

PROPOSED CHANGES TO STANDING RULES

The Rules Committee, is recommending the following changes to the Memphis Conference Standing Rules:

Amend Rule 4, to reflect what has already been accomplished by removing the words **by the beginning of the next Quadrennium**. The amended rule would now read. There shall be four districts in the Memphis Conference.

Amend Rule 12a 2 to replace **Program Ministry Team** with **Connectional Ministry Team**. The amended rule would read: “The Committee shall nominate from time to time the members of boards, commissions, and standing committees of the Annual Conference, unless each nomination is otherwise provided for in the *Discipline*, and shall make such other nominations from time to time that may be required by the Annual Conference. Each Conference board, commission, committee, etc., shall keep a record of attendance at its meetings. This record of attendance will be filed with the Conference Connectional Ministry Team office and be available to assist this committee to correctly make its nominations.”

Amend Rule 9a, to replace **apportionments** with **budget**. The amended rule would read: “The Council on Finance and Administration shall furnish to the Conference Treasurer’s office, as early in the year as possible, an official copy of the Conference budget.”

Remove Rule 9b, which is no longer applicable and renumber succeeding point. “Each District Superintendent shall furnish to the Council on Finance and Administration, as early in the year as possible, an official copy of the church apportionments for those funds which are apportioned within the district bounds but not Conference-wide. (These funds shall be apportioned by the District Stewards [Discipline, Paragraph 615.3] or in whatever manner each district shall determine.)”

Amend Rule 9c, to replace **Statistician** with **Treasurer** and renumber as **Rule 9b**. The amended rule would read: “By January 1 of each year, each District Superintendent shall furnish the Conference Statistician an official itemized copy of the pastors’ minimum compensation package for that year as set by the Charge Conferences. The total will be delineated by: base salary, travel and professional expenses, utilities and household allowance. An asterisk will indicate that the charge pays the group health insurance premium. A (p) will indicate a parsonage is provided, (h) will indicate a housing allowance and the amount will be noted, and (-) will indicate that no parsonage or housing allowance is provided”.

Amend Rule 18, to replace **January 5** with **January 15**. The amended rule would read: “The Conference Treasurer will close the books on such date as the Council on Finance and Administration shall designate but not later than January 15. At the closing of the books, all unobligated funds shall be transferred to the Conference Reserve Fund”

Remove Rule 19 and renumber succeeding rules. This responsibility is now included in CF&A Report. “Pension responsibility for a probationary or full member who is serving in an appointment beyond the local church, other than one attending school, shall be allocated to the board, institution, or agency which he or she is serving”.

Amend Rule 21, to add **and the previous year’s and any outstanding pensions or medical insurance direct bill amounts**. Amended rule would now read. Unless the bishop and cabinet, in consultation with the new church development team, determine that exceptional circumstances exist. After the payment of any current year and the previous year’s apportionments and any outstanding pensions or medical insurance direct bill amounts the proceeds from any local church property sales resulting in closure or abandonment and the proceeds from the sale of district or annual conference real property shall be designated as follows:

- a. 75% for planting new communities of faith in the Memphis Conference, allocated at the discretion of the new church development team.
- b. 25% for planting new communities of faith or the revitalization of existing churches in the district.
- c. This statement shall be included in resolutions for closures of congregations, unless otherwise restricted by property deeds.