

# 2009 Session of the Oklahoma Annual Conference

May 24 - May 28, 2009

Living the plan: Loving radically, Serving compassionately, Making disciples intentionally.

St. Luke's UMC and Oklahoma City University

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

---

April 6, 2009

At the 2008 General Conference, delegates approved 32 amendments to the Constitution of the United Methodist Church. While most legislation passed at General Conference is automatically placed in *The Book of Discipline* and *The Book of Resolutions*, a change in the Constitution is deemed so important it must then be presented to all Annual Conferences for a vote as well.

This year the Oklahoma Annual Conference and every Annual Conference in the United States and Central Conferences around the world will be dealing with the same 32 amendments.

If you would like to read the *Constitution of the United Methodist Church*, it can be found in *The Book of Discipline*.

The proposed amendments are on the following pages in your Pre-Conference Workbook. (page 103 – 112)

Every church will also receive a DVD explaining the proposed changes and what people are saying both positively and negatively about them. At Annual Conference there will be a presentation on Tuesday afternoon and roundtable discussions on Tuesday night with a vote taken that evening on all 32 amendments individually.

Many of the amendments deal with the world-wide nature of the United Methodist Church. Others deal with church membership, voting privileges for General Conference Delegates and even which district Bermuda will relate to in Northeastern Jurisdiction. In order to be prepared for the discussion, we encourage you to read the amendments, attend a pre-conference meeting in your district and watch your DVD.

To be adopted, each amendment will require an aggregate vote of two-thirds majority of all those voting around the world. If a two-thirds majority is not achieved then the amendment is voted down.

Please be praying for your own wisdom and guidance on these matters and for God to lead the United Methodist Church into the new century. As a people called Methodists we are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Sincerely,

*Judy Benson*

Conference Lay Leader

*Bob Long*

St. Luke's United Methodist Church



WORLDWIDE NATURE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – I**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.

It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section I, ¶ 9, *Article II*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section I, ¶ 9, *Article II*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**There shall be jurisdictional conferences for the Church in the United States of America, with such powers, duties, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth; *provided that in The United Methodist Church there shall be no jurisdictional or ~~central~~ regional conference based on any ground other than geographical and regional division. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)***

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference, which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – II**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 593 Yes, 295 No.

It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section I, ¶ 10, *Article III*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section I, ¶ 10, *Article III*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**There shall be ~~central~~ regional conferences for the church outside the United States of America and, if necessary, provisional regional conferences, all with such powers, duties and privileges as are hereinafter set forth. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference, which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – III**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.

It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section II, ¶ 15, *Article III*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section IV, ¶ 15, *Article III*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The General Conference shall fix the ratio of representation in the General, regional and jurisdictional ~~and central~~ conferences from the annual conferences, missionary conferences, and the provisional annual conferences, computed on a two-factor basis: (1) the number of clergy members of the annual conference and the missionary conference, and (2) the number of professing members in the annual conference, and the missionary conference, provided that each annual conference, missionary conference, or provisional annual conference shall be entitled to at least one clergy and one lay delegate in the General Conference and also in the jurisdictional or ~~central~~ regional conference. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference, which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – IV**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.

It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section II, ¶ 16, *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section II, ¶ 16, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**3. To define and fix the powers and duties of annual conferences, provisional annual conferences, missionary conferences and missions, and of ~~central~~ regional conferences, district conferences, charge conferences, and congregational meetings.**

...

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
60

10. To fix a uniform basis upon which bishops shall be elected by the jurisdictional conferences and to determine the number of bishops that may be elected by ~~central~~ regional conferences. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment – V

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 649 Yes, 195 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, and ¶ 28, *Article I*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, and ¶ 28, *Article I*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**Section V. ~~Central~~ Regional Conferences**  
¶ 28. *Article I*.-There shall ~~may be central regional~~ conferences for the work of the Church ~~outside the United States of America~~, with such duties, powers, and privileges as are hereinafter set forth. ~~The number and boundaries of the central conferences shall be determined by the Uniting Conference. Subsequently~~ The General Conference shall have authority to change the number and boundaries of ~~central regional~~ conferences. The ~~central regional~~ conferences shall have the duties, powers, and privileges hereinafter set forth. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment – VI

