)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

Please request from the members

Secretary for English

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEN'S WORK.

Agenda:

- (1) The primary task of Men's Work

- (a) The Spiritual dimension of men's work
- (b) The Administrative dimension of men's work
- (c) The Financial dimension of men's work

The Spiritual Dimension (How?)

- (i) Witnessing to other men about Christ
- (ii) Door to door evangelism or one to one;
- (iii) Nurturing those that join the Church;
- (iv) Personal testimonies as how they received salvation;
- (v) Men should live as priests to their family and friends;
- (vi) Conduct men's convention;
- (vii) Conduct and participate in music festivals;
- (viii) Conduct programs that are strategic to draw fellow man to Christ e.g. "Walk to Emmaus"

The Administrative Dimension

- (i) Create Structures: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Members;
- (ii) Develop by-laws to govern the work of men in any given conference;
- (iii) Create a **Planning Committee** that strategizes on the work of man in the Conference.

The Financial Dimension

For the work of men to make visible progress, the men ought to find avenues to generate funds for their work.

- (i) Monthly subscriptions

(ii) Projects that can generate funds

(iii) Chabaza concept – partner with fellow men in other conferences etc. and strengthen one another in fundraising programs.

Recommendations

(i) The men should create a diversity of programs that can attract the participation of more and more men and young adults.

E.g. using suitable venues where men would feel good to be part of men's work.

(ii) The leaders of men's should engage the SWOT theory in order to achieve more success in the work of men.

(iii) The men should organize camp meetings where teachings, training and spiritual enrichment can be accomplished.

(iv) The men should organize "couples meetings" to strengthen family life and avert marriage crisis. This opportunity could make marriage bonds revitalized, renewed, etc.

(v) The coordination of Men's Work for ACC should draw reports from Presidents of Men's Work in every Annual Conference every two years;

And in the third year of the quadrennium, the Coordination should convene a meeting with all Presidents of Men's Work.

The Annual Conference takes care of the transport costs of their delegates.

(vi) The Chairpersons of Men's Work should become members of the ACC.

Secretary:

Rev. Copeland Nkhata

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH WORK

The committee was convened on the 17th of August in the secretariat room, from 20h25 to 23h30.

Election

The following brethren were elected

Chairperson: Horacio Ezekiel - Southern Mozambique

Vice-Chair: Kabirgaidse Tondesai - East Zimbabwe

Secretary: Ana da Mata - Angola West

After we listened to what had been done by youth of the annual conferences that comprise the Africa Central Conference with regard to activities, impact of youth in church and society, constitution of young people and their challenges.

Findings

It was found that in some annual conferences as Zimbabwe East and Zimbabwe West, Malawi, Burundi and South Africa youth members are considered from 13 to 35 years of age different from what happens in the Conferences of West and East Angola, and Mozambique South and North that consider youth from 12 to 30 years of age.

Therefore the committee recommends the following:

- That the Central Conference standardizes the age for young people on the entire Central Conference to be considered young from 12 to 35 years.
- That the Central Conference authorizes biennial meetings of young people from different annual conferences in representativeness.

- That the Central Conference reinforces the paragraph 509 of the Central Conference of discipline according to which there should be adequate representation.

Nairobi August 18, 2012

The secretary

Ana da Mata

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S WORK.

The Commission met and brings the following:

Women empowerment

Women's health

Domestic violence

Laws that protect woman

Mozambique South and North

In the area of training we have training centers where women and girls are trained to adhere to entrepreneurship. Women are adhering though not in large scale to literary education (literacy).

We help women to insert themselves in the fight against child marriage. We have centers that care for the elderly and orphans and vulnerable children.

In the area of health we strive in the expansion of prevention of diseases (malaria, HIV/AIDS and their treatment). Moral and material support are our great support so that they do not feel discriminated against.

With regard to violence, we have brochures that illustrate some cases so that women are aware. We provide workshops and lectures so that they awaken and do not die in silence. Between districts and conferences we create counseling centers for young people.

How the law that protects women. The Government outlines laws that protect her.

Angola West

The Western Conference of Angola is undertaking many contributions to the training of women. They have designed for a women's training centre, including pastor wives and youth. So that they have small entrepreneurs.

They stand strong in the involvement in the work and leadership of the Church.

In the area of health they promote lectures involving medical doctors in the area of nutrition and HIV/AIDS and others.

In the fight against violence, they adopted the system of denounces although it is still a challenge because of the culture of fear.

In the law of protection of women, Angola West enjoys the rights and has power in Parliament.

Angola East

At this Conference, only in 2004 was a leadership created that has implemented the beginning of its structured training. Women in the fight against poverty and the protection of extended family are mostly involved in informal business. They fight against illiteracy, although without emphasis due to culture. As part of their promotion there are women in the Government.

They have agriculture and livestock projects.

In health, are involved with hospitals in dissemination of precautions against breast cancer and other diseases.

Women inherit enjoyment of their rights.

Zimbabwe West and East

Training: training centers and care of children in need,

Promote lectures and crusades that illustrate about HIV/AIDS, abortion and help in the care of the elderly.

In what concerns violence: they trace weeks on which they only speak about women's conflicts and their resolution. Together with women who are in Government and lawyers they carry out this great job.

In the area of health, nothing stood behind along the lectures.

East Africa

They have many health centers and microfinance projects and they all are strong. The Government oversees the microfinance area and helps especially women out of poverty. They have a children's choir and are involved in the program against illiteracy along with the Government and have schools where the orphans have rights to study for free.

In the area of health they promote nutrition, malaria and mosquitoes, abortion, sexual abstinence, breast cancer and other programs.

In the fight against violence, women's silence is the Achilles heel but programs are being made so that they speak in their defense.

