



The 2016 Journal

**North Central Jurisdictional Conference
of The United Methodist Church**

**July 13-16, 2016
Peoria, Illinois
Illinois Great Rivers Conference**

The 2016 North Central Jurisdictional Conference Journal

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The Episcopacy

“Bishops are elders in full connection who are elected from the elders and set apart for a ministry of general oversight and supervision. As followers of Jesus Christ called to servant leadership, bishops are authorized to guard the faith, order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline of the Church; to seek and be a sign of the unity of the faith; to exercise the discipline of the whole Church; to supervise and support the Church’s life, work, and mission throughout the world; and to lead all persons entrusted to their oversight in worship, in the celebration of the sacraments, and in their mission of witness and service in the world. Bishops carry a primary responsibility to support and encourage the ministry of all Christians. They share with other bishops in the supervision of the whole Church, encouraging and supporting all baptized people in their exercising of their gifts and ministries, praying for them, and proclaiming and interpreting to them the gospel of Christ. Bishops are to be prophetic voices and courageous leaders in the cause of justice for all people. Bishops are also authorized to appoint ordained clergy to their responsibilities, consecrate, ordain, and commission persons in ministry to the Church and world.”

(The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church)



2012-2016 College of Bishops

Front Row: Jonathan D. Keaton, John L. Hopkins, Michael J. Coyner, Deborah Lieder Kiesey
Second Row: Julius C. Trimble, Bruce R. Ough, Gregory V. Palmer, Hee-Soo Jung, Sally Dyck



2016 Class of Retiring Bishops

Jonathan D. Keaton, John L. Hopkins, Michael J. Coyner, Deborah Lieder Kiesey



Newly Elected Bishops for 2016

Frank J. Beard, Laurie Haller, Tracy Smith Malone, David A. Bard



2016–2020 College of Bishops

Front Row: Frank J. Beard, Laurie Haller, David A. Bard, Tracy Smith Malone

Second Row: Julius C. Trimble, Bruce R. Ough, Gregory V. Palmer, Hee-Soo Jung, Sally Dyck



NCJ College of Bishops Attending 2016 Conference

Front Row: Charles W. Jordan, Jonathan D. Keaton, Frank J. Beard, Laurie Haller, David A. Bard, Tracy Smith Malone, Deborah Lieder Kiesey, John L. Hopkins.
 Second Row: Donald A. Ott, Linda Lee, Michael J. Coyner, Julius C. Trimble, Bruce R. Ough, Gregory V. Palmer, Hee-Soo Jung, Woodie W. White, Sharon A. Brown Christopher, Sharon Zimmerman Rader.

NCJ College of Bishops Unable to Attend 2016 Conference



Emerson S. Colaw



Judith Craig



William B. Lewis



C. Joseph Sprague

Bishops Elected by the North Central Jurisdiction 1940-2016

<u>Year</u>	<u>Site of Conference</u>	<u>Those Elected</u>
1940	Chicago, Illinois	None
1944	Minneapolis, Minnesota	Schuyler Edward Garth Charles W. Brashares
1948	Indianapolis, Indiana	Richard Campbell Raines Marshall Russell Reed Hazen G. Werner
1952	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	Frances Gerald Ensley E. E. Voight D. Stanley Coors
1956*	Des Moines, Iowa	None
1960	Grand Rapids, Michigan	Ralph Taylor Alton Edward Ronald Garrison T. Otto Nall
1964	Cleveland, Ohio	Thomas M. Pryor James S. Thomas* Dwight Ellsworth Loder Francis Enmer Kearns Lance Webb
1968	Peoria, Illinois	Paul Arthur Washburn* Arthur James Armstrong
1972	Indianapolis, Indiana	Wayne K. Clymer Jesse Robert DeWitt
1976	Sioux Falls, South Dakota	Leroy Charles Hodapp Edsel Albert Ammons
1980	Dayton, Ohio	Edwin Charles Boulton Emerson Stephen Colaw Marjorie Swank Mathews*

1984	Duluth, Minnesota	Woodie W. White David J. Lawson Reuben Philip Job Judith Craig
1988	DeKalb, Illinois	R. Sheldon Duecker Sharon A. Brown Christopher William B. Lewis
1992	Adrian, Michigan	Donald Arthur Ott Charles Wesley Jordan Sharon Zimmerman Rader
1996	Fort Wayne, Indiana	C. Joseph Sprague Jonathan D. Keaton John L. Hopkins Michael J. Coyner
2000	Middleton, Wisconsin	Gregory Vaughn Palmer Linda Lee Bruce Robert Ough
2004	Davenport, Iowa	Hee-Soo Jung Deborah Lieder Kiesey Sally Dyck
2008	Grand Rapids, Michigan	Julius Calvin Trimble
2012	Akron, Ohio	None
2016	Peoria, Illinois	Tracy Smith Malone Frank J. Beard David A. Barr Laurie Haller

*1956 was the first jurisdictional conference at which women were eligible to be elected to the episcopacy. None was elected.

*Daytona Beach, Florida was the site of the Central Jurisdiction meeting where Bishop Thomas was elected. He was assigned to the Iowa Area.

*Bishop Washburn was elected at the Uniting Conference in Dallas at the last General Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren; he was assigned to the Minneapolis Area at the Peoria Conference.

*Marjorie Mathews' election marked the first time a woman had been elected to the episcopacy in The United Methodist Church. She was assigned to the Wisconsin Area.

OFFICERS OF NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION 2012-2016

Secretary – Rev. Paul R. White, East Ohio Area

Treasurer – Rev. Rick VanGiesen, Illinois Great Rivers Area

2016 JURISDICTIONAL HOST COMMITTEE

Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton – Resident Bishop of Illinois Great Rivers Area

Rev. Janice (Jan) Griffith – Executive Assistant to Bishop Keaton

Mrs. Nancy Patton – Illinois Great Rivers Conference Event Coordinator

Rev. Randall L. Robinson – NCJ Host Committee Chairperson

Rev. Andy Adams – NCJ Host Committee Secretary and Worship Team

Rev. Eric Swanson – Worship Team

Mr. Paul Black – Illinois Great River Conference Director of Communication Ministries

Ms. Dayle Badman – Pages/Ushers/Marshalls

Rev. Stan Irvin – Youth/Young Adults

Rev. Dr. Beverly L. Wilkes-Null – NCJ BMCR Representative

Ms. Lorene King – Volunteers/Transportation/Hospitality Committee

Rev. Thomas (Tom) Logsdon – Illinois Great River Conference DCM and Registration
Team Chp.

Mr. Ken Miller – Youth/Young Adults

Rev. Bob Phillips – Hospitality

Ms. Leanne Roseberry – Volunteers/Hospitality Committee

Mr. Ryan Davis – Committee Member

Mr. Michael Krost – Committee Member

Rev. In-Sook Hwang – Committee Member

Mrs. Carolyn Yockey, NCJ Elections Committee Chairperson

Dr. Maggie Jackson – NCJ Committee on Episcopacy Chairperson

Rev. Richard A. Van Giesen, NCJ Treasurer and Illinois Great Rivers Conference Treasurer

Rev. Paul White, NCJ Conference Secretary



DAILY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday & Monday, July 10 & 11:

College of Bishops Meeting

Tuesday, July 12:

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Committee on Episcopacy
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Committee on Nominations
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Information and Registration Desk Open
6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.	Reception for Bishops – Peoria Civic Center Hall A
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Episcopal Nominee Forum sponsored by Black Methodist for Church Renewal (BMCR)

Wednesday, July 13:

8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Information and Registration Desk Open
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Opening Service of Worship – <i>Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton</i>
11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Recess / Lunch
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Opening Business Session
	Welcome
	Roll Call
	Confirmation of Jurisdictional Committees and Secretarial Staff
	Committee on Rules of Order
	Committee on Episcopacy
	Committee on Elections
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	First Ballot
	Report of First Ballot
	Introductions based on the First Ballot
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Nominee Forums
4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Delegation Meetings
5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Second Ballot
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Recess / Dinner

From this point forward the agenda becomes fluid with balloting, reporting of the same, taking precedence. Cycles of balloting will be interspersed with the business of the jurisdiction, spot conversations as needed, and Celebrations of Ministry. The Celebrations of Ministry will highlight various ministries of funded jurisdictional agencies and noteworthy ministries across the jurisdiction.

7:30 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.	Balloting (various ballots and report of ballots throughout) NCJ Mission Council Report NCJ Treasurer Report Spot Conversations as Needed
9:45 p.m.	Delegation Meetings
10:30 p.m.	Recess

Thursday, July 14:

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Information and Registration Desk Open
8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Morning Prayers – Informal Gatherings for Prayer
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	2016-2020 NCJ Committee Organization Meetings
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Service of Worship – <i>Bishop Hee-Soo Jung</i>
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Recess / Break
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Ballot and Report of Ballot
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Nominee Forums
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Balloting (various ballots and report of ballots throughout) Spot Conversations as Needed Celebrations of Ministry
12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Recess / Lunch
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Episcopal Address – <i>Bishop Deborah L. Kiesey</i>
2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Balloting (various ballots and report of ballots throughout) Committee on Nominations Report Proposal for Michigan Area Other Jurisdictional Business Items Celebrations of Ministry
4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.	Recognition of Retirement Service (Offering to be taken for Imagine No Malaria)
5:15 p.m.	Recess & proceed to “Peoria Under the Stars” at Peoria Riverfront Museum (Shuttle service provided to Museum from Monroe Street Entrance of Peoria Civic Center starting at 5:00 p.m.) Planetarium Shows: 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Uniview 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Dynamic Earth 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Uniview
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	“Peoria Under the Stars” Dinner
7:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Reception of Retiring Bishops and Spouses at the Lobby of Peoria Riverfront Museum
8:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Recess / Proceed to Peoria Civic Center

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Balloting (various ballots and report of ballots throughout) Spot Conversations as Needed Celebrations of Ministry
10:00 p.m.	Recess

Friday, July 15:

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Information Desk Open
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayers – Informal Gatherings for Prayer
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Service of Worship – <i>Bishop John L. Hopkins</i>
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Recess / Break
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Balloting (various ballots and report of ballots throughout) NCJ Business Celebrations of Ministry
12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Recess / Lunch
1:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	NCJ Business
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Area Dinners (as desired)
8:00 p.m.	Consecration Service Rehearsal at Peoria First UMC

Saturday, July 16:

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Information Desk Open
8:30 a.m.	Bus Service to Peoria First UMC Begins
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Service of Consecration – <i>Bishop Michael J. Coyner,</i> <i>Preaching</i> <i>Bishop Linda Lee, Service Coordinator</i> <i>Bishop Anne Sherer-Simpson, Council of</i> <i>Bishops Rep.</i>
11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Reception for New Bishops at Peoria First UMC

DELEGATES TO THE 2016 NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

(listed by conferences in order of election; * indicates chairperson / co-chairpersons)

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WEST MICHIGAN

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DAILY PROCEEDINGS
THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE
NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE
PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Wednesday Morning, July 13
10:00 a.m.

The Thirteenth Jurisdictional Conference of the North Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church convened July 13, 2016 at the Peoria Civic Center in Peoria, Illinois. Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton, Host Bishop, called the conference to order. The conference opened with a Service of Memorial and Communion at 10:00 a.m. with Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton preaching.

Those remembered were:

Mrs. Marjorie Duecker	October 22, 2012
Mrs. Jane Colaw	April 16, 2013
Bishop Wayne K. Clymer	November 25, 2013
Bishop Rueben Job	January 3, 2015
Mrs. Jan Ott	June 2, 2015
Mrs. Martha Lawson	October 24, 2015
Bishop Jesse DeWitt	November 26, 2015

Recess for lunch followed the Opening Worship

Wednesday Afternoon, July 13
1:30 p.m.
Bishop John L. Hopkins, Presiding

Call the Business Session to Order by Bishop John Hopkins at 1:30 p.m.

Greetings were given by Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton of Illinois Great Rivers Conference – Bishop introduced Randy Robinson, Chairperson of the Host Committee; Nancy Patton, Illinois Great Rivers Conference Event Coordinator; and Paul Black, Illinois Great Rivers Conference Director of Communications who each gave welcome.

Bishop Hopkins introduced the Mayor of Peoria, Mayor Jim Ardis, who brought greetings.

Bishop Hopkins introduced Bishop Ann Scherer Simpson who brought greetings from the Council of Bishops.

Roll Call:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, explained and called for the roll of those attending (as per pg. 100; 2012 Journal)

Bishop Hee-Soo Yung, Secretary of College of Bishops, reported nine (9) active, five (5) retired, and one (1) guest Bishop in attendance.

Active Bishops in attendance: Bruce Ough, Deborah Kiesey, John Hopkins, Jonathan Keaton, Michael Coyner, Julius Trimble, Sally Dyck, Gregory Palmer, and Hee-Soo Yung.

Retired Bishops in attendance: Charles Jordan, Sharon Brown Christopher, Linda Lee, Sharon Rader, and Donald Ott.

Guest Bishop from Council of Bishops: Ann Scherer Simpson.

The chairperson of each Annual Conference Delegation gave an account of the delegates and alternate delegates present:

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Reported By</u>	<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Alternate Delegates</u>
Dakotas	Rebecca Trefz	4	6
Detroit	Charles Boayue	12	3
East Ohio	Jessica Vargo	24	6
Illinois Great Rivers	Sylvester Weatherall	19	5
Indiana	Frank Beard	32	6
Iowa	Philip Carver	24	6
Minnesota	David Bard	8	3
Northern Illinois	Eliza Gatz	12	4
West Michigan	Nichea Ver Veer Guy	4	4
West Ohio	Caleb Harper	32	6
Wisconsin	Steven Zekoff	12	4

General Agencies Represented:

Commission on Status and Role of Women – 2 persons

Council on Finance and Administration – 1 person

Church & Society – 1 person

Agenda: NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, presented the agenda as listed on pages 5 – 7 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1 for approval. Bishop Julius Trimble brought a recommendation from the College of Bishops requesting the NCJ Secretary determine an amount of time for 75 – 90 minutes in the agenda for the conference to join in prayer, conversation, and sign acts on the issue of racism and violence. The agenda was approved with this added recommendation.

Report of the Committee on Rules of Order:

Diane Brown, a member of the Committee on Rules of Order, presented the report as found on pages 27 – 47 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1.

George Howard, Vice Chairperson of Committee on Nominations from West Ohio Conference, presented a motion to amend the report on page 37 under Rule V. B. Bullet #2 of The Membership of the Jurisdictional Mission Council from “Seven (7)” members-at-large to be “Seven (7) to Ten (10)” members-at-large nominated by the Jurisdictional Committee on Nominations “at their discretion” from the pool ... The motion was seconded and approved.

Jack Ryder, Northern Illinois Conference, made a motion to amend the report on page 36 to retain the Rules of Order Committee as a Standing Committee. The motion was seconded but failed approval.

The full Report of the Committee on Rules of Order as amended was approved to take affect immediately.

Confirmation of Jurisdictional Committees & Secretarial Staff:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White presented the 2016 On-Site Standing Committee, The Committee on Nominations, as listed on page 26 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1 with the addition of Jodi Cataldo and Roger Spahr from the Dakotas Conference for approval. The committee was approved with the additions.