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, ¶ 29, *Article II*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, ¶ 29, *Article II*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The ~~central regional~~ conferences shall be composed of as many delegates as shall be determined by a basis**

established by the General Conference. The delegates shall be clergy and lay in equal numbers. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment – VII

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 749 Yes, 119 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, ¶ 30, *Article III*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, ¶ 30, *Article III*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The ~~central regional~~ conferences shall meet within the year succeeding the meeting of the General Conference at such times and places as shall have been determined by the preceding respective regional conferences or by commissions appointed by them or by the General Conference. ~~The date and place of the first meeting succeeding the Uniting Conference shall be fixed by the bishops of the respective central conferences, or in such manner as shall be determined by the General Conference. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)~~**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment – VIII

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 544 Yes, 252 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, ¶ 31, *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section V, ¶ 31, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The ~~central regional~~ conferences shall have the following powers and duties and such others as may be conferred by the General Conference:**



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

2. *In those regional conferences where there are no jurisdictional conferences*, to elect the bishops for the respective ~~central~~ regional conferences in number as may be determined from time to time, upon a basis fixed by the General Conference, and to cooperate in carrying out such plans for the support of their bishops as may be determined by the General Conference. *In those regional conferences where there are jurisdictional conferences, bishops shall be elected by the respective jurisdictional conferences.*

3. To establish and constitute such ~~central~~ regional conference boards as may be required and to elect their administrative officers.

4. To determine the boundaries of the annual conferences within their respective areas.

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

6. To appoint a judicial court to determine legal questions arising on the rules, regulations, and such revised, adapted, or new sections of the ~~central~~ regional conference Discipline enacted by the ~~central~~ regional conference.

7. To appoint a committee on appeals to hear and determine the appeal of a traveling preacher of that ~~central~~ regional conference from the decision of a committee on trial. (The change in name from "central" to "regional" takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – IX**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 32, *Article I*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 32, *Article I*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

The annual conference shall be composed of clergy members as defined by the General Conference, together with professing lay members elected by each charge, the diaconal ministers, the active deaconesses under Episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference, the conference president of United Methodist

Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference lay leader, district lay leaders, the president or equivalent officer of the conference young adult organization, the president of the conference youth organization, the chair of the annual conference college student organization, and one young person between the ages of twelve (12) and seventeen (17) and one young person between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30) from each district to be selected in such a manner as may be determined by the annual conference. In the annual conferences of the ~~central~~ regional conferences, the four-year participation and the two-year membership requirements may be waived by the annual conference for young persons under thirty (30) years of age. Such persons must be professing members of The United Methodist Church and active participants at the time of election. Each charge served by more than one clergy shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are clergy members. The lay members shall have been for the two years next preceding their election members of The United Methodist Church and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election. If the lay membership should number less than the clergy members of the annual conference, the annual conference shall, by its own formula, provide for the election of additional lay members to equalize lay and clergy membership of the annual conference. (The change in name from "central" to "regional" takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – X**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 33, *Article II*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 33, *Article II*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

The annual conference is the basic body in the Church and as such shall have reserved to it the right to vote on all constitutional amendments, on the election of clergy and lay delegates to the General, *regional* and jurisdictional conferences ~~or central~~, on all matters relating to the character and conference relations of its clergy members, and on the ordination of clergy and such other rights as have not been delegated to the General Conference under the Constitution, with the exception that the lay members may not vote on matters

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
60

1 of ordination, character, and conference relations of  
2 clergy except that the lay members of the conference  
3 board of ordained ministry may vote on matters of  
4 ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy,  
5 with the further exception that lay members of the  
6 district committee on ordained ministry be full  
7 participating members of the district committee on  
8 ordained ministry with vote. It shall discharge such  
9 duties and exercise such powers as the General  
10 Conference under the Constitution may determine. (The  
11 change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect  
12 January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical  
13 procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

14 Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General  
15 Conference to create similar structures for all of our  
16 worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong  
17 to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize  
18 sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

#### 19 Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XI

20 On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
21 of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
22 the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
23 recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.  
24 It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