Recommendations

To minimize premature parenthood is recommended to implement moral and sexual education programs, adult education;

Let women be encouraged to break the silence;

Let counseling centers for women and child victim of violence be created;

Let women be encouraged to fight stigmatization of people living with HIV/AIDS;

Be it that in women and youth training centers be there computer courses;

Let women be encouraged to take up positions at all levels in the Church without fear;

Let pastors of both genders be aware of cases of violence and subsequent forwarding.

It is said

Secretary

Lídia Ussene

**REPORT OF THE BOARD ON EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

Chairperson: Rev. Matonga Forbes - Zimbabwe West

Portuguese Secretary: Alcides Jacinto Arez Martins – East Angola-

English Secretary: JamJam Nomfundo – South Africa

We started by sharing information experiences in each conference and we identified that there are challenges in each conference. Some of the challenges which cuts across the conferences are

1. Curriculum issues
2. Recognition by other institutions
3. Funding and scholarships

Therefore the committee came up with the following recommendations

That we need a comprehensive planning in terms of theological education, people are not grounded both theologically and in United Methodism.

We request Africa University assess the Educational needs in the C. C. and to accredit other institutions in order to expand its work and also to avoid expenses of taking a person to Zimbabwe.

The committee recommends that Central Conference representation in Africa University Board to ensure smooth communication between A. U and the rest of the C. C.

Also recommends that Central Conference must take note and act on the issue of gender balancing as it is a compliant measure to MDGs as of now committee has noticed that enrolment at primary levels at primary are balancing but at higher levels and managerial levels is not there.

On curriculum: Africa University should take responsibility in developing a uniform curriculum for theological education for our institutions because right now we are depending on curriculum developed by Govt. which the church has no influence especially on the issues of morality and religious education which was the trade mark of mission schools.

Funding: As conference we need have institutions that are self-supporting and minimize dependency syndrome.

On scholarship delegates were concerned that in some cases scholarships are not given to the most deserving students. We got information that that Africa University is having a program on scholarship of supporting those needy ones and that the Zimbabwe Episcopal Area has an Africa University Sunday during which churches make their contributions to the education of the less privileged. We recommend that this good practice be adopted by us all.

Also we need to identify wealthy people and companies who can invest on scholarship programs.

Committee also receive information that there is a funding of 5m US dollars for Central Conferences from the General Church administered by G.B.H.E.M. Committee recommends the C.C. get to know how to access these funds.

Also recommends that among already given like infrastructural development our priorities must also be on specialized training e.g. on HIV/AIDS. We need a theologically grounded response to the scourge.

We also need specialized Pastors to focus on rural ministries.

Also need special and modernized learning equipment.

Our understanding of theological training is that clergy & lay people will benefit.

Finally our finding is that due to lack of financial resources and employment opportunities in Africa we are losing most of our educated people are leaving to work in the Western countries. Our investment comes to naught.

Social Services: Recommend that the church must strengthen and enhance its work on providing social services to those in need ones , like looking after vulnerable groups like old people ,physical challenged.

Concerns: That there seem to be no deliberate efforts to start new mission schools in our new area such as Malawi and South Africa.

We thank you.

English Secretary:

JamJam Nomfundo

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON PUBLICATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee started business electing the officials:

Chairperson: Rev. Letuka Thabiso Theodore

Vice-Chair: Sarah Cissy

English Secretary: Kabungaidze Tonderai

Portuguese Secretary: Emmanuel Chiimba

Experiences from Annual Conferences and Provisional Conferences

Malawi Provisional Conference

1. Produces a newsletter on stories taking pace in circuits every quarter;
2. Publishes Sunday school programs;

3. Sources Christian literature which includes bibles and hymn books;
4. Has a blog for communication.

Burundi Annual Conference

1. Has a newsletter that addresses issues on girls, children women and poverty alleviation.

Challenges faced

- a) getting adequate funding for the production of the newsletter;
- b) people do not have the culture of reading.

Zimbabwe Episcopal Area

1. Produces a lot of Christian literature on worship, Sunday school and evangelism;
2. Gives attendees to laity academies supporting literature;
3. Every pastor in Zimbabwe has a cellphone;
4. Clergy members and lay members hold a school every year in June;
5. Published a strategic document that gives direction to the church focusing on Health, poverty reduction, congregational development and leadership development;
6. All districts have e-mail addresses.
7. The area has a website, umc.org.zw;
8. CDs and DVDs on events at circuits, districts and conference activities are being produced and sold to church and non-church members.

South Africa Provisional Conference

1. Church events being recorded and published in the local media;

2. They publish a newsletter once a year and sell it to church and non-church members for R50;
3. They have translated parts of the book of worship into local languages.
4. Future plans: they are looking forward to create a website.

East Africa Annual Conference

1. They have a website: www.eaac-umc.org and an e-mail address: info@eaac-umc.org;
2. They have mobile clinics;
3. They have a Bible School;
4. They have a program of training the trainers;
5. They have produced a calendar for 2013.

Angola West Annual Conference

There was no report on this conference because the committee failed to get English-Portuguese interpreter.

Recommendations

1. Recorded events of the ACC be produced into DVDs and CDs and distributed to all the Annual Conferences;
2. Literature at ACC be produced in three languages to include French so that French speaking delegates can fully participate during deliberations of the conference;
3. The ACC Book of Discipline be updated to meet new challenges as a matter of urgency.
4. Petition oo1/1012 be adopted up to when we have an updated version of the book of discipline for ACC.