Rev. White presented Robert Myers as the assistant secretary and this was approved.

Announcement of Presiding Bishops:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, announced the following schedule for presiding officer as selected by Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy, Randy Robinson, Chairperson of the Host Committee, and the NCJ Secretary to be:

- Wednesday Afternoon – Bishop John Hopkins, President of College of Bishops
- Wednesday Evening – Bishop Julius Trimble
- Thursday Morning – Bishop Bruce Ough
- Thursday Afternoon – Bishop Gregory Palmer
- Thursday Evening – Bishop Sally Dyck
- Friday Morning – Bishop Jonathan Keaton
- Friday Afternoon – Bishop Deborah Kieseey

Report of Committee on Episcopacy:

Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy, presented the report as found on pages 50 – 51 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1. The report contained the following recommendations which were each approved:

Recommendation 1 – Character of Bishops

The Committee on Episcopacy, having had personal conferences with active bishops of the jurisdiction recommends that the character of Bishops Sally Dyck, Bruce Ough, Hee-Soo Jung, Julius C. Trimble, and Gregory V. Palmer be passed and they be continued in the effective relationship.

The Committee on Episcopacy also recommends that the character of retired Bishops Judith Craig, , Emerson S. Colaw, Sharon Brown Christopher, Charles W. Jordon, Linda Lee, William B. Lewis, Donald A. Ott, Sharon Z. Rader, C. Joseph Sprague, and Woodie W. White, be passed, and they be continued in the retired relationship.

Recommendation 2 – Retirement of Bishops

The Committee on Episcopacy recommends that Bishops John Hopkins, Deborah L. Kiesey, Michael J. Coyner, and Jonathon D. Keaton, having met the requirements as listed in paragraph 409 of The 2012 Book of Discipline, and their character having been passed, be released effective August 31, 2016, from their obligation to travel through the connection at large, from residential and presidential supervision and to be placed in the retired relation and that they receive all rights, privileges, and support as provided in The Book of Discipline.

On behalf of the North Central Jurisdiction, the Committee on Episcopacy wishes to express sincere appreciation to Bishops Kiesey, Hopkins, Coyner, and Keaton for their dedication and service they rendered to the church of Jesus Christ through their ministries.

Recommendation 3 – Election of 4 Bishops

The Committee recommends that the North Central Jurisdictional Conference proceed to elect four bishops at the 2016 session.

Dr. Jackson recognized and gave thanks to the members of the Committee on Episcopacy for their faithful work during the 2012-2016 quadrennium.

Bishop Hopkins, on behalf of the College of Bishops, also expressed thanks for the Committee on Episcopacy.

Report of Committee on Elections:

Carolyn Yockey, Chairperson of the Committee on Elections presented the committee's report by highlighting the "Balloting and Procedures for Episcopal Election" as found on page 29-30 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1. She also instructed the delegates on use of the electronic voting pads and a sample vote was taken to be sure all was working properly.

First Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was led by Bishop Sharon Rader with prayers as written by Bishop Judith Craig, who was unable to be in attendance.

Bishop Hopkins called for the casting of the first ballot.

Break

Report of First Ballot:

As per Rules on page 29 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1 those receiving ten (10) or more votes were read in alphabetical order by Bishop Hopkins and then introduced by Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Those receiving 10 or more votes: (in alphabetical order)

David Bard
Frank Beard
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai
Charles Boayue
Jerome DeVine
Lilian Gallo Seagren
Gary George
Laurie Haller
David Meredith
Christopher Ritter
Tracy Smith Malone
Barrie Tritle
Sylvester Weatherall

Nominee Forums:

As per the Procedures for Episcopal Election, Section B. #2 on page 30 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1 each of the persons receiving 10 or more votes on the first ballot were assigned rooms where delegates could meet and ask questions of the candidates. There were three 20 minute sessions with a 10 minute break between sessions.

Delegation Meetings:

Nominee Forums were followed by Delegation Meetings that took place for 30 minutes.

Report of First Ballot Vote Count:

Bishop Hopkins presented the vote count of the first ballot. There were 184 total votes, 176 valid votes, and 106 votes required for an election. There was no election. Ballots cast were:

Frank Beard	77
Tracy Smith Malone	76
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	72
Gary George	67
Sylvester Weatherall	67
Laurie Haller	58
David Bard	55
David Meredith	40
Christopher Ritter	37
Lillian Gallo Seagren	29
Jerome DeVine	26

Charles Boayue, Jr.	18
Barrie Tritle	15

Point of Order:

Jack Ryder, Northern Illinois Conference, asked if the required number of votes needed for election was just 60% or 60% + 1. It was reported that 60% of valid ballots cast was needed for an election. If the 60% were a fraction of number it would need to be rounded to the next highest number.

Second Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Sara Isbell, member of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Hopkins called for the casting of the second ballot.

Announcements:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, made announcements.

Recessed:

The conference recessed for dinner until 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Evening, July 13
7:30 p.m.
Bishop Julius Trimble, Presiding

Calling Session to Order by Bishop Julius Trimble at 7:30 p.m. with singing of "Standing on the Promises."

Report of Second Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the second ballot. There were 184 total votes, 181 valid votes, and 109 votes required for an election. There was no election.

Ballots cast were:

Tracy Smith Malone	95
Frank Beard	87
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	82
Laurie Haller	74
Gary George	71
Sylvester Weatherall	68
David Bard	66
Lillian Gallo Seagren	42
David Meredith	30
Christopher Ritter	27
Charles Boayue, Jr.	18
Jerome DeVine	16
Barrie Tritle	14

Third Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by a Bishop Donald Ott.

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the third ballot.

Report of NCJ Mission Council:

Bill Pyatt, Chairperson of The Mission Council, presented the report. During the report he spoke on the new budget method being proposed and that it will come before the body for vote on Friday. He also gave thanks to Rick Van Giesen as Treasurer and John Boley as the Mission Council Secretary for their service.

Report of Third Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the third ballot. There were 182 total votes, 177 valid votes, and 107 votes required for an election. There was no election. Ballots cast were:

Tracy Smith Malone	95
Frank Beard	86
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	84
Laurie Haller	84
Gary George	76
David Bard	73
Sylvester Weatherall	62
Lillian Gallo Seagren	52
David Meredith	26
Christopher Ritter	15
Barrie Tritle	15
Charles Boayue, Jr.	14

Fourth Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the fourth ballot.

Report of NCJ Treasurer:

Rick Van Giesen, NCJ Treasurer, presented the report from pages 5 – 18 of The Advance Journal, Volume 2 along with the to date financial report that was distributed to delegates. The report included the 2015 Audit report and support for the new budget approach from The Mission Council.

Report of Fourth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the fourth ballot. There were 184 total votes, 180 valid votes, and 108 votes required for an election. There was no election. Ballots cast were:

Tracy Smith Malone	100
Frank Beard	92

Laurie Haller	87
David Bard	84
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	83
Gary George	78
Sylvester Weatherall	65
Lillian Gallo Seagren	55
Christopher Ritter	19
David Meredith	16
Barrie Tritle	13

Matter of Personal Privilege:

David Meredith was granted matter of personal privilege to withdraw from the election process with thanksgiving to all who had supported him. He was given a standing ovation.

Fifth Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Bishop Sharon Brown Christopher.

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the fifth ballot.

Question:

Diane Brown, Detroit Conference, requested if on the reading of next ballot we could also receive information as the reason for invalid ballots? Bishop Trimble agreed this would be done.

Celebration of Ministry:

The Committee on Native American Ministry led by Carol Lakota Eastin along with other members of the committee shared the work of the Committee on Native American Ministry in the jurisdiction. They also gave thanks for the financial support they have received and hope to continue to receive from the jurisdiction.

Report of Fifth Episcopal Ballot:

Before presenting the vote totals for the fifth ballot Bishop Trimble called upon Carolyn Yockey, Chairperson of the Committee on Elections, to speak to the reason of invalid ballots. Carolyn reported that on this ballot 3 persons had not voted for the total of 4 required for election and 6 persons had voted the same candidate twice.

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the fifth ballot. There were 184 total votes, 175 valid votes, and 105 votes required for an election. There was no election. Ballots cast were:

Tracy Smith Malone	102
Frank Beard	95
Laurie Haller	88
David Bard	84
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	79

Gary George	78
Sylvester Weatherall	61
Lillian Gallo Seagren	55
Christopher Ritter	17
Barrie Tritle	12

Spot Conversation:

A request was made and granted for a 10 minute spot conversation of delegations.

Called back from the Spot Conversation and recess by singing “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms.”

Sixth Episcopal Ballot

Prayer was given by Rev. Michael Slaughter, member of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the sixth ballot.

Question:

Karen Oehl, East Ohio Conference, was recognized and asked that greetings be sent to Bishop Judith Craig. It was agreed this would be done by the NCJ Secretary.

Resolution:

Phil Moot, West Ohio Conference, was recognized by Bishop Trimble and presented a resolution that was seconded. Due to the length of the resolution it was distributed to delegates as printed. The resolution states:

WHEREAS, the church, *ekklesia*, the Body of Christ exist as covenantal relationships of diverse people with various gifts and in unique contexts. We are not a corporation that legislates relationships and divides assets. It is by living and working together that we witness to the redemptive love of Jesus Christ;

AND WHEREAS, Jesus prayed for us to “be one” with him and with each other so that the world would know him (John 17:20-23). John Wesley reminds us that we may love alike even when we don’t think alike, to be of one heart even if we are not of one mind (sermon on “Catholic Spirit”). We commit to a unity “founded on the theological understanding that through faith in Jesus Christ we are made members-in-common of the one body of Christ. Christian unity is not an option; it is a gift to be received and expressed” (Paragraph 105, The 2012 Book of Discipline). The Council of Bishops wrote and the 2016 General Conference approved a call for “unity of our mission...while allowing for differing expressions as a global church”;

AND WHEREAS, the current landscape in The United Methodist Church includes a wide range of traditional and evolving Wesleyan theological perspectives around issues of human sexuality and a variety of ways that these perspectives inform contextual ministry with LGBTQ+ people (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer);

AND WHEREAS, the vast majority of our church deeply longs to remain united amidst these diverse perspectives and practices and to make space for clergy, laity, churches and conference to live out their call to share the Gospel in ways that are faithful to the leading of the Spirit and their conscience;

AND WHEREAS, our Council of Bishops brought much needed leadership to our denomination during a crucial season through the recommendation and subsequent General Conference approval of a special commission, asking us “to affirm (our) own commitment to maintaining and strengthening the unity of the church” (Council of Bishops’ Statement approved by 2016 General Conference).

AND WHEREAS, our theological task calls us to be neither indifferent towards truth nor to indulgently tolerate error, but to be aware of the limitations of our knowledge and fervent in our trust that the Holy Spirit will guide us (Paragraph 105, The 2012 Book of Discipline). During this season of discernment, “we will continue to explore options to help the church live in grace with one another – including ways to avoid further complaints, trials, and harm while we uphold The Discipline” (Council of Bishops’ Statement ratified by 2016 General Conference);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that during this season of prayer and discernment as a church, we, the laity and clergy of the North Central Jurisdiction, will claim our theological mandate and in the name of Jesus Christ will prayerfully and actively “work within our diversity while exercising patience and forbearance with one another” (Paragraph 105, The 2012 Book of Discipline). We will live more deeply into our Wesleyan covenantal relationships and practice grace and mercy towards one another. We commit to living out our practices of reconciliation from Matthew 18:15-17 and will seek deeper relationship with those who do not share our perspectives, rather than resorting to complaints as a first or even second response;

AND THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that while the special commission is in deliberation, we the laity and clergy of the North Central Jurisdiction call upon the North Central College of Bishops and the Council of Bishops (1) to cultivate a spirit with their cabinets and clergy sessions that treats all clergy respectfully and fairly whether their views are traditional, progressive, or indifferent on matters of human sexuality and (2) to handle human sexuality complaints without further harm or trials;

AND THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that we, the laity and clergy of the North Central Jurisdiction, call on the Special Commission to make recommendations to the General Conference that will allow the diversity of theological perspectives to exist in our denomination and make space for a variety of contextually relevant ministries around issues of human sexuality in congregations and conferences as the Holy Spirit leads.

Gary Henderson, East Ohio Conference, asked the question if we are acting upon this resolution tonight or later. Bishop Trimble responded it is up to the body. Gary then spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mike Grant, East Ohio Conference, moved to table consideration of the resolution until tomorrow. Motion was approved.

Report of Sixth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the sixth ballot. There were 184 total votes, 180 valid votes, and 108 votes required for an election. There were two elections. Tracy Smith Malone and Frank Beard were elected and presented to the conference by Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Trimble then presented the ballots cast were:

Tracy Smith Malone	120
Frank Beard	109
David Bard	85
Laurie Haller	81
Gary George	80
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	79
Sylvester Weatherall	57
Lillian Gallo Seagren	51
Barrie Tritle	23
Christopher Ritter	16

Seventh Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Bishop Sharon Rader.

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the seventh ballot.

While waiting for results of the seventh ballot the conference joined in singing of “Blessed Assurance.”

Report of Seventh Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the seventh ballot. There were 183 total votes, 178 valid votes, and 107 votes required for an election. There was no election.

Ballots cast were:

David Bard	80
Laurie Haller	73
Gary George	68
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	50
Sylvester Weatherall	35
Lillian Gallo Seagren	27

Eighth Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Norma Morrison, member of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the eighth ballot.

Announcements:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, gave a few announcements regarding new committee organizational meetings to be held Thursday morning. Organizational Meetings for the 2016-2020 NCJ Committees will take place at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday morning. These committees include:

Court of Appeals – led by Bishop Deborah Lieder Kiesey in Room 406

Committee on Episcopacy – led by Bishop Michael Coyner in Room 408

Committee on Investigation – led by Bishop Bruce Ough in Room 407

Report of Eighth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the eighth ballot. There were 183 total votes, 178 valid votes, and 107 votes required for an election. There was no election.

Ballots cast were:

David Bard	92
Laurie Haller	85
Gary George	72
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	39
Sylvester Weatherall	34
Lillian Gallo Seagren	22

Ninth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the ninth ballot.

Question:

Alex Plum, Detroit Conference, was recognized and spoke of the lack of space for youth and young adults to meet in community. He asked if it would be possible to assign a room for youth and young adult delegates and guests to meet. The NCJ Secretary will work with the Host Committee to provide such a space.

Matter of Privilege:

Christopher Ritter was recognized for the purpose of withdrawal from the election process with thanksgiving. He was given a standing ovation.

Matter of Privilege:

Charles Boayue was recognized for the purpose of withdrawal from the election process with thanksgiving. He was given a standing ovation.

Report of Ninth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the ninth ballot. There were 184 total votes, 183 valid votes, and 110 votes required for an election. There was no election.

Ballots cast were:

David Bard	107
Laurie Haller	91
Gary George	73
Sylvester Weatherall	31

Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	27
Lillian Gallo Seagren	27

Tenth Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Bishop Ann Scherer Simpson.

Bishop Trimble called for the casting of the tenth ballot.