25 In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section  
26 VI, ¶ 34, *Article III*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division  
27 Two, Section VI, ¶ 34, *Article III*) amend by deletion and  
28 addition, as follows:

29 **The annual conference shall elect clergy and lay**  
30 **delegates to the General Conference and to its**  
31 **jurisdictional ~~or central~~ and regional conference in the**  
32 **manner provided in this section, Articles IV and V. The**  
33 **persons first elected up to the number determined by the**  
34 **ratio for representation in the General Conference shall**  
35 **be representatives in that body. Additional delegates**  
36 **shall be elected to complete the number determined by**  
37 **the ratio for representation in the jurisdictional and**  
38 **regional conference, who, together with those first**  
39 **elected as above, shall be delegates in the jurisdictional**  
40 **and regional conference. The additional delegates to the**  
41 **jurisdictional and regional conference shall in the order**  
42 **of their election be the reserve delegates to the General**  
43 **Conference. The annual conference shall also elect**  
44 **reserve clergy and lay delegates to the jurisdictional and**  
45 **regional conference as it may deem desirable. These**  
46 **reserve clergy and lay delegates to the jurisdictional and**  
47 **regional conferences may act as reserve delegates to the**  
48 **General Conference when it is evident that not enough**  
49 **reserve delegates are in attendance at the General**  
50 **Conference. (The change in name from “central” to**  
51 **“regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time**  
52 **this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from**  
53 **the Constitution.)**

54 Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General  
55 Conference to create similar structures for all of our  
56 worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong  
57 to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize  
58 sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize  
sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XII

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.  
It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section  
VI, ¶ 35, *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two,  
Section VI, ¶ 35, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition,  
as follows:

**The ordained ministerial delegates to the General**  
**Conference and to the jurisdictional ~~or central~~ and**  
**regional conference shall be elected by and from the**  
**ordained ministerial members in full connection with the**  
**annual conference or provisional annual conference.**  
**(The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes**  
**effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical**  
**procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General  
Conference to create similar structures for all of our  
worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong  
to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize  
sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XIII

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.  
It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section  
VI, ¶ 36, *Article V*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two,  
Section VI, ¶ 36, *Article V*) amend by deletion and addition,  
as follows:

**The lay delegates to the General, jurisdictional ~~or~~**  
**~~central~~ and regional conferences shall be elected by the**  
**lay members of the annual conference or provisional**  
**annual conference without regard to age; *provided* such**  
**delegates shall have been professing members of The**  
**United Methodist Church for at least two years next**  
**preceding their election, and shall have been active**  
**participants in The United Methodist Church for at least**  
**four years next preceding their election, and are**  
**members thereof within the annual conference electing**  
**them at the time of holding the General and**  
**jurisdictional ~~or central~~ and regional conferences. (The**  
**change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect**  
**January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical**  
**procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General  
Conference to create similar structures for all of our



worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XIV**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 590 Yes, 255 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VII, ¶ 38, *Article II*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VII, ¶ 38, *Article II*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

~~The work of the Church outside the United States of America may be formed into central regional conferences, the number and boundaries of which shall be determined by the Uniting Conference by the General Conference. Having authority subsequently to make changes in the number and boundaries (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)~~

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XV**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VII, ¶ 40, *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VII, ¶ 40, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

~~Changes in the number, names, and boundaries of the annual conferences and episcopal areas may be effected by the jurisdictional conferences in the United States of America and by the regional conferences outside the United States of America according to the provisions under the respective powers and pursuant to the respective structures of the jurisdictional and the central regional conferences. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)~~

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong

to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XVI**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 46, *Article I*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 46, *Article I*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

~~The bishops shall be elected by the respective jurisdictional and central regional conferences and consecrated in the historic manner at such time and place as may be fixed by the General Conference for those elected by the jurisdictions and by each central regional conference for those elected by such central regional conference. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)~~

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XVII**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 560 Yes, 275 No.