Secretaries

Kabungaidze Tonderai

Emmanuel Chiimba

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD MISSIONS AND
ECUMENICAL RELATIONS**

Chairperson:

Portuguese secretary:

English secretary: Susan Majiwa

1. Missions Work

The general overview denotes that Missions have been accomplished in all the Conferences that form the Africa Central Conference.

Zimbabwe Episcopal Area

The making of disciples has grown with many new local churches, circuits and districts being formed. It has spread from Zimbabwe to UK, New Zealand and Botswana.

Infrastructural development with the support of pastors is visible.

Partnership between urban and rural circuits boasts the growing process.

2. Ecumenical Work

Zimbabwe Episcopal Area

Zimbabwe Episcopal area works with the Zimbabwe Council of Churches to promote ecumenical work.

East Africa Annual Conference

This episcopal area has experienced church growth as more new people have joined the church. The conference has cultivated contemporary worship to accommodate the young folks.

Social Services

Projects in the area of health and education (school) have been a good tool to attract new people to join the church.

Churches have been established in war-torn areas and the Word of God has been taught and many women have joined the church.

Training to equip the flock has been helpful.

Infrastructural Development is growing in the conference.

Youth scouting has harnessed youth in schools;

Micro-finance projects have been a tool to empower women and draw the closer to God.

Ecumenical Work

Interdenominational meetings have enhanced ecumenism.

The UMC in the area has been part of the All Africa Conference of Churches, National Council of Churches and other partnerships.

Challenges:

Lack of funds;

Lack of well-trained UMC personnel to do the work

Malawi Provisional Conference

Missions

The Conference has made disciples via evangelism crusades, leadership training and youth ministry activities.

The Conference has provided social services such as potable water, nursery schools, home tailoring schools, home scholarships, malaria control, nutritional clinics and farming. They have partners from Germany, GBGM and USA.

Ecumenism

We have cordial relations with other denominations and participate in other interdenominational activities.

South Africa Provisional

Most of our local churches are involved in mission projects such as nursery schools and evangelism creating new churches.

The RSA Conference has also organized foreigners to form their own natural groupings to retain

Ecumenism

The RSA Conference has just applied with the RSA Council of Churches.

WAY FORWARD

1. To review our approach to worship and create a balance between keeping the Methodist tradition and being contemporary to be relevant to the modern communities, especially the youth.
2. ACC consider sponsoring some candidates for training in various fields to meet the challenge of shortage of personnel among pastors and other areas of the church so that we have adequate and capable personnel.
3. The Church must link up with other institutions such as UN etc., to solve the problems of conflict, war, violence in the African region since the Church is the hub of peace.

English secretary

Susan Majiwa

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES

The committee was oriented by Bishop Marcus Matthews

Chairperson: Simon Mafunda

Vice Chairperson: Christopher Modhleki

Secretary: Diana Chideya

SUMMARY OF REPORT

- Resolutions of 2008 which have implications on implementation now.
- Resolutions coming from Annual Conferences
- Possible issues from delegates from Annual Conferences

2008 RESOLUTIONS

As a follow up to the minutes of ACC 2008 Item 2(a) on page 46 and whereas the two countries Zimbabwe and Mozambique have now provided membership statistics we therefore recommend that it be resolved that:

Mozambique forms 2 Episcopal Areas by 2016 and

Zimbabwe forms 2 Episcopal Areas by 2016

The committee reaffirms the 2008 petition on page 46 Item 3(a) of the ACC minutes that South Africa becomes an Annual Conference in 2012 and an Episcopal Area in 2016.

The committee recommends the ratification of the resolution by GC of an Annual Conference Status on Burundi and recommends that Burundi becomes an Episcopal Area in 2016.

The committee ratifies and celebrates Malawi being made a Provisional Conference by the action of GC 2012.

2012 RESOLUTIONS ON PETITIONS

Petition No. 002/2012 ACC – Burundi

The committee ratifies the Annual Conference status and recommends to accept the Episcopal Area status.

Petition No. 003/2012 ACC - Ethiopia

We recommend accepting this petition (For 8, Against 0)

Petition No. 004/2012 ACC East Africa Annual Conference

We recommend that the national boundaries for Burundi be the boundaries for Burundi Annual Conference.

We recommend that East Africa Annual Conference be made up of Rwanda, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia.

Petition No. 004/2012 ACC - East Africa Annual Conference

The petition was referred back for clarity

Petition No. 001/2012 ACC – Updated version of the Discipline

The committee did not accept this petition but however recommends the updating of the English version forthwith to match the other languages like Portuguese and French and as agreed on Page 46 Item 4 (c) of the ACC minutes of 2008.

Votes - Not to accept = 8

To accept = 0

OTHER ISSUES

External Interference in ACC

We recommend that we be given a chance as Central Conference to resolve our own issues and if need be we seek recourse through the normal channel.

As churches in Africa we should learn to abide by the rules which will enable us to resolve our own problems without seeking outside interference.

Representation of Annual Conferences at ACC

We recommend that the representation of Annual Conferences in the Central Conference sessions should be proportionate to the number of members of each Annual Conference.

Criteria for Creation of Central Conferences

We are proposing that the criteria for creation of Central Conferences includes languages, where possible.

Agenda for committees

We recommend that information be sent to the respective Annual Conferences to allow discussions to be done before the Annual Central Conference.

English Secretary

Rev. Annie Grace Chigonzo

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

INTRODUCTION

We are guided by Exodus 18:21 where we need to nominate leaders that are able, those that fear God, honest and hate bribes.

In our nominations, we considered the following factors as guiding principles for the quadrennium leadership for our Africa Central Conference as follows:

- A) We considered the experience of the person and his/her knowledge of UMC.
- B) We considered the concept of representation of all Conferences that compose the Africa Central Conference.
- C) We considered the issue of gender balance.