Report of Tenth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Trimble presented the vote count of the tenth ballot. There were 184 total votes, 180 valid votes, and 108 votes required for an election. David Bard was elected and presented to the conference by Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Trimble then presented the ballots cast were:

David Bard	117
Laurie Haller	89
Gary George	69
Lillian Gallo Seagren	30
Sylvester Weatherall	23
Kennetha Bigham-Tsai	21

Recess:

The conference recessed for the evening and to allow for Delegation Meetings. Worship is at 9:15 a.m. in the morning with Bishop Hee-Soo Jung preaching. The Thursday morning business session will begin at 10:30 a.m. The Civic Center will close at 11:00 p.m.

Thursday Morning, July 14

Morning Prayers and 2016-2020 NCJ Committee Organizational Meetings were held at 8:30 a.m. The morning Service of Worship was held at 9:15 a.m. with Bishop Hee-Soo Yung preaching.

Thursday Morning, July 14

10:30 a.m.

Bishop Bruce Ough, Presiding

Calling Session to Order:

Bishop Ough called the session to order with scripture reading, sharing a few thoughts, and prayer.

Matter of Privilege:

Kennetha Bingham-Tsai was recognized for the purpose of withdrawal from the election process with thanksgiving. She was given a standing ovation.

Eleventh Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Bishop Charles Jordan.

Bishop Ough called for the casting of the eleventh ballot.

Singing:

As we waited for the results of the ballot we sang “Amazing Grace” and “Great is Thy Faithfulness.”

Report of Eleventh Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Ough presented the vote count of the eleventh ballot. There were 179 total votes, 179 valid votes, and 108 votes required for an election. There was no election.

Ballots cast were:

Laurie Haller	94
Gary George	71

Nominee Forums:

Nominee Forums were scheduled next but a question arose as to the size of the rooms accommodating enough persons for the two remaining candidates. The NCJ Secretary would check the room capacities.

Matter of Privilege:

Lillian Gallo Seagren was recognized for purpose of withdrawal from election process with thanksgiving. She was given a standing ovation.

Brian Sheetz, East Ohio Conference, moved the conference stay in the plenary session with each candidate given time for a statement and questions from delegates. The motion was seconded. Phillip Connolly, West Ohio Conference made a substitute motion that two more ballots be cast before holding Nominee Forums. The substitute motion was seconded but failed approval. Bishop Ough called for a vote on the original motion which also failed approval.

Nominee Forums:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White announced room assignments for the nominees that would allow at least 100 persons to a room. Delegates may visit nominee rooms as they so desire. Delegates are to return to the meeting hall at 11:45 a.m. for further balloting and business.

Bishop Ough called the conference back from Nominee Forums at 11:47 a.m.

Matter of Privilege:

Barrie Tritle was recognized for purpose of withdrawal from election process with thanksgiving. He was given a standing ovation.

Request:

Curnell Graham, West Ohio Conference, requested each candidate be allowed to give a two minute statement before casting the next ballot. Bishop Ough gave permission for such. Laurie Haller addressed the conference followed by Gary George addressing the conference.

Twelfth Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Rebecca Trefz, a member of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Ough called for the casting of the twelfth ballot.

Matter of Privilege:

Sara Isbell, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, was recognized to bring greetings from Bishop Woodie White who was unable to be in attendance.

Report of Twelfth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Ough presented the vote count of the twelfth ballot. There were 179 total votes, 179 valid votes, and 108 votes required for an election. There was no election.

Ballots cast were:

Laurie Haller	102
Gary George	75

Matter of Privilege:

Gary George was recognized for the purpose of withdrawal from election with thanksgiving. He was given a standing ovation.

Matter of Privilege:

Sylvester Weatherall was recognized for the purpose of withdrawal from election with thanksgiving. He was given a standing ovation.

Thirteenth Episcopal Ballot:

Prayer was given by Bishop Linda Lee.

Bishop Ough called for the casting of the thirteenth ballot.

Announcements:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, shared several announcements that included one from the youth and young adults of the conference for their gratitude to the Host Committee for hospitality that had been shown to them with an assigned room and refreshments.

Report of Thirteenth Episcopal Ballot:

Bishop Ough presented the vote count of the thirteenth ballot. There were 176 total votes, 176 valid votes, and 106 votes required for an election. Laurie Haller was elected

and presented to the conference by Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy.

Bishop Ough then presented the ballots cast were:

Laurie Haller	132
Cindy Reynolds	20

Recess for Lunch:

Bishop Ough recessed the conference for lunch with prayer by Bishop Tracy Smith Malone. The conference will reconvene at 2:00 p.m. for the Episcopal Address by Bishop Deborah L. Kiesey.

Thursday Afternoon, July 14

2:00 p.m.

Bishop Gregory Palmer, Presiding

Calling Session to Order:

Bishop Palmer called the session to order and introduced Bishop Deborah L. Kiesey.

Episcopal Address:

Bishop Deborah L. Kiesey presented the Episcopal Address.

Recognition:

Bishop Palmer recognized Bishop John Hopkins, President of the College of Bishops, to announce new officers of College of Bishops:

Bishop Greg Palmer, President
Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, Secretary

Celebration of Ministry:

A report about the jurisdictional Town & Country Ministries was given by Debra (Debbie) Ketchum.

Proposal for Michigan Area:

Marsha Wooley, Co-Chair of Michigan Design Team, presented a proposal from the Detroit and West Michigan Conferences as found on page 49 of The Advance Journal, Volume 1 to create a new Michigan Area Conference of The United Methodist Church. Marsha presented a motion to

- 1) Approve the creation of the new Michigan Area Conference.
- 2) Define the boundaries of the new conference as the entire state of Michigan.
- 3) Approve the new conference be effective not later than January 2019.

The motion was approved.

Celebration of Ministry:

A report of Abundant Health from the General Board of Global Ministries was given by Dr. Olusimbo Ige, Executive Director of General Board of Global Ministries Health Unit.

Bishop Palmer also recognized Rev. Gary Henderson for his work with Imagine No Malaria. Gary acknowledged the NCJ had raised the most money for Imagine No Malaria and gave thanks to the jurisdiction.

There will be an offering for Imagine No Malaria during the Recognition of Retirement Service this afternoon.

Removal from the Table Resolution for Action:

Bishop Palmer called for the removal of the resolution presented by Phil Moots on Wednesday evening from the table for action.

Andy Adams, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, provided an amendment to the resolution in the second Therefore Be It Resolved to strike the words “without further harm or trials” and replace “by exploring options to help the church live in grace with one another including ways to avoid further complaints, trials and harm while we uphold The Discipline.” The amendment was seconded and Adam spoke to the amendment.

Mike Slaughter, West Ohio Conference, spoke against the amendment.

Robert Phillips, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, spoke in favor of the amendment.

Alka Lyall, Northern Illinois Conference, spoke against the amendment.

Marilyn Bridges, West Ohio Conference, spoke in favor of the amendment.

Beth Ann Cook, Indiana Conference, spoke in favor of the amendment.

Carol Hill, Northern Illinois Conference, spoke against the amendment.

Craig Scott, Iowa Conference, called for the question on the amendment and it was seconded. The call for the question was approved.

Bishop Palmer then called for a vote on the amendment as presented by Andy Adams to the resolution. The vote was 98 in favor of the amendment and 82 opposed. The amendment was adopted.

Cara Stultz Costello, East Ohio Conference, provided an amendment to the resolution that would replace the word “issues” wherever it appears in the resolution with the word “conversation.” After the amendment was seconded Cara spoke to the amendment. The amendment was approved.

The resolution as amended was before the conference.

Walker Brault, Minnesota Conference, spoke in favor of resolution as amended.

Katie Dawson, Iowa Conference, spoke in favor of resolution as amended.

Bishop Palmer called for an end to debate on the resolution as it was moving time for the order of the day of the Recognition of Retirement Service.

Announcements:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, shared announcements of the “Peoria Under the Stars” evening at the Peoria Riverfront Museum and there would be no business session held on Thursday evening.

Recess:

Bishop Palmer recessed to conference so as to move to Recognition of Retirement Service. During the service Bishops Michael Coyner, John Hopkins, Jonathan Keaton, and Deborah Kiesey were recognized for the service to the NCJ and the greater church.

“Peoria Under the Stars” at the Peoria Riverfront Museum, an event hosted by the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, was held on Thursday evening with a barbecue dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m. and a reception for retiring bishops and spouses in the lobby of the museum at 7:30 p.m.

Friday Morning, July 15

Morning Prayers were held at 8:30 a.m. The morning Service of Worship was held at 9:15 a.m. with Bishop John Hopkins preaching.

Friday Morning, July 15

10:30 a.m.

Bishop Jonathan Keaton, Presiding

Calling Session to Order:

Bishop Keaton called the session to order with prayer that included prayers for Leanna Zimmerman, a young person delegate from the Indiana Conference, who had been taken to the hospital and for the tragic events overnight in Nice, France.

Time of Conversation, Prayer, and Sign Acts for Violence and Racism:

Bishop Keaton introduced Bishop Julius Trimble and Bishop Sally Dyck to lead the conference in a session to *“Remember, Reflect, Renew: Conversation on Race.”*

Bishop Trimble provided the purpose and context for the conversation with attention to scriptural mandates and The 2012 Book of Discipline. He concluded his remarks inviting all to a time of centering as we sang together.

After the song, Bishop Dyck had persons move into small groups of 4-5 persons for a group conversation experience. Once in small groups Bishop Dyck invited the body to a time of centering in prayer and contemplation, in quiet and stillness, a time of making space for deep listening – a time of remembrance and reflection on our stories, our experiences, and perspective that can help inform our engaged learning.

Bishop Dyck asked for persons to sit and take a few deep breaths to consciously slow and deepen one's breathing. Be still in the moment. Close one's eyes. Bishop Dyck then reads the following questions:

- Think about images you've seen documenting the tragedy, trauma, and terror of fractured racial relationships, racialized violence, broken community and institutional trust. In your gallery of images – which one continues to haunt your thoughts. Why?
- What words of hurt, healing, or hope have stayed with you, as you participated in and/or listened to others talking about race, racism, and/or racialized incidents and encounters?
- Think of a non-family member from racial, ethnic, or cultural group different than your own that you know well. What level of confidence do you have that the person would accurately describe your positions and perspectives on race?
- How has your thinking about race changed over time? How has your engagement across racial/ethnic/cultural boundaries changed over time?
- What questions about race relations or race perspective you have been reluctant or afraid to ask outside of your own racial/ethnic/cultural group?
- What questions or perspective are you reluctant to share within your own racial/ethnic/cultural group?

Bishop Dyck instructed groups to take 30 minutes to:

1. Introduce selves and begin with personal stories about race.
2. Move to the questions that you think the church must pose, explore, and/or answer as part of its responsiveness on race relations, racial disparities, racialized violence and racial justice. The guided meditation questions as well as reflections on how you came to form your opinions on race are good places to start.
3. Conclude your conversation with signs of hope, suggestion for public witness, and your group commitment card.

After the 30 minutes of sharing Bishop Dyck asked each group to join in prayer.

There was a time of reporting from various groups to the entire conference body what groups had listed on the commitment cards before all cards were collected. It was announced the cards would be displayed on a table in the hallway of the Civic Center and later posted on the NCJ website.

Bishop Trimble shared closing thoughts and offered prayer.

Recess:

Bishop Keaton recessed the morning session for lunch.

Friday Afternoon, July 15
2:00 p.m.
Bishop Deborah Kieseey, Presiding

Calling Session to Order:

Bishop Kieseey called the session to order with singing “Lord Prepare Me.”

Matter of Privilege:

Lanette Plambeck, Iowa Conference, was recognized to offer prayer for the people of France in light of the recent tragic incident in Nice.

Matter of Privilege:

Marian McCray, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, ask for moment of personal privilege to allow Pamela McDavid, NCJ CORR Chairperson to speak. Permission was granted and Pamela provided information of resources available through CORR to help persons and churches in conversation on racism.

Matter of Privilege:

Diane Wasson Eberhart, Iowa Conference, spoke to recognize the 20th anniversary of ordination of Deacons.

Matter of Privilege:

Rita Smith, Northern Illinois Conference, stated the UMW has racial justice resources on their website.

Committee on Nominations Report:

Bishop Sally Dyck, chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, presented and moved the acceptance of the report as printed and distributed to delegates. The report was approved as presented.

Celebration of Ministry:

Tammy Kuntz gave a report of the NCJ United Methodist Volunteers in Mission which also included a video about UMVIM.

Resume Resolution:

Bishop Kieseey called for the conference to resume discussion of the resolution that was not completed on Thursday afternoon. She reminded the conference there has been 2 speeches in favor of the resolution as amended on Thursday.

Andy Call, East Ohio Conference, called the question on the resolution as amended that was before us. Andy’s motion was seconded and the call for the question was approved.

Kathy Dickriede, East Ohio Conference, asked a point of information of who wrote the resolution. The NCJ Secretary responded it was presented by Phil Moots of West Ohio Conference.

Bishop Kiesey had the resolution as amended read and called for a vote. The resolution as amended was approved.

Question:

David Meredith, West Ohio Conference, asked a question about the report of Episcopal Appointments by Friday noon that was approved at the 2012 NCJ Conference. NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, stated it was a motion for the 2012 conference and did not bind this jurisdictional conference.

2017-2020 Budget:

NCJ Treasurer, Rick Van Giesen, presented the proposed 2017-2020 NCJ Budget as outlined on page of The Advance Journal, Volume 1. This budget is proposed by the NCJ Mission Council. Rick asked for members of The NCJ Mission Council to stand and be recognized. The body affirmed them with applause.

Tom Popp, Wisconsin Conference, questioned as to how the new budget proposal would work? Rick responded by sharing how the application process will work.

Martha Banks, East Ohio Conference, asked if we would expect annual conferences to do the same with their funding. Rick responded there is no such expectation and that it is up to each annual conference to determine how to do their funding.

Marian McCray, Illinois Great Rivers Conference, spoke against the budget process sharing concerns that it is a step backward in asking the racial caucuses to beg with song and dance to get monies.

April Blaine, West Ohio Conference, questioned about the gap between the proposed income and expenses. Rick explained the projected carry-over funds from this quadrennium would be used to meet expenses.

The 2017-2020 budget was approved as presented.

Motion for Declaratory Decision:

Gregory Stover, West Ohio Conference, made a motion for declaratory decision asking the NCJ Conference request a declaratory decision if the nomination, election, consecration, and/or assignment of a bishop of The United Methodist Church of a person who claims to be a “self-avowed practicing homosexual” or is a spouse in a same-sex marriage lawful under The Book Of Discipline of The United Methodist Church. Specifically, what is the application, meaning and effect of Paragraphs 304.3, 310.2.d, 341.6, and 2702.1(a), (b), and (d) in regard to the nomination, election, consecration

and/or assignment as bishop of a person who claims to be “self-avowed practicing homosexual” or is a spouse in a same-sex marriage of civil union? Further

- Does a public record that a nominee for the episcopacy is a spouse in a same-sex marriage disqualify that person from nomination, election, consecration and/or assignment as a bishop in The United Methodist Church?
- If a jurisdictional conference nominates, elects, consecrates, and/or assigns a person who by virtue of being legally married or in a civil union under civil law to a same-sex partner, would be subject to a chargeable offense, is the action of the jurisdictional conference null and void?
- Is it lawful for one or more of the bishops of a jurisdiction to consecrate a person as bishop when the bishop-elect is known by public record to be a spouse in a same-sex marriage or civil union?
- When a bishop, district superintendent, district committee on ordained ministry, Board of Ordained Ministry, or clergy session becomes aware or is made aware that a clergy person is a spouse in a same sex marriage or civil union of public record, does such information in effect and in fact amount to a self-avowal of the practice of homosexuality as set forth in Paragraph 304.3, related footnotes and related Judicial Council Decisions?