It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 48, *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 48, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

~~The bishops of each jurisdictional and central regional conference shall constitute a College of Bishops. And such In regional conferences where there are jurisdictional conferences, the jurisdictional colleges shall arrange the plan of episcopal supervision of the annual conferences, missionary conferences and missions within their jurisdictions. In regional conferences where there are no jurisdictional conferences, the regional conference College of Bishops shall arrange the plan of episcopal supervision of the annual conferences, missionary conferences, and missions within their respective territories. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)~~

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
60

1 worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong  
2 to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize  
3 sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

4 **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XVIII**

5  
6 On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
7 of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
8 the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
9 recorded vote of 629 Yes, 246 No.  
10 It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

11 In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 49,  
12 *Article V*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 49,  
13 *Article V*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

14  
15 **The bishops shall have residential and presidential**  
16 **supervision in the jurisdictional ~~or central~~ and regional**  
17 **conferences in which they are elected or to which they**  
18 **are transferred. Bishops may be transferred from one**  
19 **jurisdiction to another jurisdiction for presidential and**  
20 **residential supervision under the following conditions:**  
21 **(1) The transfer of bishops may be on either of two bases:**  
22 **(a) a jurisdiction that receives a bishop by transfer from**  
23 **another jurisdiction may transfer to that jurisdiction or**  
24 **to a third jurisdiction one of its own bishops eligible for**  
25 **transfer, so that the number transferred in by each**  
26 **jurisdiction shall be balanced by the number transferred**  
27 **out; or (b) a jurisdiction may receive a bishop from**  
28 **another jurisdiction and not transfer out a member of its**  
29 **own College of Bishops. (2) No bishop shall be**  
30 **transferred unless that bishop shall have specifically**  
31 **consented. (3) No bishop shall be eligible for transfer**  
32 **unless the bishop shall have served one quadrennium in**  
33 **the jurisdiction that elected the bishop to the episcopacy.**  
34 **(4) All such transfers shall require the approval by a**  
35 **majority vote of the members present and voting of the**  
36 **jurisdictional committees on episcopacy of the**  
37 **jurisdictions that are involved. After the above**  
38 **procedures have been followed, the transferring bishop**  
39 **shall become a member of the receiving College of**  
40 **Bishops and shall be subject to residential assignment by**  
41 **that jurisdictional conference. A bishop may be assigned**  
42 **by the Council of Bishops for presidential service or**  
43 **other temporary service in another jurisdiction than that**  
44 **which elected the bishop; provided that the request is**  
45 **made by a majority of the bishops in the jurisdiction of**  
46 **the proposed service.**  
47 **In the case of an emergency in any jurisdiction ~~or central~~**  
48 **or regional conference through the death or disability of**  
49 **a bishop or other cause, the Council of Bishops may**  
50 **assign a bishop from another jurisdiction or regional**  
51 **conference to the work of the said jurisdiction or**  
52 **regional conference, with the consent of a majority of the**  
53 **bishops of that jurisdiction or regional conference. (The**  
54 **change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect**  
55 **January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical**  
56 **procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)**

57  
58 Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General  
59 Conference to create similar structures for all of our  
60 worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong

to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize  
sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XIX**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.  
It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 50,  
*Article VI*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 50,  
*Article VI*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The bishops, both active and retired, of The**  
**Evangelical United Brethren Church and of The**  
**Methodist Church at the time union is consummated**  
**shall be bishops of The United Methodist Church.**  
**The bishops of The Methodist Church elected by the**  
**jurisdictions, the active bishops of The Evangelical**  
**United Brethren Church at the time of union, and**  
**bishops elected by the jurisdictions of The United**  
**Methodist Church shall have life tenure. Each bishop**  
**elected by a ~~central~~ regional conference of The Methodist**  
**Church shall have such tenure, as the regional**  
**conference electing him shall have determined.**  
**The jurisdictional conference shall elect a standing**  
**committee on episcopacy to consist of one clergy and one**  
**lay delegate from each annual conference, on nomination**  
**of the annual conference delegation. The committee shall**  
**review the work of the bishops, pass on their character**  
**and official administration, and report to the**  
**jurisdictional conference its findings for such action as**  
**the conference may deem appropriate within its**  
**constitutional warrant of power. The committee shall**  
**recommend the assignments of the bishops to their**  
**respective residences for final action by the jurisdictional**  
**conference. (The change in name from “central” to**  
**“regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time**  
**this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from**  
**the Constitution.)**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General  
Conference to create similar structures for all of our  
worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong  
to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize  
sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XX**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No.  
It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 51,  
*Article VII*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 51,  
*Article VII*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:



A bishop presiding over an annual, **central regional**, or jurisdictional conference shall decide all questions of law coming before the bishop in the regular business of a session; *provided* that such questions be presented in writing and that the decisions be recorded in the journal of the conference.