D) We considered the aspect of lay/clergy balance.

In terms of Committees on Investigation and Appeals as is constituted by the paragraphs 2703 and 2716, we collaborated with the College of Bishops as the practice is to be nominated by the Committee on Episcopacy.

With the above notifications in mind, the Committee on Nominations is pleased to present the following as names of persons nominated for each of the positions:

1. Connectional Table: Benedita Penicela MS
2. General Secretary : Forbes Matonga ZW
3. Assistant Secretary for French: Godlives Manirakiza BU
4. Assistant Secretary for Portuguese: Julio Andre Vilanculo MS
5. Statistician: Beatrice Ayago EA
6. Men Coordinator: Simon Mafunda ZE
7. Women Coordinator: Ana Manuel Inglês AE
8. Youth Coordinator: Mfundo Zonke SA
9. Youth Division at CT
EA - Herbert Nkuutu - male/lay
AW: Orlando da Cruz
10. Chair of ACC Board of Church and Society: Betty Katiyo ZW
11. Vice-chair of ACC Board of Church and Society Kephias Olo EA
12. Vice-chair of ACC Board of Church and Society (Portuguese) Júlia Lampião Nhamageho MN
13. Nominee to the board of the General Board of Global Ministries
AW - Elivira Moises da Silva Cazombo – clergy/female
MW: Daniel Mhone
- 14. Committee on Episcopacy**
ZE – Kabungaidze Tonderai - Male/lay
ZE - Givemore Chimbwanda Clergy/ male
ZW - Dianah Chideya – lay/female

ZW – Charles Nyamakope – clergy/male
MW – Daniel Mhone – clergy/male
MW - Diverson Wakhutamoyo – lay/male
BU – Lazare Bankurunaze – clergy/male
BU – Silas Haborimana – lay/male
EA – Paul Mattieri – clergy/male
EA – David Mwaya – lay/male
AW - Mateus Simao Antonio FRANCISCO – clergy/male
AW - Ana da Conceicao da Mata – lay/female
AE - Santa Foguete Júlio – clergy/female
AE - Alcides Jacinto Arez Martins – lay/male
SA – Nomofundo Jam-Jam – lay/female
MS – Humberto Guibunda – lay/male
MN - Bento Bernardo Malonguete – lay/male
SA - Letuka Thabiso Theodore – clergy/male
MN - Julia Lampiao Nhamageho – clergy/female
MS - Zaqueu Silva Ranchaze – clergy/male

15. Committee on Investigation:

ZE – Annie Grace Chingondzo – female/clergy
EA – Beatrice Ayago – female/lay
BU – Cimpaye – female/clergy
AW - Elivira Moises da Silva Cazombo – clergy/female
AE - Francisco Simão António – clergy/male
MN - Isaias Filipe Machegane Face – clergy/male

16. Committee on Appeals

ZE – Makonyere - male/lay
EA – Isaac Kyambadde – male/clergy
EA – Ouma Ososo – male/clergy
AW - Moises Luamba Mazuela Zumba – clergy/male
AE - Isaias Sozinho Coutingo – clergy/male

MS – Julião Viriato Mauele – lay/male

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A) We recommend that the tenure of office be limited to a maximum of two quadrenniums for each of the offices in the Africa Central Conference.
- B) We recommend that in the event of a position falling vacant in during quadrennium, the position shall be filled in consultation with the College of Bishops via email.

3) ANALYSIS

A) Male female balance

Male 28 representing 64%

Female 16 representing 36%

C) Clergy representation.

Clergy 50%

Laity 50%

D) Conference representation: 100% representation.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES

The committee met in the conference room on the 17th August, worked with Bishop João Somane Machado and elected the following:

Chairperson: Rev. Julio Vilanculos

Secretary: Rev. Júlia Lampião

They had the following items for discussion and recommendation:

- The conference must engage in evangelism and Christian education because this will contribute to the creation of new episcopal areas and new central conferences;
- In central Africa conference shall create two new Episcopal areas (Mozambique North and Zimbabwe East).

- The Central Conference should seek funds for Christian and secular education, and evangelism;
- The Annual Conferences should clarify the statistics regarding the laity and clergy since this will help in creating new episcopal areas;
- The Central Conference shall oversee the annual and provisional conferences to witness what is happening and help them in evangelism;
- To create an environment with future leaders with a vision;
- To create partnerships between stronger and weaker churches for mutual aid;
- The entire mission will be possible when the annual conferences pay their duties regularly;
- Each annual conference shall prepare a strategic plan for each quadrennium;
- To ensure transparency in all funds both local as well as central and annual conferences;
- To intensify the development of infrastructure in our annual conferences to ensure the welfare of the church and our communities in building chapels, parsonages, hospitals and schools;
- Training people who may know how to draw strategic plans in the annual conferences.
- The commitment to evangelization will allow for split this conference into two or more central central conferences;
- The Africa University, will continue to support the training of leaders, and for this it is necessary coordination by the annual conferences;
- Annual conferences should make a special contribution to support the weaker churches;

- Annual conferences should think of raising funds for their self-sustainability creating profitable projects;
- Usage of funds, both local and from the central conference, should be periodically monitored.

OBSTACLES

- Weak contribution by the annual conferences to the central conference;
- Weak contribution of annual conferences in transporting their pastors to the annual conferences;
- Weak supervision of the central conference due to geographical situation of the annual conferences;
- The question of diseases especially HIV / AIDS, malaria and others that affect lives of our communities and pastors;
- It is necessary to involve all layers in the vineyard of the Lord.

CRITERIA FOR THE CREATION OF CENTRAL CONFERENCES

The central conferences should be created according to their geographical situation noting the issue of languages spoken.

