

RESOLUTIONS AND PETITIONS

Whereas Jesus affirmed marriage in scripture, as it had been previously defined in Hebrew Scripture. He quoted from both Genesis 1 and 2 in Matthew 19:3-5 that God had created humanity as male and female, [Genesis 1:27] and that in marriage "the two become one flesh". [Genesis 2:24] Then he added a divine postscript, saying: "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate". [Matthew 19:6]

Whereas for 2,000 years, shared in common with Catholics, the Orthodox, the Coptic, and between Protestants, there has been a singular view of Christian marriage and human sexuality. The Church Universal has always promoted the exclusive belief that one man and one woman in lifelong marriage is the will of God.

Therefore, the Memphis Annual Conference, meeting in conference session June 3-5 at the Carson Center in Paducah, Kentucky voluntarily chooses to reaffirm the traditional Christian view of marriage as being ordained of God between one female and one male for life and calls upon the United Methodist Church to do so as well.

submitted by
Earl Tucker Dickerson
Clergy TN River District
Memphis Annual Conference

Bernardo A. Zapata
Associate Pastor for Multi-ethnic Ministries
Bartlett United Methodist Church.

proposed resolution:

Whereas the Social Principles in the Book of Discipline proclaim that the United Methodist Church support climates in which communities are maintained and strengthened for the sake of all persons and their growth, and commits the church to move beyond symbolic expressions that do not challenge established systems of power and access to resources. The Social Principles also assert the rights of underrepresented racial and ethnic groups to education and training of the highest quality, and also calls for the empowerment and full participation of these groups in the life of the Church.

Whereas Section IX. The Annual Conference, in the Book of Discipline defines the purpose of the annual Conference as to make disciples of Jesus Christ by equipping its local churches for ministry and by providing a connection for ministry beyond the local church.

Whereas the annual conference by virtue of its office of Connectional Ministries is responsible to focus and guide the mission and ministry of the Church, among other purposes, by developing and strengthening ethnic ministries, including ethnic local churches.

Whereas part of the responsibilities of the Conference Board of Discipleship in the area of Evangelism is to provide the training of clergy and laypersons in ministries of evangelism.

Whereas part of the responsibilities of the Conference Board of Laity is to provide for the training of lay members of annual Conference and to develop lay servant courses developed by district committees.

Whereas there is a provision in the Discipline for the formation of a Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Churches Concerns which functions are defined in #632.

Therefore the following Resolution is presented to the 2018 Memphis Annual Conference for approval and implementation:

- 1- Determine the formation and immediate implementation in the Memphis Annual Conference of the Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Churches Concerns. The aforementioned Committee shall be formed by the Conference Director of Connectional Ministries, the Chair of the Conference Board of Discipleship, the Conference Lay leader, and by the pastors of the ethnic local churches in the Conference.
- 2- The Committee shall meet at least twice a year, in the fall and in the spring prior to the annual Conference. The Conference Director of Connectional Ministries shall be the Chair of this committee.
- 3- The office of Connectional Ministries and the Board of Discipleship, with the input of the Lay leader and the local pastors, shall be responsible for searching throughout the Connection, for the media and facilitators needed to provide the ethnic churches with material for the formation of lay leaders, tools for evangelism, and Discipleship. The materials and courses shall be presented in the language spoken by the ethnic local church.
- 4- Funding for these programs shall come from the Memphis Conference budget.
- 5- The Committee shall present a report to the Annual Conference stating the progress during the past year and defining the goals and projects for the upcoming year.

Reference The Book of Discipline of the UMC, 2016, Section VI. Local Church Property. Par 2525.

There seems to be an uncertainty as to whom the other one third of the Trustees can be.

1. Methodists not members of the local church
2. Members of another denomination (non-Methodist)
3. An affiliate member
4. An associate member
5. Only members of the local Methodist church

WHEREAS; -----trustees shall be of legal age as determined by law, AND AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS SHALL BE PROFESSING MEMBERS OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (see pp 258.1 3; 2530). No pastor is a voting member of the board of trustees unless elected as a member.

THEREFORE: -----the trustees shall be of legal age as determined by law, and at least two-thirds shall be professing members of the United Methodist Church (add) AND THE OTHER ONE-THIRD MUST BE MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL CHURCH (see pp 258.1, 3; 2530). No pastor is a voting member of the board of Trustees unless elected as a member (add) AND IS A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL CHURCH.

Submitted by:

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APRIL 24, 2018

HELLO:

I WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT THREE RESOLUTIONS/PETITIONS FOR THE 2018 MEMPHIS ANNUAL CONFERENCE DELEGATES TO VOTE UPON. THESE ARE SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE CONCERNS OF THE 2019 "WAY FORWARD" CALLED GENERAL CONFERENCE.

RESOLUTION/PETITION 1. THE SOCIAL PRINCIPALS OF THE CURRENT UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF DISCIPLINE REMAIN UNCHANGED.

RESOLUTION/PETITION 2. CONCERNING CHARGEABLE OFFENSES OF CLERGY, THE ACTION OR INACTION TAKEN BY AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE'S JUDICIAL PROCEEDING MAY BE APPEALED AND SHALL BE REVIEWED BY THEIR JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE FOR JUDGEMENT OF THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO THE ALLEGATION. THE DECISION OF THE JURISDICTIONAL COMMITTEE SUPERCEDES THE DECISION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AND IS BINDING UPON THE CLERGY PERSON IN QUESTION.

THE ACTION OR INACTION TAKEN BY THE JURISDICTIONAL JUDICIAL COMMITTEE MAY ALSO BE APPEALED AND SHALL BE REVIEWED BY THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL'S DECISION IS BINDING AND SUPERCEDES BOTH THE JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE, AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE'S ACTION CONCERNING THE CLERGY PERSON IN QUESTION.

A FINAL APPEAL OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL'S ACTION OR INACTION MAY BE MADE TO THE DELEGATES AT THE NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE AND THEIR MAJORITY DECISION IS FINAL; THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE THEY DECIDE UPON CANNOT BE APPEALED FOR LATER CONSIDERATION.

#2



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RESOLUTION/PETITION 3. BISHOPS WILL NOT HAVE TENURE AS
A BISHOP FOR LIFE, BUT FOR A SPECIFIC TERM. THEY MAY BE
RE-ELECTED FOR ADDITIONAL TERMS AS PER THE RULES OF OUR
HERITAGE IN THE EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH.
ALSO AS "GENERAL SUPERINTENDANTS" BISHOPS WOULD BE
ELECTED BY THE DELEGATES AT GENERAL CONFERENCE,
NOT JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE. A BISHOP WOULD BE
ASSIGNED THEIR AREA OF MINISTRY BY THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS.

SUBMITTED BY JIM WOLFGANG, CLERGY DELEGATE,
PURCHASE AREA DISTRICT, CAYCE-CRUTCHFIELD UNITED
METHODIST CHURCHES,

Jim Wolfgang