The motion was seconded and Greg then spoke to the motion.

Phil Moots, West Ohio Conference, questioned if the jurisdictional conference had the legal standing by The Book of Discipline to request such a declaratory decision? Bishop Kieseley ruled it was on the floor properly.

Bob Land, Indiana Conference, spoke in favor of the motion.

David Nuckols, Minnesota Conference, made a motion to table the Stover motion. It was seconded and was tabled with a vote of 96 to table and 69 not to table..

Matter of Privilege:

Lonnie Chafin, Northern Illinois Conference, requested a matter of privilege for sharing of thanksgiving to Rick Van Giesen for his service as the NCJ Treasurer. The conference responded with a standing ovation.

Matter of Privilege:

Alex Plum, Detroit Conference, requested a matter of privilege to recognize Bishop Ough for his leadership as the President of the Council of Bishops in dealing with the sexuality issue and offering our prayers. Bishop Ough briefly addressed the conference.

Celebration of Ministry:

Bishop Jonathan Keaton shared about the good work of NCJ Korean Ministries. During the report gave thanks to Rev. Hoon Kyoung Lee for the work he does to help raise funds for this ministry. A detailed written report had been distributed to all delegates.

Monitoring Report:

Jennifer Meadows and Tyler Schwaller, from the General Commission on Status and Role of Women, recognized the 60th Anniversary of the ordination of women in The United Methodist Church. They stated the NCJ is the most inclusive College of Bishops. A monitoring report from all jurisdictions will be made available following coordination of materials from each jurisdiction. They provided words of encouragement to be inclusive in all ways, especially of women's leadership, as we move forth from this conference.

General Conference 2020 Invitation:

Walker Brault & Woojae Im, both from Minnesota Conference, gave thanks for the support of the NCJ with funding for the 2020 General Conference to be held in Minnesota and invited all NCJ participants to participate.

2020 NCJ Conference:

Bishop Michael Coyner, Indiana Conference, issued an invitation to the 2020 NCJ Conference to be held at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana and showed a video on the Fort Wayne area.

Extending Thanks:

Bishop Kiesey gave thanks to the following:

- ❖ The Host Committee led by Rev. Randy Robinson
- ❖ The Illinois Great Rivers Conference Event Coordinator, Nancy Patton
- ❖ The Marshalls and Pages
- ❖ All who helped design, lead, and participated in the various worship experiences as well as Mary Alice and Jay who have lead in singing.
- ❖ All the volunteers who served in any capacity.
- ❖ Rick Van Giesen who has served as a very faithful NCJ Treasurer.
- ❖ Kyle Hoover and Option Technologies for the voting technology and their work with the conference.
- ❖ Illinois Great Rivers Conference Director of Communication, Paul Black, and all his very capable volunteers with the technology.
- ❖ The staff of the Peoria Civic Center.
- ❖ The Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Announcements:

NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White gave the following announcements:

- \$15,589,555.96 or 22% of Imagine No Malaria funds to date have been given by the NCJ. Yesterday's offering honoring the retiring bishops has added \$4,307.54 to that amount. Thank You for your wonderful generosity.
- Please leave your voting pads on your table.
- Bishops and persons involved in the Consecration Service will have a rehearsal at 8:00 p.m. at the Peoria First UMC.
- Bus Service to Peoria First UMC will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday Morning.

- The Service of Consecration will be held at Peoria First UMC at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning with Bishop Michael J. Coyner preaching.
- A reception for the new bishops and the College of Bishops will be held at the Peoria First UMC following the Service of Consecration.

Thanks were given to NCJ Secretary, Rev. Paul R. White, and Assistant Secretary, Bob Myers, with a standing ovation.

Recess:

The Friday afternoon session was brought to close with prayer offered by Bishop Woodie White and singing “We Are One The Spirit.”

**Saturday, July 16
10:00 a.m.**

The Service for Consecration of Bishops was held at First United Methodist Church in Peoria, Illinois at 10:00 a.m. with Bishop Michael Coyner preaching. The service was coordinated by Bishop Linda Lee with Bishop Anne Shearer-Simpson present representing the Council of Bishops.

At the close of the Service for Consecration of Bishops Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy, announced the following assignments of bishops to Episcopal Areas for the 2016-2020 quadrennium:

Dakotas/Minnesota Area – Bishop Bruce Ough
 East Ohio Area – Bishop Tracy Smith Malone
 Illinois Great Rivers Area – Bishop Frank Beard
 Indiana Area – Bishop Julius Trimble
 Iowa Area – Bishop Laurie Haller
 Michigan Area – Bishop David Bard
 Northern Illinois Area – Bishop Sally Dyck
 West Ohio Area – Bishop Gregory Palmer
 Wisconsin Area – Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

Voting Delegates of the jurisdictional conference ratified the recommendation of the Committee on Episcopacy by saying “Halleluia!” and thus the assignments became official.

The 2016 NCJ Conference was adjourned with the singing of “Here I Am, Lord” and a benediction.

A reception for newly consecrated bishops was held in Family Life Center area of Peoria First United Methodist Church.

North Central Jurisdiction of The UMC Quadrennial Budgets

Acct # Description	Budget 2008-2012	Budget 2013-2016	Budget 2017-2020
INCOME			
40100 Apportionments	\$921,240.00	\$1,112,300.00	\$874,300.00
41100 Special Missions	\$0.00		
42100 Interest Income - Merrill Lynch	\$45,000.00		
42200 Interest Income - Credit Union	\$0.00		
49900 Miscellaneous Income	\$0.00		
TOTAL INCOME	\$966,240.00	\$1,112,300.00	\$874,300.00
EXPENSES			
51100 Jurisdictional Conference Expense	\$299,000.00	\$274,000.00	\$274,000.00
51300 Jurisdictional Conference Secretary	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00
51400 Jurisdictional Conference Treasurer	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
51500 Jurisdictional Court of Appeals	\$15,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
52100 Mission Council	\$49,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$60,000.00
52150 Fellowship of Mission Secretaries	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
52200 Committee on Episcopacy	\$42,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
52300 Archives & History	\$2,500.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
52400 Reuben Job Center	\$98,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$0.00
52500 Town & Country Network	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	*
52550 Urban Network	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	*
52600 Volunteers in Mission	\$32,000.00	\$25,000.00	*
53100 Korean Ministries	\$175,000.00	\$150,000.00	*
53300 Hispanic Ministry Center of the NCJ	\$46,000.00	\$45,000.00	*
53350 Hispanic Caucus	\$44,000.00	\$44,000.00	*
53400 Native American Ministry	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	*
53450 Native American IC NE Region	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	*
54100 Youth Ministry	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	*
54150 Asian American Fellowship	\$40,000.00	\$35,000.00	*
55100 Religion and Race	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	*
56100 Continuing Consultation - Exec. Committee	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	*
57100 Midwest Mission Distribution Center	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	*
58100 General Conf. Expense for Host A/C	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
58200 Jurisdictional Conf. Expense for Host A/C	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
59100 Transitional Assistance - MN/Dakotas	\$40,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$0.00
59900 Ethnic, Supportive & Emerging Ministries	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,153,000.00	\$1,117,300.00	\$1,124,300.00
TOTAL CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$186,760.00)		(\$250,000.00)

* Eligible for Block Grants

2016 NCJ Nomination Report

Jurisdictional Committees:

Court of Appeals – Nominated by the College of Bishops in accordance with provisions of The 2012 Book of Discipline, paragraph 2716.

Clergy:

Randy Cross – Dakotas
Beverly Wilkes-Null – Illinois Great Rivers (Chairperson)
Dee Stickley-Miner – West Ohio (Secretary)
Benton Heisler – West Michigan (Vice Chairperson)

Full-Time Local Pastor:

Edwin Vargas – Wisconsin

Laity:

Lonnie Chaffin – Northern Illinois
Tim Ottmar – Dakotas
John Rothlisberger – Iowa

Clergy Alternates:

Sandy Harlan – Indiana
Penny Eberhart – Minnesota
Chris Winkler – Northern Illinois
Donna Van Trees – East Ohio
Joy Barrett – Detroit

Full-Time Local Pastor Alternate:

Pam Krauzler – Northern Illinois

Laity Alternates:

Rick Churan – Wisconsin
One yet to be Named

Committee on Investigation – Nominated by the College of Bishops in accordance with provisions of The 2012 Book of Discipline, paragraph 2703.1.

Clergy:

Randy Robinson – Illinois Great Rivers
James Roberson – East Ohio
Arlene Christopherson – Northern Illinois (Chairperson)
Karen Dungan – Iowa
Melanie Carey – Detroit
Cindy Gregorson – Minnesota
Curnell Graham – West Ohio

Lay Observer:

Phil Moots – West Ohio
Patty LaGree – Iowa

Alternate Clergy:

David Byrum – Indiana
Bill Dobbs – Detroit
Cindy Reynolds – Indiana
Lanette Plambeck – Iowa
Dan Dick – Wisconsin

Alternate Lay Observer:

Nancy Oviatt – Dakotas

Committee on Episcopacy – One lay person and one clergy person from each Episcopal area nominated by annual conference delegation to jurisdictional conference in accordance with provisions of The 2012 Book of Discipline, paragraph 512.

Clergy:

Rebecca Trefz – Dakotas
Charles Boayue – Detroit
Gary George – East Ohio
Sara Isbell – Illinois Great Rivers (Chairperson)
Kim Reisman – Indiana
Katie Dawson – Iowa
Judith Zabel – Minnesota
Gregory Gross – Northern Illinois
Benton Heisler – West Michigan
Wade Giffin – West Ohio
Amanda Stein – Wisconsin

Laity:

Jodi Cataldo – Dakotas
Jacqueline Euper – Detroit
Jessica Vargo – East Ohio
Larry Weber – Illinois Great Rivers
Tyler Best – Indiana
Phil Carver – Iowa
Faye Christensen - Minnesota
Elisa Gatz – Northern Illinois
Nichea VerVeer Guy – West Michigan
Valarie Willis – West Ohio
Thomas Popp - Wisconsin

NCJ Treasurer – Nominated by the Committee on Nominations in consultation with the NCJ College of Bishops and Annual Conference Treasurers.

Rick Van Giesen – Illinois Great Rivers (until December 31, 2016)
Lonnie Chafin – Northern Illinois (effective Jan. 1, 2017)

NCJ Secretary – Nominated by the Committee on Nominations in consultation with the NCJ College of Bishops.

Paul White – East Ohio

NCJ Mission Council – One person elected by each annual conference within the jurisdiction, 7-10 members-at-large nominated by the jurisdictional Committee on Nominations at their discretion, 2 Directors of Connectional Ministries as selected by the NCJ Association of DCMs, 1 bishop selected by the College of Bishops, NCJ Treasurer, NCJ Conference Secretary, NCJ Coordinator of Communications as selected by the NCJ Mission Council Executive Committee.

Conference Elected:

Jodi Cataldo – Dakotas
Brad Bartlemay – Detroit & West Michigan
Steve Court – East Ohio
Rose Booker-Jones – Illinois Great Rivers
Allison Curts – Indiana
Nitza Dovenspike – Iowa
Matthew Sipe – Minnesota
Chris Winkler – Northern Illinois
Douglas Damron – West Ohio
Gail Burgess - Wisconsin

At-Large:

Laura Witkowski – West Michigan
Alex Plum – Detroit
Kristin Krogman – Dakotas
John Lawson – Wisconsin
Gifty Smith – Illinois Great Rivers
Ryan Russell – Iowa
Dominic Mejia – West Ohio
Lisa Schubert-Knowling – Indiana
Young Mee Park – Northern Illinois
Tyler Sit - Minnesota

Directors of Connectional Ministries (as selected by the NCJ Association of DCMs):

Benton Heisler – West Michigan
Jim Bushfield – Indiana (member of Exec. Committee)

College of Bishops Representative:
Bishop Julius Trimble

NCJ Treasurer:

Rick Van Giesen (until December 31, 2016)

Lonnie Chafin (effective January 1, 2017)

NCJ Conference Secretary:

Paul White

NCJ Coordinator of Communications:

To Be Selected by the NCJ Mission Council Executive Committee

General Church Boards and Agencies:

General Council on Finance and Administration – elected by General Conference.

Valarie Willis – West Ohio

Steve Court – East Ohio

The Connectional Table – 4 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Kennetha Bingham-Tsai – West Michigan

David Nuckols – Minnesota

Mike Slaughter – West Ohio

Kelley Gifford – East Ohio

General Board of Church and Society – 7 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Mao Her – Wisconsin

Margaret Borgen – Iowa

Paul Perez – Detroit

Carol Hill – Northern Illinois

Sylvester Weatherall – Illinois Great Rivers

Josh Steward – Iowa

Harris Tay – West Ohio

General Board of Discipleship – 1 member nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Ed Fenstermacher - Indiana

Division on Ministries with Young People – 1 young adult and 1 adult worker with young people nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Lindsey Seiberling – West Ohio

Tyler Best - Indiana

General Board of Global Ministries – 3 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Katie Dawson – Iowa
Dan Bryant – East Ohio
Dee Stickley-Miner – West Ohio

General Board of Higher Education – 1 member nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Rebecca Trefz - Dakotas

General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits – 3 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Don Emmert – Detroit
Jean Edin – Minnesota
Jan Griffith – Illinois Great Rivers

The United Methodist Publishing House – 3 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Linda Crowell – East Ohio (Class of 2020)
Lindsay Drake – Iowa (Class of 2024)
Jim Bushfield – Indiana (Class of 2028)

General Commission on Communications – 2 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Thomas Yang – Northern Illinois
Jihuyn Esther Paik - Wisconsin

General Commission on Religion and Race – 2 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Rose Booker-Jones – Illinois Great Rivers
Doris Clark - Indiana

General Commission on the Status and Role of Women – 1 member nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Russ Abel - Indiana

Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns – 2 members nominated by NCJ Committee on Nominations.

Matthew Laferty – East Ohio
Joon-Sik Park – West Ohio

NCJ Reports

Treasurer's Report

A look at the NCJ Audit (in this workbook) and our June 30, 2016 financial statement (handed out) will reveal that the NCJ has well over \$600,000 on-hand.

This is the only job I've ever held where I have to apologize for making money.

But, of course, the object of the NCJ Treasury is not to make money. The object is to facilitate mission. I would just want to remind the delegates that this money won't go away. At some point, it will be used to facilitate mission and, we hope, will be effective in helping to make Disciples for Jesus Christ.