Secretary

Rev. Júlia Lampião

TREASURER REPORT

INCOME	
Balance brought forward	\$ 11 455,51
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 11 455,51
EXPENDITURE	
Expenses with the Book of Discipline	\$ 10 000,00
Expenses with Mozambique delegation trip in 2008	\$ 390,00
Expenses with Men's Coordinator trip in 2009	\$ 40,00
Expenses with the Conference in 2008	\$ 50,00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 10 480,00
CURRENT BALANCE	\$ 975,51
Luanda on the 14th August, 2012	
SUMMARY	
Banco Austral in Mozambique	\$ 699,39
Treasury in Angola	\$ 276,12

Treasurer

Pedro Sebastião

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCES

INCOME	USD	EXPENDITURE	USD
Balance brought forward	\$ 975,51	President Travelling Allowance	\$ 4 000,00
Angola West	\$ 20 000,00	Pres. Operating Allowance	\$ 1 000,00
Angola East	\$ 15 000,00	Pres. Appreciation	\$ 3 800,00
Mozambique North	\$ 15 000,00	G. Secr. Travelling	\$ 4 000,00
Mozambique South	\$ 20 000,00	G.S. Operating Expenses	\$ 1 500,00
Zimbabwe West	\$ 15 000,00	G.S. Appreciation	\$ 3 000,00
Zimbabwe East	\$ 20 000,00	Treasurer Allowance	\$ 4 000,00
East Africa	\$ 20 000,00	Treasurers Operating Expenses	\$ 2 000,00
South Africa	\$ 13 000,00	Women's Work	\$ 4 000,00
Burundi	\$ 10 000,00	Youth Work	\$ 4 000,00
Malawi	\$ 10 000,00	Men's Work	\$ 4 000,00
		Executive Comm.	\$ 8 000,00
		XIII ACC Session Expenses	\$ 100 000,00
		Statistics	\$ 2 000,00
		Communications	\$ 7 000,00
		Miscellaneous	\$ 6 675,51
TOTAL	\$ 158 975,51	TOTAL	\$ 158 975,51

REPORT OF THE TELLERS

The commission was formed by:

Rev. Adriano Kilende (chair),

Rev. Portia Kanoyangwa

Rev. Phaniel Razo,

After counting all the ballots the committee came out with these results:

Number of ballots received 131

Number of unused ballots 17

Number of used ballots 114

The number of voting delegates was as follows:

East Africa election

Distributed 57

Collected..... 57

Mozambique election

Distributed 57

Collected..... 57

East Africa results

Spoiled ballots 4

Rev. Daniel Wandabula..... 53

Total..... 57

Mozambique results

Spoiled ballots 2

Rev. Joaquina Nhanala..... 40

Rev. Fernando Matsimbe 15

Total..... 57

President of the Tellers

Rev. Adriano Kilende

REPORT OF THE STATISTICIAN (MEMBERS SECRETARY)

Conferences	Total Members and particulars	Professing Members	Ordained Clergy	Total Clergy	Organized Churches	Total Congregations
Angola East	14 236	13 700	36	106	62	64
Angola West	269 757	135 000	277	278	267	278
Burundi	153 287	150 011	198	300	201	300
East Africa	146 998	150 271	102	205	180	350
Mozambique North	20 540	15 600	36	43	51	120
Mozambique South	140 207	66 000	153	182	134	683
Malawi	8 813	6 180	4	28	22	154
Zimbabwe East		88 373		193	133	163
Zimbabwe West		59 806	70	148	272	372
South Africa	13 402	11 202	26	44	40	191
	767 240	696 143	902	1 527	1 362	2 675

Secretary

Rev. James Mwoho

ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF UNITED METHODIST COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you for this opportunity to be with you and to speak briefly about the value of strategic communications in the global church. Your delegates to the General Conference, in the voice of Ms. Betty Katiyo, played an important role in emphasizing the importance of a communications function that is strategic as well as global in scope.

I thank you for your understanding and for the attention your delegates gave to this function at General Conference, United Methodist Communications values the partnerships we have with your annual conferences, bishops and conference communicators.

Some of you have heard me relate my personal experience of the value of communications as it relates to the African continent, Over the past 30 - years I have worked in 35 countries on the continent and I have witnessed the miraculous change from a hard wired telephone system that was designed for the sole purpose of connecting colonies to colonial Europe, to a wireless system that is designated to connect people to people and business to business wirelessly. It is miraculous because it is transforming the continent in minutes rather than in decades and it is becoming accessible to more people rapidly.

Of course we still have more to do to utilize new technologies effectively for the common good, but the journey has begun.

My experience that impressed me with a need of a better system occurred way back in the 1980's when I was working in a remote area of Northern Senegal.

Our infant son needed emergency surgery. My wife wanted to discuss the emergency with me. I was miles from the nearest regional town with a post office and beyond the electric grid and cellphones had not been invented.

She placed an international call to a church related development organization in Dakar. The following day they dispatched a driver who got the message to me that I should call home.

The next day we went to the regional town where I made a reservation at the post office to make the call. I was given an appointment for the following day. We found a hotel, spent the night and returned the next day. An operator placed the call and I was shown the way to an enclosed phone booth where I waited for a ring back. I spoke to my wife over a crackling, fading line that was beyond state of the art even then.

After this I paid for the call and returned to my work.

The surgery had already been completed and my son was recovering. My wife was stressed and apologetic.

That single call took 4 days to complete at an enormous cost of time, fuel, lost work for the driver, and real emotional stress for my wife and me.

However, because we had the resources and support to make the call, we were blessed in ways that people in the village with far less resources and no support - like car and driver - could use. So for them such important connection to distant family members in an emergency was not possible.