Such an episcopal decision shall not be authoritative except for the pending case until it shall have been passed upon by the Judicial Council. All decisions of law made by each bishop shall be reported in writing annually, with a syllabus of the same, to the Judicial Council, which shall affirm, modify, or reverse them. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXI**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 52, *Article VIII*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Three, ¶ 52, *Article VIII*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The bishops of the several jurisdictional and **central regional** conferences shall preside in the sessions of their respective conferences. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXII**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Four, ¶ 56, *Article II*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Four, ¶ 56, *Article II*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The Judicial Council shall have authority:  
1. To determine the constitutionality of any act of the General Conference upon an appeal of a majority of the**

Council of Bishops or one-fifth of the members of the General Conference and to determine the constitutionality of any act of a jurisdictional or **central regional** conference upon an appeal of a majority of the bishops of that jurisdictional or **central regional** conference or upon the appeal of one-fifth of the members of that jurisdictional or regional conference.

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

3. To pass upon decisions of law made by bishops in annual conferences.

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

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

6. To provide its own methods of organization and procedure. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXIII**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 629 Yes, 248 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Five, ¶ 61, *Article II*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Five, ¶ 61, *Article II*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**A jurisdictional or **central regional** conference may by a majority vote propose changes in the Constitution of the Church, and such proposed changes shall be submitted to the next General Conference. If the General Conference adopts the measure by a two-thirds vote, it shall be submitted to the annual conferences according to the provision for amendments. (The change in name from “central” to “regional” takes effect January 1, 2013, at which time this parenthetical procedural note will be removed from the Constitution.)**

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows the General Conference to create similar structures for all of our worldwide church. Each Annual Conference would belong to a Regional Conference which would be able to organize sub-units called Jurisdictional Conferences.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
60

1 **MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**  
2 **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXIV**

3 On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
4 of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
5 the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
6 recorded vote of 558 Yes, 276 No.  
7 It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

8 In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division One, ¶ 4,  
9 *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division One, ¶ 4,  
10 *Article IV*)) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

11  
12 **Inclusiveness of the Church — The United**  
13 **Methodist Church is a part of the church universal,**  
14 **which is one Body in Christ. The United Methodist**  
15 **Church acknowledges that all persons are of sacred**  
16 **worth *and that we are in ministry to all*. All persons**  
17 **~~without regard to race, color, national origin, status or~~**  
18 **~~economic condition~~ shall be eligible to attend its worship**  
19 **services, participate in its programs, receive the**  
20 **sacraments, *and upon baptism be admitted as baptized***  
21 **members. *All persons, upon taking vows declaring the***  
22 ***Christian faith and relationship in Jesus Christ, shall be***  
23 ***eligible to* become professing members in any local**  
24 **church in the connection. In the United Methodist**  
25 **Church no conference or other organizational unit of the**  
26 **Church shall be structured so as to exclude any member**  
27 **or any constituent body. ~~of the church because of race,~~**  
28 **~~color, national origin, status or economic condition.~~**

29 Rationale: The proposed amendment emphasizes  
30 the wideness of God’s mercy and the availability of the  
31 ministry of the church to all.

32 **ETHICS AND CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST POLICIES**  
33 **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXV**

34 On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
35 of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
36 the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
37 recorded vote of 744 Yes, 86 No.

38 It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

39 In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division One, following  
40 ¶ 5, *Article V*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division One,  
41 following ¶ 5, *Article V*)) amend by addition, as follows:

42 **Add a new paragraph:**

43 ***All official organizations, groups, committees,***  
44 ***councils, boards, and agencies of The United Methodist***  
45 ***Church shall adopt ethics and conflict-of-interest policies,***  
46 ***applicable to both members and employees, which embody***  
47 ***and live out our Christian values.***

48 Rationale: The proposed amendment requires the  
49 adoption of ethics and conflict-of-interest policies to ensure  
50 accountability and fiduciary integrity.