The budgetary surplus is a result of three factors:

1. The extraordinary apportionment support from the NCJ Annual Conferences
2. Budget surplus from the last quadrennium that carried over to 2013-2017
3. A reduction in spending activity among several NCJ-supported ministries

In detail:

1. Apportionment receipts: Annual conferences have just been outstanding in their support of the NCJ Apportionments. At this writing, most are current in their apportionment payments. At the end of 2015, all the conferences were current except for one. We fully expect that at the end of this quadrennium, all conferences will have paid 100%, just like they did at the end of the last quadrennium.
2. Last quadrennium's budget surplus: A former NCJ treasurer informed me that there would be a run on unspent budget line items at the end of the 2012 quadrennium. For whatever reason, that didn't happen. I had predicted that we would have \$50,000 cash in-hand on January 1, 2013. Instead, it was closer to \$350,000. That factor alone explains most of the current surplus. So the question becomes, "Will we see the ministry groups crank up at the end of 2016?" Since the financial year doesn't end until December 31, 2016, it remains to be seen.
3. Reduction in spending activity: I will not try to analyze why, but it seems like interest is waning in Jurisdictional ministries. There was a time when we could count on folks traveling long distances, meeting for days, and taking an interest in multi-state ministry efforts. This does not seem to be that time. At this writing, there were some groups that didn't get off the ground in this quadrennium. Others had less activity than anticipated at budget-setting time. Some were just downright thrifty – and the treasurer appreciates that. Once again, however, the question becomes, "What happens between now and December 31, 2016?"

Here are some things to celebrate:

1. The financial policies which were put in place by the 2012 NCJ Conference have been wholly successful, I believe. We have come a long way in IRS compliance and in sound financial accountability.

2. I was astonished to discover that the NCJ had no insurance. I think we had assumed that GCFA provided some insurance protection. That is not the case. So I hope it is comforting to the delegates to know that you are now insured. The insurance is not very expensive, but it would be crazy not to have it.
3. The NCJ books are being audited annually now as required by the Book of Discipline. The audit complies with GAAP standards and a copy of the 2015 audit is included in this workbook. The audit found no deficiencies.

I hope you will remember that in 2012, the Mission Council agreed to underwrite the expenses of an ad-hoc task force which was created to examine jurisdictional structures. This, and two other unbudgeted expenses (insurance and audit) will probably take the Mission Council over budget, especially when the expenses of the fall 2016 organizational meeting are realized.

I will be laying down the mantle of the NCJ Treasurer on December 31, 2016. I am especially grateful for your patience with me and for many new friendships. There are wonderful people all throughout the Jurisdiction whom I would have never met had it not been for this opportunity. Thank you very much for these last eight years.

SUPPORT FOR THE NEW BUDGET APPROACH

As the outgoing treasurer, I want to encourage your support for the new approach to funding jurisdictional ministries, as reflected in the proposed budget.

I think that when various jurisdictional ministries began, they were bold, fresh, innovative and probably lacking support from annual conference budgets. So, when support emerged from the NCJ, it provided an opportunity for wonderful and helpful ministries to get off the ground floor. I'm not sure that it was ever the intent of the jurisdiction to provide perpetual financial support to various ministries for past decades and decades to come.

Further, we find that our connections to some of the ministries under the jurisdictional umbrella have lost their vitality. The Mission Council set up a "liaison" system which has had limited success. No one is to blame. I think everyone has tried to do their best, but communications have been difficult. We have lost touch with each other. Even the Mission Council meetings themselves are poorly attended.

Everybody I have met within the jurisdictional connection are warm, loving, mission-driven and responsible people. But, by nature, our systems lack the kind of accountability we would expect to find at the local church or conference level. Donors want to know – beyond a shadow of a doubt – that their contributions are making a difference.

The budgetary paradigm proposed by the Mission Council is an effort to return to a time when the Jurisdiction provided start-up funds for exciting and innovative emerging ministries that have a jurisdiction-wide impact. It also envisions continuing support for projects proposed by the current established ministries.

Funds would be distributed on the basis of grant applications, carefully considered by the elected members of your Mission Council. So, a project would have an application, a beginning, an end, and an evaluation.

A key part of the proposal is to involve the Directors of Connectional Ministries (DCMs) in each conference in an advisory role. This will give them the ability to integrate jurisdictional funding into the overall financial support of a proposed project. Wouldn't you want your program people involved in the program planning of the Jurisdiction?

In my eight years as NCJ Treasurer, I have spoken with DCMs, conference treasurers and even Bishops who had no idea that a jurisdictional ministry was operating within the bounds of their conference. Introducing widespread buy-in to a particular project will encourage better communication, we hope.

Further, established ministries need not be threatened by this new paradigm. Perhaps this is simplistic, but I have said that "The NCJ distributes funds to various ministries and they figure out how to spend it." In the new paradigm, they will figure out how to spend it, and then receive the funds.

As with anything new, it will take some time to work out the kinks and become comfortable with a new way of doing things. I hope you will keep your new treasurer and your new Mission Council in your prayers and please be as patient with them as you have been with me.

Respectfully,

Rick Van Giesen, NJC Treasurer

NCJ Budgeted Financial Statement
Fiscal Years Beginning 1/1/2013

Acct # Description	Budget 2013-2016	2013	2014	2015	2016 (through 6/30)	TOTAL	Var. Actual to Annual Budget %
INCOME							
40100 Apportionments	\$1,117,300.00	\$333,075.00	\$268,075.00	\$268,075.00	\$124,038.00	\$993,263.00	88.90
42200 Interest Income	\$0.00	\$1,724.43	\$2,330.91	\$1,850.64	\$517.67	\$6,423.65	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,117,300.00	\$334,799.43	\$270,405.91	\$269,925.64	\$124,555.67	\$999,686.65	89.47
EXPENSES							
51100 Jurisdictional Conference Expense	\$274,000.00	(\$312.02)	\$1,035.38	\$3,970.96	\$20,942.63	\$25,636.95	9.36
51150 Jurisdictional Conference Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$346.60	\$346.60	
51200 Jurisdictional Conference Journal	\$0.00	\$3,497.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$699.78	\$4,196.86	
51300 Jurisdictional Conference Secretary	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$814.00	\$1,144.80	\$1,958.80	15.67
51400 Jurisdictional Conference Treasurer	\$12,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$10,500.00	87.50
51500 Jurisdictional Court of Appeals	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$300.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.50	6.01
52100 Mission Council	\$40,000.00	\$7,125.75	\$9,048.78	\$15,359.71	\$1,894.80	\$33,429.04	83.57
52200 Committee on Episcopacy	\$60,000.00	\$1,419.96	\$13,478.64	\$17,782.30	\$10,897.03	\$43,577.93	72.63
52300 Archives & History	\$800.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	75.00
52400 Ruben Job Center	\$90,000.00	\$10,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,250.00	11.39
52500 Town & Country Network	\$12,000.00	\$776.40	\$2,940.08	\$0.00	\$2,556.70	\$6,273.18	52.28
52550 Urban Network	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$767.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$767.98	6.40
52600 Volunteers in Mission	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,500.00	\$6,250.00	\$0.00	\$18,750.00	75.00
53100 Korean Ministries	\$150,000.00	\$17,196.15	\$25,650.77	\$51,130.54	\$33,470.82	\$127,448.28	84.97
53200 Asian American Caucus	\$35,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
53300 Hispanic Ministry Center of the NCJ	\$45,000.00	\$10,125.00	\$10,125.00	\$13,500.00	\$11,250.00	\$45,000.00	100.00
53350 Hispanic Caucus	\$44,000.00	\$9,900.00	\$9,900.00	\$13,200.00	\$11,000.00	\$44,000.00	100.00
53400 Native American Ministry	\$35,000.00	(\$20,080.43)	\$10,054.77	\$15,483.04	\$3,063.05	\$8,520.43	24.34
53450 Native American IC NE Region	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
54100 Youth Ministry	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,392.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,392.13	22.61
55100 Religion and Race	\$20,000.00	\$1,511.34	(\$3,578.00)	\$3,928.42	\$778.43	\$2,640.19	13.20
56100 Continuing Consultation	\$70,000.00	\$14,435.50	\$11,519.38	\$10,010.25	\$0.00	\$35,965.13	51.38
57100 Midwest Mission Distribution Center	\$5,000.00	\$1,125.00	\$1,125.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$5,000.00	100.00
59100 Transitional Assistance - MN/Dakotas	\$125,000.00	\$76,500.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,500.00	\$125,000.00	100.00
59700 I-75 Project	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	0.00
59800 NCJ Developers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,087.52	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,087.52	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,117,300.00	\$136,669.73	\$131,547.93	\$207,129.22	\$131,294.64	\$606,641.52	54.30
TOTAL CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$0.00	\$198,129.70	\$138,857.98	\$62,796.42	(\$6,738.97)	\$393,045.13	0.00
005 North Central Jurisdiction of the UMC							
Balance Sheet Thru June							
Name	Current Year						
ASSETS							
CASH							
Operating - West OH Credit Union	\$730,388.30						
Savings - West OH Credit Union	\$68.10						
TOTAL CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$730,456.40						
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE							
Accounts Receivable	\$18,513.38						
TOTAL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	\$18,513.38						
TOTAL ASSETS	\$748,969.78						
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS							
NET ASSETS - UNRESTRICTED							
Net Assets - Unrestricted	\$755,708.75						
Net Assets - Unrestricted - Current Year	(\$6,738.97)						
Net Assets - Unrestricted-Total	\$748,969.78						
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$748,969.78						
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$748,969.78						

THE NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

December 31, 2015 and 2014



ECK, SCHAFER & PUNKE, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

227 South Seventh Street Springfield, Illinois 62701
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Independent Auditors' Report

To the Mission Council of The North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and to the College of Bishops of The North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church

The North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church Springfield, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The North Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church (the Jurisdiction), a nonprofit organization, which are comprised of the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The North Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Eck, Schafer & Pankle, LLP

Springfield, Illinois April 27, 2016

The North Central Jurisdictional Conference
of The United Methodist Church

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

Years Ended December 31

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
REVENUES		
Apportionments	\$ 268,075	\$ 268,075
Special Missions	55,912	41,724
Tuition	6,400	1,755
Investment Income	1,851	2,331
Other Income	<u>-</u>	<u>22</u>
Total Revenues	332,238	313,907
EXPENSES		
Jurisdictional Conference	7,785	4,336
Mission Council	15,360	9,071
Committee on Episcopacy	17,782	13,478
Archives and History	200	200
I-75 Project	50,000	-
Urban Network	-	768
Volunteers in Mission	6,250	12,500
Town and Country Network	-	6,140
Korean Ministries	105,023	60,305
Hispanic Ministries	26,700	20,025
Native American Ministries	21,969	15,116
Youth Ministries	-	3,392
Religion and Race	5,949	292
Midwest Mission Distribution Center	1,500	1,125
NCS Developers	1,000	2,087
Transitional Assistance	-	18,000
Miscellaneous	<u>10,010</u>	<u>11,519</u>
Total Expenses	<u>269,528</u>	<u>178,354</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSESTS	62,710	135,553
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>689,607</u>	<u>554,054</u>
NET ASSESTS AT END OF YEAR	<u>752,317</u>	<u>689,607</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

The North Central Jurisdictional Conference
of The United Methodist Church

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 742,149	\$ 684,394
Accounts receivable	<u>13,560</u>	<u>8 519</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ <u>755,709</u>	\$ <u>692,913</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,392	\$ 3,306
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	<u>52,317</u>	<u>689,607</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ <u>755,709</u>	\$ <u>692,913</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

The North Central Jurisdictional Conference
of The United Methodist Church

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2015 and 2014

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows.

1. Nature of Activities

The North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church (the Jurisdiction), a not-for-profit organization, operates as a religious organization. The Jurisdiction is one of five Jurisdictional Conferences in the United States. The Jurisdiction is supported primarily through the apportionments of the eleven United Methodist Church conferences in the jurisdiction. It was created to provide connections for the unique leadership, spiritual and outreach development across the jurisdiction, and to provide for election and assignment of bishops in the jurisdiction.

2. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Jurisdiction have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

3. Financial Statement Presentation

Under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the Jurisdiction is required to report information regarding financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets. The Jurisdiction has no temporarily or permanently restricted net assets at December 31, 2015 and 2014.

4. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Jurisdiction considers all highly-liquid debt instruments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash and cash equivalents.

5. Contributions

Contributions received are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted or permanently restricted support depending on the existence and nature of any donor restrictions. As permitted, contributions with restrictions that are met in the same reporting period are reported as unrestricted support.

The North Central Jurisdictional Conference
of The United Methodist Church

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2015 and 2014

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT POLICIES - CONTINUED

6. Income Taxes

In an annually updated ruling, the Internal Revenue Service has held that the agencies, instrumentalities and educational, charitable, and religious institutions operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with The United Methodists Church, its territories or possessions appearing in the annual update are exempt from federal income tax under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Jurisdiction is listed in annual update and therefore is exempt from income tax. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements reflect no provision for income tax and the Fund does not file a Federal Form 990 or the state equivalent.

Management evaluated the Jurisdiction's tax positions in accordance with the accounting standard on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes and concluded that the Jurisdiction had no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment to the financial statements to comply with the provisions of the accounting standards. In addition, management is not aware of any matters which would cause the Jurisdiction to lose its tax-exempt status. ·

7. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

8. Subsequent Events

The Jurisdiction assessed events that have occurred subsequent to December 31, 2015 through April 27, 2016, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, for potential recognition and disclosure in the financial statements. No events have occurred that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.

NOTE B - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Jurisdiction is affiliated with the eleven conferences in its area. The Jurisdiction's fiscal viability depends on these eleven conferences.

ECK, SCHAFER & PUNKE, LLP
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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To the Mission Council of The North Central Jurisdiction
of The United Methodist Church
and
to the College of Bishops of The North Central Jurisdiction
of The United Methodist Church
The North Central Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church
Springfield, Illinois

We have audited the financial statements of The North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church (the Jurisdiction) for the year ended December 31, 2015, and have issued our report thereon dated April 27, 2016. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America

As stated in our engagement letter dated November 20, 2015, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested.

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the Jurisdiction and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Material misstatements may result from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Jurisdiction. We will communicate our significant findings at the conclusion of the audit.

Required Communication (SAS 114)

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Jurisdiction are described in Note A to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2015. We noted no transactions entered into by the Jurisdiction during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. There were no particularly sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures may be particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no particularly sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Required Communication (SAS 114)

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated April 27, 2016.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Jurisdiction's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Councils and management of The North Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Eck, Schafer & Panko, LLP

Springfield, Illinois April 27, 2016

Required Communication (SAS 114)

Mission Council Financial Policies

1. APPORTIONMENTS

- a. Apportionment figures for the entire quadrennium will be sent to each annual conference after the NCJ session.
- b. The percentage of apportionment share will be determined on the same basis as GCFA's General Conference apportionment calculation for the most recent year those figures are available.
- c. That percentage will not be changed until the apportionments for the next quadrennium are calculated.
- d. Apportionment statements will be sent out to each conference at the beginning of each quarter year.
- e. If annual conferences merge during the quadrennium, the apportionment to the new conference will be the total of the previous conferences until the end of that quadrennium.
- f. Annual conferences will be urged to submit their last apportionment payment for the quadrennium by December 31st to close out the quadrennium.