That is how it was when I first began coming to Africa in the mid 1970's.

Today, thankfully, it is different. We do have the ability - some of us, not yet all of us - to communicate with each other. It is important for us as Christian community to continue to press onward to make it possible for more African people to communicate because the ability to do so enhances our lives in important ways that sustain and strengthen us, keep our families in touch and help us in many other important ways. I believe it is God's intention that all of God's children should flourish. We are created to be in relationship to God and with each other, Therefore, our ability to communicate directly affects our ability to flourish as God intends.

This ability is how we share our values, how we express compassion, how we speak for justice, how we tell the story of God's love for people. Communication is not about technology, it is about community. And as people of faith I believe we are called to create community, be community and enhance the community for the common good.

This is why United Methodist Communication launched the Central Conference Communication Initiative with the blessing of the General Conference 8 years ago, and it is why we continue to deepen and expand our common work together to build a truly global communications network.

This effort takes many different expressions – it includes training communicators in Africa in skills necessary today to tell the stories of the church effectively in all the media available to us. It includes 12 African training events/3 in Europe /3 in Philippines equipping them with the technology tools necessary to carry out their work. It has included developing learning centers in partnership with the General board of Higher Education and Ministry to enable online distance learning so that clergy can receive instruction from scholars around the globe. It has included a global online church wide web conference prior to General Conference 2012 to discuss common concerns for vital congregations and leadership development. It has included restoring radio stations that fell into disrepair as a result of civil wars in some places and creating radio to serve community needs for life-enhancing information in other places.

As bombs created frightening explosions in the air over Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire 2 years ago Radio Hope, the church's station stayed on the air 24hrs a day broadcasting religious music, filling the air with word of hope, faith and comfort.

All over the world stations are being renovated and licenses secured.

Internet cafes are also being created with a two-fold purpose:

1. To provide internet and online training to more people.
2. To provide a sustainable model of economic development by charging reasonable fees to users for a portion of the day.

We are testing the use of SMS services for the delivery of information and for interactive communication for a variety of purposes – health education, leadership training, community input for common action to solve problems, domestic abuse and citizenship education. This testing is

underway with Frontline SMS and we are exploring others, including a service called Freedom Fone.

We are also exploring ways to make new technologies such as tablet computers more accessible and useful for research, education and information-sharing.

I started by referring to strategic communication. Today communication is about more than newsletters and brochures. It is about how we relate to each other in church, in our community and to partners and friends across the globe.

It's about the message we are entrusted to bring to the world – the love of God in Jesus Christ. A message that stands in sharp contrast to messages of division and hate that we hear too often today.

It is about how we serve. How we enable those who read accurate, up-to-date information to get access to it so they may flourish.

How we do this requires us to think strategically about what to say, to whom to say it, when and by what means.

This is local and global.

It is personal and universal.

It reveals how we care for each other, show compassion, stand together and serve as Jesus calls us to be servants.

But most importantly, it is about communicating the good news of God's love as it is revealed in Jesus Christ. It is about taking this message to the world so that those who feel alone and lost, broken and forgotten, abused and hurt hear from the people of the United Methodist Church this message: God loves you and so do we.

Thank you for your support for strengthening the capacity of the church globally to continue this important strategic function.

I thank you for your partnership.

And I pray that we shall continue to work constructively in the future to bring hope and healing, reconciliation and redemption within the church, in our local communities and in our hurting world.

May God bless us in this task!

PETITIONS

Petition Number: 001/2012ACC; Bishop Eben K. Nhiwatiwa for the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe

Petition Text:

WHEREAS Central Conference has faced challenges making it impossible to produce an updated version of the Discipline in a timely manner in order to keep pace with the changes in the General Discipline of the United Methodist Church; and;

WHEREAS such inability to produce an updated Discipline leaves the Africa Central Conference lagging behind the General Church and thereby putting the church and its members at a disadvantage; and,

WHEREAS the main reference for regular supervision and administration of the church in the, Africa Central Conference, is the General Discipline of the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS the United Methodist Church has one constitution for all its entities, units and subsidiaries including the Africa Central Conference, and

WHEREAS the constitution of the Church adheres to uniformity and unity of purpose on all matters connectional; and

WHEREAS the Africa Central Conference hereby reserves all the power, rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities as set specified in the General Discipline of the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS in some cases the General Discipline does not specifically apply a legislation to Central Conferences; in such situations if the content can be positively adopted for use by the Africa Central Conference, in that case the Africa Central Conference will automatically apply the section; paragraph or item to itself without; any other action apart from that taken to enact this legislation; and

WHEREAS this legislation does not change, or alter the practice and rule in the Africa Central Conference that when a Bishop is elected he or she

serves for four years and then stands for elections if still eligible and if reelected becomes Bishop for life; the legislation supersedes all other standing rules, laws, regulations and legislations currently in use in the Africa Central Conference prior to the enactment of this legislation; and

WHEREAS this legislation becomes applicable in the Africa Central Conference with immediate effect,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Africa Central Conference and its successors will henceforth use the General Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church as its ultimate source and reference on polity and law in all matters of running church affairs.