51 **ADDING “GENDER”**  
52 **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXVI**

On April 29, 2008, at a session of the General  
Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort  
Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was  
made by a recorded vote of 804 Yes, 39 No.

It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section  
II, ¶ 16, *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two,  
Section II, ¶ 16, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition,  
as follows:

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

...

**14. To secure the rights and privileges of**  
**membership in all agencies, programs, and institutions in**  
**The United Methodist Church regardless of race, *gender***  
**or status.**

Rationale: The proposed amendment would add  
“gender” to those categories of persons protected in this list  
of duties of General Conference.

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXVII**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
recorded vote of 718 Yes, 117 No.  
It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section  
VI, ¶ 32, *Article I*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two,  
Section VI, ¶ 32, *Article I*) amend by deletion and addition,  
as follows:

**~~The annual conference shall be composed of clergy~~**  
**~~members as defined by the general conference, together~~**  
**~~with professing lay members elected by each charge, the~~**  
**~~diaconal ministers, the active deaconess under Episcopal~~**  
**~~appointment within the bounds of the annual conference,~~**  
**~~the conference president of United Methodist Women,~~**  
**~~the conference president of United Methodist Men, the~~**  
**~~conference lay leader, district lay leaders, the president~~**  
**~~or equivalent officer of the conference young adult~~**  
**~~organization, the president of the conference youth~~**  
**~~organization, the chair of the annual conference college~~**  
**~~student organization, and one young person between the~~**  
**~~ages of twelve (12) and seventeen (17) and one young~~**  
**~~person between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30)~~**  
**~~from each district to be selected in such a manner as may~~**  
**~~be determined by the annual conference. In the annual~~**  
**~~conferences of the central conferences, the four-year~~**  
**~~participation and the two-year membership~~**  
**~~requirements may be waived by the annual conference~~**  
**~~for young persons under thirty (30) years of age. Such~~**  
**~~persons must be professing members of the United~~**  
**~~Methodist Church and active participants at the time of~~**  
**~~election. Each charge served by more than one clergy~~**  
**~~shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are~~**



~~clergy members. The lay members shall have been for the two years next preceding their election members of the United Methodist Church and shall have been active participants in the United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election.~~ *professing lay and clergy members as defined by the General Conference.* Lay members shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church for one year preceding their election.

If the lay membership should number less than the clergy members of the Annual Conference, the Annual Conference shall, by its own formula, provide for the election of additional lay members to equalize lay and clergy membership of the Annual Conference.

Rationale: The proposed amendment allows definition of the lay and clergy membership of the annual conference by the General Conference without going through the constitutional amendment process. This portion of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (Section VI, Article I of the Constitution) has been amended 16 times since 1968.

**THE COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION**  
**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXVIII**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 812 Yes, 49 No.

It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 33, *Article II*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 33, *Article II*) amend by addition, as follows:

**The annual conference is the basic body in the Church and as such shall have reserved to it the right to vote on all constitutional amendments, on the election of clergy and lay delegates to the General, regional, and jurisdictional conferences, on all matters relating to the character and conference relations of its clergy members, and on the ordination of clergy and such other rights as have not been delegated to the General Conference under the Constitution, with the exception that the lay members may not vote on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy except that the lay members of the conference board of ordained ministry *and the committee on investigation* may vote on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy, with the further exception that lay members of the district committee on ordained ministry be full participating members of the district committee on ordained ministry with vote. It shall discharge such duties and exercise such powers as the General Conference under the Constitution may determine.**

Rationale: The proposed amendment would make supporting constitutional changes to allow reinstatement of legislation adopted by the 2004 General Conference and subsequently declared unconstitutional by the Judicial Council to allow lay persons on the committee on

investigation to vote on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.