2. ACCOUNTS

- a. The NCJ shall maintain a checking account at a banking institution approved by the Mission Council.
- b. A savings account may also be established if required by the financial institution or directed by the Mission Council.
- c. The Treasurer and the Chairperson of the Mission Council shall be signers on all NCJ financial accounts.
- d. Only one signature is required for all NCJ transactions.

3. INVESTMENTS

- a. Investments of NCJ Funds shall be recommended by the Treasurer and approved by the Mission Council.
- b. The Treasurer and Chairperson of the Mission Council shall be signers on all investment accounts.

4. DIRECT SUPPORT OF MISSION AGENCIES – TWO PATHWAYS

1. Block (Lump Sum) Annual Funding
 - a. Organization/Agency shall provide the NCJ Treasurer with a copy of its 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS.
 - b. Organization/Agency shall provide the NCJ Treasurer with a copy of its articles of incorporation and registration with the appropriate governmental entities in the state where its main offices are located.
 - c. Funds must be requested annually.
 - d. A detailed financial report from the previous year must be presented to the NCJ Treasurer (An audit is preferable).

e. Local churches, uncharted churches and mission churches are exempt from a & b above, however, approved funding will be sent to the appropriate annual conference treasurer for distribution monthly.

2. Periodic and Reimbursement Funding

a. Organizations and agencies which do not have their own 501(c)(3) designation and are not separately incorporated must utilize NCJ Treasurer as their sole treasurer.

b. Existing balances in current bank accounts as of December 31, 2012 must be surrendered to the NCJ Treasury and evidence provided that those bank accounts are closed.

c. Organizations and agencies shall utilize a payout voucher system (provided by the NCJ Treasurer) for program expenses and reimbursements.

d. The annual audit of these organizations and agencies shall be conducted as a part of the NCJ audit.

e. The NCJ Treasurer will issue quarterly reports to the director and chair of the agency or organization and those whom the organization or agency designates.

5. MEETING EXPENSE POLICIES

a. The Mission Council may, at its discretion, reimburse meeting expenses for all NCJ entities on an actual expense or per diem basis.

b. The Mission Council shall set a NCJ meeting mileage reimbursement rate from time to time in consideration of the current economic environment.

c. The Mission Council may require the use of a specific travel agency for all flights to meetings. Flights arranged otherwise may not be reimbursed.

d. The NCJ does not pay for baggage fees to meetings that last less than 5 days. Members may request an exception if they have a handicapping condition which prevents them from handling carry-on luggage.

e. The NCJ does not pay for other airport/airline fees which are considered as convenience items or add-ons.

f. Unless special circumstances warrant, members who live less than 500 miles from the site of a meeting are expected to drive to the event. Carpooling is strongly encouraged.

g. Where appropriate, sharing hotel rooms is strongly encouraged and results in the most savings of NCJ meeting expenses. Members preferring single rooms will be charged 50% of the room cost, unless extraordinary circumstances warrant the necessity of a single room. The single room cost charge may be deducted from reimbursed expenses.

h. The NCJ encourages the use of hotel shuttles or van services for ground transportation. Taxis should only be used as a last resort.

i. Receipts are required for any and all reimbursements.

6. CREDIT CARD

a. A credit card in the name of the North Central Jurisdiction may be issued to the Treasurer to facilitate hotel deposits and other expenses.

b. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all credit card expenditures with associated receipts for presentation to the auditors.

7. CASH ADVANCES

- a. Cash advances for meeting expenses, honorariums or any other purpose are not permitted without specific authorization from the Executive Committee of the Mission Council.
- b. All receipts associated with any cash advance must be presented to the treasurer along with any unspent funds.
- c. Expenditures which are not properly documented must be reimbursed by the individual to the NCJ Treasury.

8. BUDGET

- a. The Treasurer is not permitted to effect any payout or reimbursement which would result in an overage of the associated budget line item.
- b. The Mission Council, through its executive committee, retains the authority of a finance committee and may shift budget line item amounts in-between sessions of the Jurisdictional conference, with full notification of and in consultation with the parties involved.
- c. In anticipation of future apportionment payment shortfalls, the Treasurer may not exceed 90% of total payouts of any line item in a single year (prorated for each year of the quadrennium, which equals a 2.5% reduction each year).
- d. At the end of the quadrennium, the Treasurer may remit budget requests up to (but not exceeding) the percentage of apportionments received for the quadrennium.

9. CARRY-OVER

- a. No unexpended line-item budget amounts from apportionments will carry over to the next quadrennium.
- b. All unexpended apportionments funds will be retained as cash reserves.
- c. No entity may make any claims on apportionment funds from the previous quadrennium.
- d. Apportionment funds cannot be recharacterized as project accounts.
- e. Any project accounts that are permitted to carry-over to the next quadrennium must have been specifically designated for a project which is not yet complete.
- f. The order of unrestricted funds expended will be
 - 1) Project Account Funds and then
 - 2) Apportionment Funds.

10. RESERVE

- a. The Treasurer shall maintain a cash reserve of at least \$50,000 at all times.

11. HONORARIUMS

- a. The Treasurer shall receive an honorarium of \$250 per month, or an amount as so designated by the Mission Council.
- b. The Mission Council may approve, upon its discretion and within established budgets, honorariums for other persons who serve the NCJ.

c. All honorariums and stipends paid to persons (agency directors, board chairs, resource persons, experts, etc.) under the jurisdiction and direct supervision of the NCJ shall require approval from the Mission Council or its Executive Committee.

12. AUDIT

- a. In compliance with ¶520 (The 2012 Book of Discipline), a yearly audit of the NCJ Treasury shall be performed.
- b. The audit will be performed according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) by an auditing firm licensed to do so.
- c. The Mission Council shall underwrite the cost of the audit from the Mission Council expenses line item.
- d. The results of the audit shall be reported to the Mission Council and the College of Bishops.

(These Mission Council Financial Policies were approved September 22, 2012.)

Report of Committee on Episcopacy **2013-2016**

Five meetings were held by the North Central Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy in the 2013-2016 Quadrennium. We worked to carry out our responsibilities as charged in Paragraph 524, The 2012 Book of Discipline.

The Committee consisted of twenty-two members. The first meeting was the organizational meeting in which members were able to gain knowledge of one another. The tone was set which enabled members to be positioned for working together in conducting all assigned responsibilities.

In the organizational meeting in January 2013, members chose the executive committee, Maggie Jackson, chair; Irma Clark, vice-chair; Joy Barrett, secretary; and additional three members, David Bard, Lilian Gallo Seagren, and Ed Fenstermacher. The Standing Committees were as follows: Relationship with Area Committees on Episcopacy (Gary George, Ed Fenstermacher, Mary jo Dahlberg, Jackie Euper), Assessment Process for Areas and Bishops (Janelle Jones, Sara Isbell, James Preston, Laurie Haller, David Bard, Lilian Gallo Seagren), Elections (Rhonda Whitaker, Bruce Boyd, Frank Beard, Diane Odeen, Rebecca Trefz, Mike Slaughter), and Retirement Recognition (Amanda Stein, Norma Morrison, Laurie Dahlman, Irma Clark). In addition to committee assignments, group assignments were made to consultation teams (which met with active bishops) as well as assignments keeping track of retired bishops/spouses.

Recommendation I Character of Bishops

The Committee on Episcopacy, having had personal conferences with active bishops of the jurisdiction recommends that the character of Bishops Sally Dyck, Bruce Ough, Hee-Soo Jung, Julius C. Trimble, and Gregory V. Palmer be passed and they be continued in the effective relationship.

The Committee on Episcopacy also recommends that the character of retired Bishops Judith Craig, , Emerson S. Colaw, Sharon Brown Christopher, Charles W. Jordon, Linda Lee, William B. Lewis, Donald A. Ott, Sharon Z. Rader, C. Joseph Sprague, and Woodie W. White, be passed, and they be continued in the retired relationship.

Recommendation 2

The Committee on Episcopacy recommends that Bishops John Hopkins, Deborah L. Kiesey, Michael J. Coyner, and Jonathon D. Keaton, having met the requirements as listed in paragraph 409 of The 2012 Book of Discipline, and their character having been passed, be released effective August 31, 2016, from their obligation to travel through the connection at large, from residential and presidential supervision and to be placed in the retired relation and that they receive all rights, privileges, and support as provided in The Book of Discipline.

On behalf of the North Central Jurisdiction, the Committee on Episcopacy wishes to express sincere appreciation to Bishops Kiesey, Hopkins, Coyner, and Keaton for their dedication and service they rendered to the church of Jesus Christ through their ministries.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the North Central Jurisdictional Conference proceed to elect four bishops at the 2016 session.

Other business of the committee:

Received written reports from the nine active NCJ Bishops reflecting on their quadrennial ministry and provided input into not losing an Episcopal area due to a decrease in membership of the North Central Jurisdiction.

The Committee worked hard to be responsible to its tasks of being concerned for both our Bishops and the Episcopal areas and to do this in the most collegial and confidential way. We thank our Bishops and Areas Committees for the cooperation we have received over the course of our work this quadrennium.

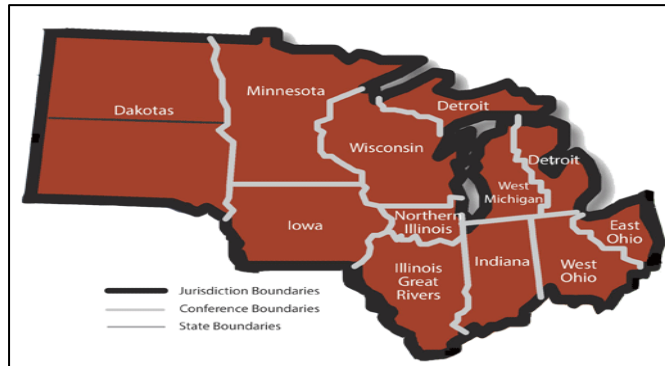
We want to thank each of our members for their loyalty to the process. They were tireless in their efforts to enable the committee to have success. And we extend a special word of gratitude to Sara Isbell for her leadership in monthly times of focused prayer for our bishops, both active and retired.

Dr. Maggie Jackson, Chair

Final Report for Special Apportionment

Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area

First of all, thank you on behalf of the Dakotas Conference, the Minnesota Conference, and the newly created Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area. Without the support from our brothers and sisters from Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, and Michigan, it would have been very difficult to overcome the challenges we faced with having a bishop serve two conferences over such a large area.



CHALLENGE

The creation of the new Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area faced many challenges. Many of the challenges of this episcopal area merger were not unique as our conferences were going to have to learn how to share a bishop. One of the challenges that is unique in our jurisdiction was creating such a geographically large episcopal area. In terms of land area, the new episcopal area is almost four times the size of the next largest episcopal area. The population centers, the conference leadership, and the strategic priorities are all fairly evenly distributed across this region.

One of the opportunities identified to overcome the geographic challenges was to extend the Dakotas Conference's video conferencing system to cover the whole area. This would not be a cheap solution and that is why the Dakotas and Minnesota Conferences requested a Special Apportionment to help with the effort.

SCOPE OF WORK

Prior to seeking help from the jurisdiction the Dakotas Conference had a bridge (the piece of equipment used to connect the different locations) that could allow for six meeting locations to join. The Dakotas Conference had six meeting locations setup already and was able to add the Minnesota Conference Center as another meeting location. The Dakotas Conference was able to upgrade the bridge for \$107,333 with funds raised from private donations as well as the conference's apportioned budget. The new bridge would allow for up to twenty meeting locations with the ability to simultaneously hold separate meetings. The new bridge also allowed for users to connect to meetings through a laptop or desktop with the appropriate software and a good internet connection. The system is the best thing to meeting face to face and has proven to be very reliable even with users with no video conferencing experience.

Where the Dakotas and Minnesota Conference needed assistance was in increasing the number of meeting locations. Below are the current meeting locations.



Over the last three years, a considerable amount of time and energy has been spent in making this expansion happen. Each potential meeting location was evaluated to determine the best possible use of the resources. Five sites were added in the Minnesota Conference and six sites in the Dakotas Conference. Here is a very brief cost breakdown of the major expenses:

- Equipment: \$68,527 (not including installation costs)
- Service Agreements: \$117,553 (licensing, customer service, equipment replacement, etc)

REALIZED BENEFITS

Omnipresent Bishop: While the Minnesota Conference has been slowly adopting video conferencing, the bishop has come to rely on video conferencing. Scheduling meetings, especially around the bishop's busy schedule, has been simplified as the physical location of the meeting participant does not prohibit them from being able to join and fully participate. Just in February 2016, the Bishop was able to personally invite six different churches gathered in five different locations to participate in the Dakotas Conference's revitalization program. Earlier that month, the bishop was able to physically attend a meeting in Minneapolis at 10:00 a.m. and still participate in a meeting in Mitchell, South Dakota scheduled for 11:00 a.m. The presence and leadership of the bishop is important in being able to make progress in our mission. *(side note: I'm sure the bishop enjoys spending less time on the road, especially in the winter months.)*

Inter-Conference Cooperation: The leadership of the Dakotas and Minnesota Conferences have had much more opportunity to meet through video conference. Currently the conferences are working on aligning their structures to make it less complicated for the bishop to lead. The conferences are also working on a joint grant proposal to address clergy debt. The conferences are starting to share staff in the area of camping and congregational development. Without the video conference system expansion, this level of cooperation would not have happened. As a bonus, the video conference system has been able to help other conferences in our jurisdiction.

NCJ Korean Missions Report

The NCJ Korean Missions seeks to support, guide and resource Korean immigrant families and churches. In 2015 we were able to see God at work in many ways. While there are trials, there is great victory because of Christ's love and grace.

We have seen the development of new congregations this quadrennium at Madison KUMC in Madison, Wisconsin, and a church plant on the campus of Purdue University in Indiana. While in the early stages, the pastor and few congregants are passionate to spread the gospel and reach out to their fellow brothers and sisters.

NCJ also supports missional churches. This past year, they were the New Life Church in Findlay, Ohio; Grace Church in Minnesota; and Iowa City Korean UMC. New Life had been on the verge of closing, yet with renewed purpose and hope, is slowly seeing an increase. With a new Korean company opening nearby and a partnership with St. Andrews UMC, where they now worship, they are hopeful. Grace Church is primarily a campus ministry with 80 percent of the members being students. Grace endeavors to reach out to these students in an effort to become a home away from home through worship, bible studies and meals, while sharing the gospel message. Iowa City KUMC is also primarily a campus ministry that has set new goals and vision for the next three years to become a vital ministry through bible studies, worship and breaking bread together.

Most exciting is what is taking place through the NCJ Korean Missions in supporting next generation ministries. Jesus Love Church in Glenbrook has been revitalized in the support of their youth and children's ministry. In Ohio, the support of having their first Youth and Summer Retreat Camp has allowed youth to become passionate for God. In Jesus Love Korean UMC in Urbana, Illinois, the attendance has tripled with the children's ministry growing, having their first Vacation Bible School and being able to develop the "Jesus Loves Me" mommy and me program.