Petition Number: 002/2012ACC; Rev. Abel Niyukuri for Burundi Annual Conference

Petition Text:

WHEREAS, the 2012 General Conference Meeting in Tampa Florida, USA voted for the creation of Burundi Annual Conference,

WHEREAS Burundi had been an Annual Conference and an Episcopal Area from 1984 to 1998 before it changed the name from Burundi Annual Conference to East Africa Annual Conference for the reason of inclusiveness of other United Methodist Churches which in several East African nations had become part of the then Burundi Annual Conference,

Considering the numerical and geographical growth of the United Methodist Church in Burundi which has enabled the church in Burundi to cover almost all the territory of Burundi, with a number of 198 full elders and 102 lay preachers, with a total membership of 153,287 members,

WHEREAS the pressing need to bring about lasting solution to the crisis which is affecting the church as a result of some Burundians refusing to be supervised by a Bishop who is not Burundian,

Given that it is the wish of all United Methodist members in Burundi to have an Episcopal Area,

Be it resolved that Africa Central Conference meeting in Nairobi, Kenya from 15th to 19 th, 2012 approves Burundi to be an Episcopal Area.

Petition Number: 003/2012ACC; Rev. James Mwoho for the United Methodist Church in Ethiopia

Petition Text:

WHEREAS the United Methodist Church has been there for over 10 years;

WHEREAS the leadership of the United Methodist Church in Ethiopia has been longing to know to which conference of the United Methodist Church, the newly established United Methodist Church in Ethiopia can belong,

Considering the correspondence that the above said leadership has addressed to the East Africa Annual Conference leadership requesting to be part of East Africa Annual Conference,

WHEREAS the resolution favorably passed by the jointly 2012 session of both Burundi and East Africa Annual Conferences held in Mukono, Uganda ,

Be it resolved that the 2012 Africa Central held in Nairobi approves the United Methodist Church in Ethiopia to be part of East Africa Annual Conference.

Petition Number: 004/2012ACC; Rev. Carol Alois Ososo for East Africa Annual Conference

Petition Text:

WHEREAS, the East Africa Annual Conference now comprising of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan and Ethiopia make up the entire Episcopal Area.

WHEREAS, the Geographical areas and the ethnic mosaic areas comprising the East Africa Annual Conference make it difficult for one

Bishop to offer efficient supervision for the Church in all the countries that constitute the entire Episcopal area.

WHEREAS, the political, religious and social diversity of the peoples in those countries and the growth in membership make it necessary to divide the East Africa Annual Conference into TWO Annual Conferences, but one Episcopal area in order to secure a more efficient pastoral and Episcopal supervision and oversight that will ensure and suit the human mosaics of the countries comprising the East Africa Annual Conference.

Be it resolved that:

The East Africa Annual Conference be divided into TWO Conferences comprising the following countries:

- a) Uganda with TEN Districts,
- b) Rwanda with FIVE Districts,
- c) South Sudan with ONE District to be under the designation of Uganda Annual Conference, and;
- d) Kenya with EIGHT Districts,

Ethiopia with ONE District to be under the designation of Kenya Provisional Annual Conference. While Bishop Daniel Wandabula initially remains as the resident Bishop of the TWO Annual Conferences, with the Episcopal Residence being in Uganda.

All Legal matters dealing with the property in both Annual Conferences be dealt with by each Annual Conference Leadership with the support of the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) of The United Methodist Church.

Both Annual Conferences will continue to be a part of East Africa Annual Conference and within The Africa Central Conference of The United Methodist Church.

SERVICE BULLETINS

Opening service

Date/Data: **August 16th, 2012**

Time / Hora: **8:30 AM**

Venue/Local: **The Methodist Guest House & Conference Centre,
Nairobi - Kenya**

Sermão/Sermon: **Bishop Gaspar João Domingos**

Liturgist: **Angola West AC/Conf.^a Annual de Angola Oeste**

Communion / Santa Ceia: **Bishop Marcus Matthews**

Coral celebrante/ Choir: **Kayole St. John's UMC Praise Team**

1. GATHERING

Kayole St. John's UMC Praise Team

2. GREETING

Grace to you and peace from God who is, and was, and is to come.

Amen.

And from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, the ruler of kings on earth.

Amen.

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints.

Amen.

3.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

“Great is Thy Faithfulness” / “Tu és Fiel, Senhor”

- 1) "Great is Thy faithfulness," O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*"Great is Thy faithfulness!" "Great is Thy faithfulness!"
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—*

"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, unto me!

- 2). Flores e frutos, montanhas e mares,
Sol, lua, estrelas brilhando no céu,
Tudo criaste na terra e nos ares,
Para louvar-te, Senhor, que és fiel.

*Tu és fiel, Senhor! Tu és fiel, Senhor!
Dia após dia, com bênçãos sem fim,
Tua mercê nos sustenta e nos guarda;
Tu és fiel, Senhor, fiel assim.*

- 3). Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

4. OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord.
Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living,
that we may come to those ineffable joys
which you have prepared
for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, in glory everlasting.

Amen.

5. OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 25:6-9

6. NEW TESTAMENT READING Ephesians 1:11-23

7. HYMN: "My hope is built on nothing less"/"A Minha fé em nada pus"

- 1). My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

- 2). Se Lhe não posso a face ver.
Na sua graça vou viver;
Em cada transe a suportar
Sempre hei-de n'Ele confiar.

*A minha fé e o meu amor
Estão firmados no Senhor.
Estão firmados no Senhor.*

- 3). His oath, His covenant, His blood,

Support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my Hope and Stay.

- 4). Quando o clarim por fim soar,

Irei com Cristo me encontrar

E gozarei da redenção,

Com todos que no céu lá estão.

8. WITNESS TO THE WORLD

Mrs. Sabine Ndoricimpa by Rev. Lazare Bankurunaze
Mai Maggie Muzorewa by Zimbabwe Area representative
Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa by Zimbabwe Area representative

9. PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Holy God, we pray for your human family everywhere;

That we may be one.

Grant that all who are baptized into Christ may faithfully serve you;

That your name may be glorified on earth as in heaven.