**ELECTION OF CLERGY DELEGATES**  
**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXIX**

On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 696 Yes, 135 No.  
It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 35, *Article IV*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶ 35, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

**The ~~ordained ministerial~~ *clergy* delegates to the General Conference and to the jurisdictional or regional conference shall be elected from the *clergy* members in full connection and shall be elected ~~by and~~ by the ~~ordained ministerial~~ *clergy* members of the annual conference *who are deacons and elders in full connection, associate members, and those provisional members who have completed all of their educational requirements and local pastors who have completed course of study or an M.Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment immediately preceding the election.***

Rationale: The proposed amendment would allow additional clergy members to participate in the election of clergy delegates to general, jurisdictional, or central conferences.

**ADD BERMUDA**  
**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXX**

On April 29, 2008, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 757 Yes, 27 No.  
It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VII, ¶ 37, *Article I*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VII, ¶ 37, *Article I*) amend by addition, as follows:

**The United Methodist Church shall have jurisdictional conferences made up as follows:**  
**Northeastern – *Bermuda*, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, the Virgin Islands, West Virginia.**  
**Southeastern – Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia.**  
**North Central – Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin.**  
**South Central – Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas.**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
60

1 **Western – Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado,**  
2 **Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah,**  
3 **Washington, Wyoming, and the territory of the United**  
4 **States in the Pacific region.**

5 Rationale: The proposed amendment formally  
6 recognizes that the Baltimore-Washington Conference has  
7 been appointing pastors, superintending the congregations  
8 and integrating the congregations of Bermuda into the life of  
9 the Baltimore-Washington Conference. The General Board  
10 of Global Ministries and the Baltimore-Washington  
11 Conference recognize these churches as United Methodist  
12 congregations.

13 **REPRESENTATION FOR ADMISSION INTO**  
14 **UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
15 **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXXI**

16 On May 1, 2008, at a session of the General Conference  
17 of The United Methodist Church held in Fort Worth, Texas,  
18 the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a  
19 recorded vote of 690 Yes, 165 No.

20 It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

21 In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section  
22 II, ¶ 15, *Article III*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two,  
23 Section IV, ¶ 15, *Article III*) amend by addition, as follows:  
24

25 **The General Conference shall fix the ratio of**  
26 **representation in the General, regional and jurisdictional**  
27 **conferences from the annual conferences, missionary**  
28 **conferences, and the provisional annual conferences,**  
29 **computed on a two-factor basis: (1) the number of**  
30 **clergy members of the annual conference and the**  
31 **missionary conference, and (2) the number of professing**  
32 **members in the annual conference, and the missionary**  
33 **conference, provided that each annual conference,**  
34 **missionary conference, or provisional annual conference**  
35 **shall be entitled to at least one clergy and one lay**  
36 **delegate in the General Conference and also in the**  
37 **jurisdictional or regional conference. *Any other provision***  
38 ***of the Constitution notwithstanding, General Conference***  
39 ***may provide for a transitional period for newly created***  
40 ***annual, missionary, or provisional annual conferences, not***  
41 ***to exceed two quadrennia, during which time such a***  
42 ***conference may be represented at General, jurisdictional,***  
43 ***and regional conferences on other than a proportional***  
44 ***basis.***

45 Rationale: The proposed amendment allows for  
46 representation in the General Conference at other than  
47 proportional levels during a transitional period for the  
48 admission of an annual conference into the United Methodist  
49 Church.

48 **MINIMUM BASIS FOR ELECTION OF BISHOPS**  
49 **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – XXXII**

50 On April 29, 2008, at a session of the General  
51 Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Fort  
52 Worth, Texas, the following Constitutional Amendment was  
53 made by a recorded vote of 821 Yes, 50 No.

54 It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.  
55  
56  
57  
58

In the 2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section  
IV, ¶ 23, *Article I*, (2008 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two,  
Section IV, ¶ 23, *Article I*) amend by addition, as follows:

**The jurisdictional conferences shall be composed of  
as many representatives from the annual conferences  
and missionary conferences as shall be determined by a  
uniform basis established by the General Conference,  
*provided that no jurisdictional conference shall have fewer  
than 100 delegates.* The missionary conferences shall be  
considered as annual conferences for the purpose of this  
article.**

Rationale: The proposed amendment would ensure a  
minimum basis of support for the election of bishops at  
jurisdictional conferences.