Through these avenues, they have grown steadily, strengthened financially, and are becoming missional themselves through prayer and giving. They were able to have their first missions' trip to Mongolia. Madison KUMC has experienced this as well. Recognizing how they have been supported by NCJ Korean Missions, they are actively giving back through their fund raising efforts to support those who are struggling. They have begun a "mommy and me" baby ministry for graduate students, held a winter VBS, and through fundraising efforts, gave back to the community. They have sent \$652 to the "Nepal Earthquake relief fund" and \$843 to UMCOR just in 2015.

We continue to develop pastoral leadership, which was held in July, October and November. This is a time of renewal, encouragement, sharing, support, visioning and resourcing. The feedback has consistently been that it is encouraging and necessary. The NCJ Korean Missions has been intentional about strengthening next generation ministry leaders and programs. We have been supporting Chicago's Journey Church, which is new and fresh, yet struggling and slowly trying to rebuild with their new pastor.

In all this, God is alive and active. It is exciting to see how God is building up new leaders and revitalizing churches.

Reported from Hoon K. Lee

North Central Jurisdiction Town and Country Association of The UMC

The North Central Jurisdiction Town & Country Association is an organization of lay and clergy, for the purpose of building supportive rural and town and country networks among the NCJ conferences. We provide a connectional system that seeks to improve town and rural ministries, build links with the General Board of Global Ministries, and provide training that focuses on the needs of people and churches in the town and rural areas, for the benefit of moving toward vitality and mission for Christ.

We are designed to have a representative from each conference who is passionate for rural or town and country churches, along with the GBGM Director of Partnerships, NCJ Council Representative, Town and Rural Resource Program (TARRP) of East and West Ohio Conferences, NCJ – Urban Network President, and the Rural Chair of the Rural-Urban Network Advisory Board of the GBGM, and the NCJ Representative to the National UMRA. Together we link persons between annual conferences, the jurisdiction, UMRA advocacy group, and the GBGM. Our support comes from the NCJ Mission Council and three conferences. Most conferences no longer have a Town & Country structure from which funding is received.

In January 2013, we partnered with the GBGM and the other U.S. jurisdictions to create a national training event called “*Shift Happens*,” held in Houston, Texas. NCJ had the highest attendance because we were the only jurisdiction with a networking structure for rural and urban leaders. Participants from across the nation learned, were inspired, and trained in both large and small workshop settings. The NCJ T&C and the Urban Network met with their jurisdictional attendees to share what was going well in their various areas of ministry. Through our connectional resources, we were able to offer a high quality national leadership event and network with people who share a common context and similar challenges.

Because of less travel resources in small rural and urban churches, we are beginning a shift in going out to the conferences to train. Two board members recently trained in the SE District of Wisconsin, with GBGM support. TARRP trainings could also be duplicated in other settings. This may be one of the avenues we use in the future - districts and conferences requesting help in moving rural and town & country churches towards vitality via learning their context, asset-based ministry planning, connectional partnerships, along with mentoring and coaching.

The future lends itself to creating and producing curriculums for rural context. We will look for opportunities to partner with annual conferences, the NCJ Mission Council, the GBGM, TARRP, and the UMRA to create a library of video classes, articles, and webinars as finances are available. We thank the NCJ Mission Councils who have supported our work since 1979.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Debra Ketcham,
President of the NCJ Town & Country Association

NCJ Urban Network

The core of what we do as urban practitioners is network as an incarnational presence. The NCJ urban network has been actively engaging the changing context and gifts of post-Christendom. Efforts to get feedback from cabinets about what support we could provide has revealed some of these changes. The following includes some of the new reality, and is not meant to be exhaustive.

Many annual conferences are tailoring the formation and training experiences of clergy more closely. Cabinets seem to prefer to have urban practitioners mentor and network more closely within their own context which matches the urban network preference for contextual asset-based missional ministry. If it could be useful, the NCJ urban network has developed resources for an urban ministry 101 toolkit for those starting urban ministry assignments. Members of the executive committee of the steering committee have met regularly via conference call and tried to stay apprised of opportunities for networking or even consultation. Several have served as trainers in their own set of local networks.

One of the disconnects and gifts of post-Christendom is the desire for our churches to grow – but many of our ministries are stuck in an attractional model that has distracted churches from making face to face transformational relationships in the city that could become ministry, new faith, partnerships, and advocacy. Many new people are choosing urban ministries for more than hospitality – they are choosing to be a part of some distinctive ministry that conveys core value messages of Christianity. In short, prophetic is attractional.

Generationally, more millennials are seeking smaller and more monastic experiences. Some seminaries like Duke or Perkins or Christian Theological in Indianapolis, are developing urban ministry experiences for cohorts of 6-8 students. Some conferences are looking at models beyond the UMC that feature smaller and more missional communities that may never have all the trappings of a local church. Urban ministry is becoming more nimble, intentional and focused. These models may need translating, but exhibit, perhaps, a deeply Wesleyan focus on more accountable community.

Many of our urban ministries can no longer afford a full-time clergy person. Efforts at expanding the reach of a local ministry must utilize the gifts of laity and be based on assets in a place for ministry. An asset-based ministry training was conducted in Milwaukee in 2012, featuring Dr. Phil Amerson of GETS, Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, Rev. Dan Dick, and a panel of diverse urban ministry practitioners. Over 50 attended from the jurisdiction with a special cohort of people who came from circuits or groups in their own small cities. The urban network would encourage stronger networking with informal and more formal connectional training efforts.

Broadway UMC <https://www.faithandleadership.com/death-and-resurrection-urban-church>, or Barnes UMC <http://www.indianapolismonthly.com/news-opinion/rev-charles-harrison-crime-fighting-coalition-is-in-the-line-of-fire/> and First UMC Waukesha <http://fumcwaukesha.org/community-partners/> are examples of asset-based ministry development.

Between the losses and gifts of post-Christendom, the smaller and focused ministry we see emerging, and the asset-based development happening more and more, it seems as if a smaller

more missional ecclesiology is emerging in the city that is content to give itself to face to face transformation on the ground. We praise God, the source of new life.

If you have questions, connect with the authors of this report:
The Revs. Dan Schwerin, Brian Williams, Gail Alexander, Laura Young, and Jessi Langlie. Thank you.

Center for Hispanic Ministries Report

It is a privilege for us to be in ministry thanks to the support of the North Central Jurisdiction during this quadrennium. Your support has enabled the Center for Hispanic Ministries of the North Central Jurisdiction to work in partnership with Hispanic local churches and several annual conferences. Together we have been able to further the ministry of the United Methodist Church among Hispanics in the jurisdiction.

During the last four years we have been able to work with Hispanics from Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Iowa. For the first time in our jurisdiction because our partnership with some of these churches, they have been able to become stronger and some self-supporting. It has been an exciting opportunity and a privilege to see the hand of God at work in many of the places where the United Methodist Church is ministering among Hispanics.

We have worked with some of the churches providing them with tools to further the impact of their ministry in the Hispanic communities. Some of these tools, included but not limited to, work in consultation with the pastors and their churches' leadership by providing workshops that address their particular church need to increase their impact in the communities, bringing pastors together to share common needs and ways to address them, inviting potential youth leaders to contemplate the possibility of becoming pastors in the future, providing classes that further the education of both local pastors and lay leaders in the churches, and providing continuing consultation with pastors who look for a sound board from the members of our Board of Directors. It has been indeed an exciting four years.

In the previous quadrennium, we had led in providing classes to lay people and local pastors only in the Great Rivers Conference in Cobden, Illinois. This quadrennium we were able to add this ministry at other sites like the Indiana Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana and Wisconsin Conference in Whitewater, Wisconsin. Presently, we are working on starting a similar program in Green Bay, Wisconsin. We have led these classes using a process and system developed and used by the John Wesley Seminary in Monterrey, Mexico. We have established a working covenant with this Seminary. This furthers the education and tools for ministry to lay leaders and local pastors.

At the request of the Mission Council, this quadrennium our ministry became a not-for-profit corporation and 501C organization. We thank the General Council on Finance and Administration for their help on the latter. We also want to thank attorney William "Bill" White

from Madison, Wisconsin for his help during this entire process. We have been providing all the financial and on-going reports to the Mission Council as prescribed by them. Throughout the years we have met with the Mission Council anytime we have been invited and are looking forward to continuing to work with them in partnership. We are in frequent contact with the liaison person, Gail Burgess, assigned by the Mission Council to our ministry. We thank her for her work and support.

Your support during this coming quadrennium is essential for the continued progress of our ministry together with the Hispanic churches and annual conferences. We will be in attendance at the North Central Jurisdiction meeting to be available to meet and talk with anyone who may want further information and/or have questions. We are looking forward to your continued support.

Thank you,
Rev. Awilda Nolla, Chairperson
NCJ Center for Hispanic Ministries



United Methodist Volunteers In Mission –
North Central Jurisdiction
(UMVIM-NCJ)
Advance #901375

We thank the Mission Council and the North Central Jurisdiction for their continued faith in our work shown by the funding that has been provided over the last quadrennium! These monies have been used to ***pursue the goal*** of Transformation of the World by making Disciples of Jesus Christ ***through the servants*** that are involved in the United Methodist Volunteers In Mission program in the North Central Jurisdiction.

This UMVIM-NCJ office has helped direct this dynamic program by:

- a. Promoting the best practices of being a representative of Jesus Christ and the United Methodist Church on a mission journey or as an individual.
- b. Resourcing Conference UMVIM Coordinators to help guide conference teams, churches, and individuals.
- c. Establishing, vetting, and resourcing and promoting project sites in the United States at the invitation of the United Methodist conference it resides in.
- d. Training United Methodists in this Jurisdiction to be leaders who are in missional connection with and culturally in tune with their hosts.

HIGHLIGHT: In 2015 we realized the goal of hiring a Disaster Response Liaison, Jason Frazer of East Ohio to be the Jurisdictional link between UMCOR and the Conference Disaster Response Coordinators. An UMCOR Grant for \$50,000 per year **for two years** gave the impetus. Jason also arranges for and conducts UMCOR trainings for Early Response Teams, Train-The-Trainer, Connecting Neighbors, Site Assessment, etc., promotes UMCOR and long term disaster sites, puts out a Disaster Related email each month and is making the ERT Badges for the North Central Jurisdiction, plus much more! Jason will be in charge of the Jurisdictional Volunteer Leadership Academy every 18 months or so. ***It is our hope to raise funds to continue this position past the two years in the grant.***

In addition the UMVIM-NCJ office:

- Connects, consults and resources with the Annual Conference UMVIM Coordinators
- Promotes and conducts yearly training in all aspects of UMVIM (teams and individuals)
- Maintains the USA Opportunity List for all projects and all conferences in the USA
- Resources the programs of UMVIM-NCJ: Rx ConneXion (medical), Mission Discovery (youth and young adult), teachUM (educational) and Disaster Response on a yearly basis.
- Promotes Individual Volunteers, Primetimers, Global Justice Volunteers, Ubuntu Journeys and US 2's programs for Global Ministries and United Methodist Women
- Has a facebook presence for UMVIM-NCJ, teachUM, Mission Discovery and Medical teams
- Hosts training events: medical consultation (annual), Mission Discovery journeys (annual), and a quadrennial RoundUP.
- Publishes up-to-the minute e-newsletters 1-2 times a month.
- Offers Accident/Medical Insurance for UMVIM Journeys.
- ***Is hiring a new coordinator, Lorna retires on Dec 31, 2016. Interviews are now!***

For “All things UMVIM-NCJ” please Lorna or Jason:

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Commission on Religion and Race Quadrennial Report

The NCJ Commission on Religion and Race has shifted the manner in which the Commission remains focused on the goal of eliminating racism while enabling the Annual Conferences to remain contextually relevant and equitable in this ever changing jurisdiction. With the continued collaboration, training and support from the General Commission staff, NCJCORR has moved from a passive monitoring function to one of advocacy and training. NCJCORR has aligned programming to complement and further the GCORR goals of developing new leaders in the church, which will lead to new ideas and innovations that will help the church adapt to changing times while building vital diverse congregations.

Three jurisdictional learning events were hosted:

- Living into the Vision: 'The Beloved Community' - Bloomington, Illinois 2012
- Living into the Vision: 'Living Beyond our Comfort Zones' - Independence, Ohio 2013
- Living into the Beloved Community 'Beyond the Divide: Building Partnerships'- Lansing, Michigan 2015

The 2014 Annual gathering in Chicago found the executive team engaged in a facilitated conversation about the future work of NCJCORR. This intense strategic dialogue allowed reflection on accomplishments while dreaming of a future that meets the contextual reality of the jurisdiction. These conversations provided the executive team with a thorough understanding of the paradigm shift in GCORR's ministry as a response to the question of relevancy of the agency in the 2012 General Conference. The General Commission on Religion and Race has restructured and designed an interactive Ministry Model that is centered on three priorities: supporting and leading **vital conversations**, developing **culturally competent leadership** and ministries, and promoting **institutional equity** while upholding the agency's historic commitment to racial justice within the Church.

After review and reflection the executive team outlined what NCJCORR will be known for and work toward as values in the Jurisdiction.

1. (Build) Vital Beloved Communities/Congregations:
 - a. Reaching out to all ages;
 - b. Being present with and respectfully walking with people;
 - c. Advocacy; and
 - d. Communication
2. Develop Intercultural Leaders
 - a. Tools to lead, guide and resource Annual Conferences
3. Work through our struggles Create Safe Space
 - a. Find and share solutions
4. Celebrate Diversity

A good first step, this experience must be honed and further developed into specific goals. This experience with the executive team has resulted in requests for GCORR staff to conduct customized training for Conference staff, plus GCORR partnered with one annual conference in NCJ to walk with them through planned change. Additionally, multiple Annual Conferences are actively providing training to congregations with Cross Cultural - Cross Racial appointments. NCJCORR remains committed to providing practical resources and support to Conference leaders throughout the jurisdiction to help them engage and embrace the cultural diversity present in our congregations and communities.

Respectfully Submitted: P. Hammond McDavid, Ph.D. - Chairperson NCJCORR

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION AND RULES OF ORDER

Setting of Time and Place for Jurisdiction Conference, Call to Order, Service of Communion and Memorial

The North Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church shall meet at the times set by the Council of Bishops and at the place determined by the Local Arrangements Committee, continuing the rotation shown in the 2016 Advance Journal. The conference shall have the power and duties as specified in The 2016 Book of Discipline.

The resident bishop of the Episcopal area in which the conference is held shall call the conference to order followed by a Celebration of Holy Communion and Memorial. The names of bishops, bishops' spouses, and members of jurisdictional standing committees who have died since the last Jurisdictional Conference, plus delegates-elect who have died since their election, and others who in the judgment of the Local Arrangements may appropriately be remembered, shall be read.