We pray for all bishops, pastors, and deacons;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

[SILENCE / SILÊNCIO]

10. PRAYERS FOR BISHOPS AND SPOUSES DEPARTED

O God of both the living and the dead,

we praise your holy name for all your servants who have finished their course in faith, especially Bishop Abel Tendekay Muzorewa, Mai Maggie Muzorewa and Mrs. Sabine Ndoricimpa.

We pray that, encouraged by, their example and strengthened by their fellowship, we may be partakers with them of the inheritance of the saints in light; Through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

11. GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Blessed are you,

God of creation and all beginnings,
God of Abraham and Sarah,
God of Miriam and Moses,
God of Joshua and Deborah,
God of Ruth and David,
God of the priests and the prophets,
God of Mary and Joseph,
God of apostles and martyrs,
God of our mothers and fathers,
God of our children to all generations.
And so, with your people on earth
and all of the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth
are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the
highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave
thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in
remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renew our communion with all your saints,
especially those whom we name before you.

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
strengthen us to run with perseverance
the race that is set before us,

looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,

and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father,
now and for ever.

Amen.

12. THE LORD'S PRAYER / ORAÇÃO DO SENHOR

13. BREAKING THE BREAD / PARTIR DO PÃO

14. COMMUNION / SANTA CEIA

[CHOIR SINGS DURING COMMUNION]

15. PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

You have given yourself to us, Lord.
Now we give ourselves to others.
Your love has made us a new people.
As a people of love we will serve you with joy.
Your glory has filled our hearts.
Help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.

16. HYMN: “BLESSED ASSURANCE” / “Que segurança”

- 1). Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long.*

- 2). Ao seu amor eu me submeti
Extasiado então me senti.
Anjos cantando nos altos céus
Louvam a excelsa graça de Deus.

*Canta, minha alma! Canta ao Senhor!
Rende-lhe sempre ardente louvor!
Canta, minha alma! Canta ao Senhor!
Rende-lhe sempre ardente louvor!*

- 3). Parfait repos et parfait bonheur;
En mon Sauveur, j'ai la paix du cœur;
Je veille en attendant ton retour;
Je suis comblé, sûr de ton amour..

*C'est mon histoire, c'est là mon chant:
Louer mon Sauveur le jour durant!*

*C'est mon histoire, c'est là mon chant:
Louer mon Sauveur à chaque instant.*

17. DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Go in peace to serve God and your neighbour in all that you do.

We are sent in Christ's name.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,

and to present you faultless

before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy:

to the only wise God our Saviour,

be glory and majesty,

dominion and power,

both now and for ever.

Amen.

18. Choir

Closing Service

**CONFERÊNCIA CENTRAL DE ÁFRICA /
AFRICA CENTRAL CONFERENCE**

XII Sessão / XII Session

16 a 19 de Agosto de 2012 / 16th - 19th August, 2012

**ADJOURNEMENT WORSHIP
CULTO DE ENCERRAMENTO**

Date/Data: **August 18th, 2012**

Time / Hora: ___:00 PM

Venue/Local: **The Methodist Guest House & Conference Centre,
Nairobi - Kenya**

Sermão/Sermon: **Bishop Marcus Matthews**

Liturgist: **Bishop Gaspar João Domingos**

Coral celebrante/ Choir: **Kayole St. John's UMC Praise Team**

19. Processional entrance

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.
2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.
3. And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.
4. That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours,
thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever

20. GREETING

Through the Paschal Mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. It is through Baptism that we all take our share in the servant ministry of our Risen Lord. As we embark upon a new season of ministry under the guidance of a new shepherd, I call upon you now to renew the solemn promises and vows you made at Holy Baptism.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

[The Presiding Bishop pours water into the basin as he reads:]

Holy God: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

[The Presiding Bishop blesses the water.]

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who affirm their baptismal vows this day may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who return to these cleansing waters through repentance and renewal and bring us forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen

21. HYMN: "Amazing grace"

1. Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home
4. When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun

We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun

22. PRAYER of Ignatius of Loyola

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds . . . ,

Amen.

23. Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.”

24. PRAYER of Ignatius of Loyola

Teach us, good Lord . . .
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labor and not to ask for any reward,
except that of knowing that we do your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

25. GOSPEL: Matthew 28:18-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.
And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

26. Offering:

[The offering will go toward transportation of the Tazama Christ United Methodist Church Choir]

27. Offertory Prayer

Liturgist: We bring to you,
Creator Lord, gifts that you first have given us: lives filled with blessing, hearts burning with your love, spirits eager to serve you, the fruit of our labor, bread and wine. Accept them for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

28. HYMN: “Beautiful words” / “Belas palavras de vida”

- 1. Sing them over again to me,
wonderful words of life;
let me more of their beauty see,
wonderful words of life;
words of life and beauty
teach me faith and duty.**

*Beautiful words, wonderful words
wonderful words of life.*

*Beautiful words, wonderful words
wonderful words of life.*

2. Jesus Cristo a todos dá;
Belas palavras de vida;
Dá-lhe ouvido ó pecador,
Belas palavras de vida;
Ele ao Céu te chama,
Por amor te salva.

*Que belas são! Que belas são,
Essas palavras de vida.*

*Que belas são! Que belas são,
Essas palavras de vida.*

3. Sweetly echo the gospel call,
wonderful words of life;
offer pardon and peace to all,
wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior,
sanctify forever.

*Beautiful words, wonderful words
wonderful words of life.*

*Beautiful words, wonderful words
wonderful words of life.*

29. Sermon

30. PRAYER

31. DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;
The maker of heaven and earth.

Blessed be the Name of the Lord;
From this time forth for evermore.

The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

Let us go forth into the world as servants of Christ, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

32.Choir