I. ORGANIZATION AND AGENDA OF THE OPENING SESSION

The president of the College of Bishops shall preside at the opening session of the Jurisdictional Conference at which the agenda will be:

A. Greetings and Introductions by the Bishop of the Host Area

B. Roll Call

The roll shall be called by the secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference in the following manner:

1. The secretary of the College of Bishops of the jurisdiction shall report the names of the bishops who are present and who are absent.
2. The roll of delegates shall be called according to annual conferences. The chairperson of the delegation will report to the conference the number of delegates and reserves present.
3. The general or executive secretaries of the general church councils, boards and commissions of The United Methodist Church, who are members of annual conferences within the bounds of the North Central Jurisdiction, but who are not elected delegates of the Jurisdictional Conference, shall be seated within the voting area of the Conference and report their presence during roll call.

C. Report of the Committee on Rules of Order

1. The Plan of Organization and Rules of Order shall remain in effect until amended by a Jurisdictional Conference in regular or special session. Any amendments or additions recommended by the Jurisdictional Committee on Rules of Order for action by the Jurisdictional Conference must be in accordance with the Rules of Order.
2. A majority of the Jurisdictional Conference delegates shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
3. The committee shall report any proposals to change the election process or any question of credentials before the first ballot is taken.

D. Confirmation of the Jurisdictional Conference Committees and Secretarial Staff:

1. The secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference shall present, for confirmation, membership on the various on-site and standing committees as elected by the appropriate Episcopal areas or annual conferences.
2. The secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference shall present, for confirmation, those who are serving as members of the conference secretarial staff.

E. Report of the Committee on Episcopacy

The Committee on Episcopacy shall report on the number of bishops to be elected. Appropriate Disciplinary materials from The 2016 Book of Discipline and the balloting procedure shall be explained.

F. Taking the First Ballot

The first ballot shall be taken. (See Rules of Order II, Procedures for Episcopal Elections).

G. Report of the Local Arrangements Committee

H. Report of the Jurisdictional Treasurer

II. PROCEDURES FOR EPISCOPAL ELECTIONS

The Committee on Episcopacy, shall recommend the procedures for Episcopal nominations and elections.

- A. Episcopal Nominee Information Forms** for supplying biographical and other information regarding nominees shall be developed by the Committee on Episcopacy. These forms shall include but not be limited to requests for: name and address; date and place of birth; family; formal education and continuing education; previous vocational record prior to ordination; ordination date(s) and conference(s); appointment and pastoral record, current annual conference membership and appointment; membership on boards and agencies: a) church (denominational and ecumenical) and b) community activities; publications, awards, and honors.

No later than September 1 of the year in which General/Jurisdictional Conference delegations are elected, the Jurisdictional Conference Secretary shall send the Episcopal Nominee Information Form and proposed procedures to annual conference secretaries and chairs of annual conference delegations. The annual conference secretary shall have responsibility to inform the population of the respective annual conferences of the availability of the forms through such means as will reach the widest possible audience. The Jurisdictional Conference secretary shall distribute a press release to the director of communications in each conference specifying when and where Episcopal Nominee Information Forms will be available.

Delegations are free to engage nominees beyond their Annual Conference after January 1 of the year of General Conference.

The Jurisdictional Conference secretary shall duplicate the Episcopal Nominee Information Forms which have been signed by the nominee and properly submitted. Seventeen days prior to the opening of Jurisdictional Conference, copies of all Episcopal Nominee Information Forms received shall be distributed via first class mail or email to delegates, first reserves, members of the College of Bishops, and other persons with Jurisdictional Conference responsibilities.

Nominees must submit the Episcopal Nominee Information Forms immediately after the close of their annual conferences, and no later than June 25, in order to be included in the packet of nominee information sent to all the Jurisdictional Conference delegates. The secretary of the jurisdiction shall assign a voting number to each clergy delegate and any others who have properly submitted an Episcopal Nominee Information Form.

A person who has not been assigned a voting number may secure one by requesting such in writing from the secretary. The bishop presiding shall report the additional name(s) and voting number(s) to the Jurisdictional Conference.

B. Balloting and Procedures

A 60% majority of the valid votes cast on any ballot is needed for the election of a bishop (see Rule 25-E).

Prior to every ballot, a bishop or member of the Committee on Episcopacy will lead the conference in prayer.

1. Reporting the first ballot:

- a) In the event of an election, the name and vote tally of the elected person shall be announced first and that person introduced to the conference by a member of the Committee on Episcopacy. After such introduction, the bishop presiding will continue reading the names only on the rest of the first ballot.
- b) All persons receiving ten or more votes shall be introduced alphabetically by the chair of the Committee on Episcopacy. Upon introduction, each nominee will give name, community where presently residing, and current appointment. An opportunity for withdrawal from nomination shall be given by the bishop presiding.

If any of these nominees has not completed an Episcopal Nominee Information Form previously, one will be furnished by the secretary. The nominee will have thirty (30 minutes) to return the form to the secretary who will copy it for distribution to the delegates prior to the next ballot.

- c) The names and vote totals of the nominees will be read in descending order of votes received following the interviews and before the second ballot is taken.

2. Interviews. All nominees, having been introduced to the conference will be assigned rooms for interviews. Space for these interviews will be arranged by the Local

Arrangements Committee. The interview moderators shall be the lay members of the Committee on Episcopacy with additional lay members of the Jurisdictional Conference being selected by the committee as needed. Three twenty-minute periods shall be scheduled with ten-minute breaks between each period, providing every delegate an opportunity to hear and question three candidates. This process will be followed by a thirty-minute period for delegation meetings.

1. After the interviews and report of first ballot votes, balloting shall continue for the second and subsequent ballots in this manner: In the event of an election, the name and vote tally of the elected person shall be announced and that person introduced to the conference by a member of the Committee on Episcopacy. After such an introduction, the bishop presiding will continue the reading of the results of the ballot in descending order of votes received by those who obtained ten or more votes.
2. Balloting shall continue until the elections are completed by 12:00 noon on Friday (unless the conference shall suspend this rule). To facilitate the election process, a variety of opportunities for dialogue shall be offered: nominee interviews, spot conversations, delegation meetings or other processes determined by the jurisdictional conference.
 - a. Spot conversations are for those situations when delegations might need a brief time together.
 - b. Delegation meetings provide opportunity for delegations to converse among themselves regarding the election and to receive further information regarding any of the nominees.
3. A nominee may formally withdraw his/her name before the beginning of any ballot by either:
 - a. submitting a withdrawal in writing to the Jurisdictional Conference secretary who will immediately notify the bishop presiding and who, in turn, will report the withdrawal, or
 - b. submitting their withdrawal orally through a point of personal privilege (two-minute limit recommended).

III. THE OFFICERS OF THE JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

A. Secretary of the Jurisdiction

1. The Jurisdictional Committee on Nominations shall present a nominee from the clergy or lay membership of the North Central Jurisdiction for secretary-designate. Other nominations may be made from the floor. The Local Arrangements Committee shall schedule a time for election to be held during the session of the Jurisdictional Conference. If there is more than one nominee, the election shall be by ballot. If, in the interim of the quadrennial sessions of the Jurisdictional Conference, the office of the secretary shall for any reason become vacant, the College of Bishops shall appoint a secretary to serve through the next session of the Jurisdictional Conference.

2. The secretary designate shall assume the responsibility of the office of secretary as soon after the adjournment of the Jurisdictional Conference as all work in connection with the session, including the preparation, printing and mailing of The Journal has been completed. The exact date of transfer of responsibility to the secretary-designate shall be determined by the College of Bishops, but shall not be later than twelve months after the adjournment of the Jurisdictional Conference. The secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference shall serve through to the end of the next Jurisdictional Conference.
3. The secretary of the jurisdiction is authorized to perform the following tasks:
 - a. Nominate assistant secretaries from the membership of the United Methodist church within the North Central Jurisdiction as is deemed necessary, to be presented to, and confirmed by, the Jurisdictional Conference at the opening session.
 - b. Edit and arrange for the publication of The Advance Journal prior to the conference, and carry out the same tasks for The Journal following the conference.
 - c. Prepare and send by November 1 preceding the opening of the next Jurisdictional Conference the nominating forms with instructions for jurisdictional councils, boards, and committees to each annual conference delegation chair.
 - d. Prepare and send the nominating forms for general church councils, boards, and committees to each annual conference secretary as may be necessary.
 - e. Notify the members of the Committee on Nominations of the time and place of the meeting held at least one day prior to the opening of Jurisdictional Conference. Compile the notebooks necessary for the work of this committee based on The 2016 Book of Discipline and The plan of Organization.
 - f. Work in consultation with the Committee on Episcopacy to develop the Episcopal Nominee Information Forms.
 - g. No later than September 1 of the year in which General/Jurisdictional Conference delegations are elected, the Jurisdictional Conference Secretary shall send the Episcopal Nominee Information Form and proposed procedures to annual conference secretaries and chairs of annual conference delegations. At the same time, a press release is to be sent to directors of communication in each conference as to how these forms can be obtained.
 - h. Edit and make copies of the Episcopal Nominee Information Forms, and no less than 17 days prior to the start of Jurisdictional Conference, send a packet of the Episcopal Nominee Information Forms via first class mail or email to every delegate, all first reserves, members of the College of bishops, other persons with Jurisdictional Conference responsibilities, and annual conference communicators.
 - i. Prepare for the registration packets a list of voting numbers assigned to all clergy members of delegations eligible for the office of episcopacy and for any clergy not in a delegation who have submitted an Episcopal Nominee Information Form.
 - j. Make the conference floor seating assignments for delegations and reserves.

- k. The secretary will provide a daily form on which to report in writing the attendance of the members of the delegation. Absence of delegates and substitutions by reserve delegates shall be recorded.
- l. The secretary in conjunction with the Chairperson of the Committee on Episcopacy and the Chairperson of the Local Arrangements Committee will determine the presiding officers for sessions of the NCJ Conference. The President of the College of Bishops will preside at the opening business session.
- m. Serve as a full member of the Jurisdictional Missions Council and in advisory capacity to the Local Arrangements Committee.

B. Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer

- 1. The conference shall elect, on nomination of the jurisdictional Committee on Nominations, a treasurer and, if needed, an assistant treasurer. Consultation prior to the nomination with the Jurisdictional Association of Conference Treasurers is recommended.
- 2. The treasurer of the Jurisdictional Conference is authorized to perform the following tasks:
 - a. Pay the bills incurred in connection with the quadrennial session of the Jurisdictional Conference upon the approval of the chairperson of the Local Arrangements Committee or the chairperson of the Jurisdictional Mission Council or a designee of the Council.
 - b. Make other disbursements as may be authorized by the Jurisdictional Conference.
 - c. Pay travel and per diem expense to the duly elected delegates of the Jurisdictional Conference upon receiving properly completed and signed vouchers from them.
 - d. Execute contracts on behalf of the Jurisdictional Conference.
 - e. Pay travel and other expenses incurred during the quadrennium by the Jurisdictional Mission Council, the Local Arrangements Committee, the Committees on Appeals, Episcopacy, and other committees authorized by the Jurisdictional Conference upon receipt of properly completed and signed expense vouchers from the members of these committees. All other expense vouchers must receive approval from a designee of the Jurisdictional Mission Council before payment can be made by the treasurer.
 - f. Prepare financial reports at least quarterly for the Jurisdictional Mission Council.
 - g. Send quarterly invoices and statements to annual conference treasurers for North Central Jurisdictional apportionments.
 - h. Prepare financial records and reports for an annual review of the books and a quadrennial audit.
 - i. Prepare such reports as are required by the IRS and other government agencies.

IV. COMMITTEES

The Jurisdictional Conference shall have on-site and standing committees with functions as prescribed and other committees as it may order. Each committee shall develop a handbook of practices and procedures, a copy of which shall be retained by the Jurisdictional Conference secretary and treasurer. The delegation from each Episcopal area or annual conference shall nominate and elect from their delegation their representatives to these jurisdictional committees unless otherwise prescribed. These names shall be forwarded to the Jurisdictional Conference secretary by February 15 prior to the convening of the Jurisdictional Conference.

A. On-Site Committees

The College of Bishops shall select the chairperson of each on-site committee with due consideration given to geographical spread, the selection of racial and ethnic minorities, and women to serve in these areas of responsibility. The chairperson shall be chosen from the membership of these committees, and shall be responsible for convening their committees at the site of Jurisdictional Conference. At that time, they may elect other officers as needed.

1. Nominations

There shall be a Committee on Nominations for the purpose of nominating the Jurisdictional Conference secretary and treasurer, and persons to general church councils, boards and commissions, to the Jurisdictional Missions Council, and other positions necessary to fulfill jurisdictional structure. It shall be composed of:

- The active bishops of the jurisdiction;
- One clergy person from each annual conference;
- One lay person from each annual conference;
- One representative of the Division on Ministry with Young People with voice only;
- One representative with voice only from each of the following four racial/ethnic minority groups, to be elected by the group represented for assignment to the Jurisdictional Committee on Nominations: Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Native American International Caucus, MARCHA, and the Asian American United Methodist Caucus.

The Committee on Nominations shall hold its first meeting at the site of the Jurisdictional Conference at least one day prior to the opening of the Jurisdictional Conference. The Jurisdictional Conference Secretary shall notify the members of the time and place of the meeting.

B. Standing Committees

The Jurisdictional Conference shall have the following standing committees with the term of office beginning, unless otherwise specified, with the adjournment of the Jurisdictional Conference, and continuing until their successors have been confirmed. Each committee shall be convened on call by a member of the College of Bishops and shall elect its own chairperson.

1. Appeals

There shall be a Court of Appeals appointed in accordance with provisions of The 2016 Book of Discipline.

2. Episcopacy

There shall be a Committee on Episcopacy with membership, functions and terms of office as provided in The 2016 Book of Discipline.

- a. The bishop of each area shall make a written report to this committee not less than thirty days prior to the convening of the Jurisdictional conference. The report shall include, but not be limited to:
 - A review of the bishop's Episcopal administration during the quadrennium;
 - A report on annual conference program emphases, goals and achievements;
 - Evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the area; a statement on the major issues facing the Church in the area; matters of concern regarding the bishop's Episcopal assignment.
- b. The Committee on Episcopacy assumes the responsibilities of caring and honoring functions of the bishops which includes: ceremonial recognition of those bishops entering the retired relationship following Jurisdictional conference, attention to the needs of newly-elected bishops, a responsibility which begins at the moment of election, and recognition and hospitality for all Episcopal leaders within the jurisdiction in consultation with the Local Arrangements Committee.
- c. The Chairperson of Committee on Episcopacy in consultation with the NCJ Conference Secretary and the Chairperson of the Local Arrangements Committee will determine the presiding officers for sessions of the NCJ Conference. The President of the College of Bishops shall preside at the opening business session.

3. Committee on Investigation

There shall be a Committee on Investigation consisting of seven elders in full connection, with not more than one elder from each annual conference and two lay observers. Five reserve elders and one reserve lay observer also shall be elected. The committee shall be elected on nomination of the college of Bishops, and shall elect a chair at the site of Jurisdictional Conference. See The 2016 Book of Discipline.

V. JURISDICTIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

Mission/Vision Statement:

The Mission of the North Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church is, by the call of God, to make disciples of Jesus Christ by providing spiritual leadership.

The Vision of the North Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church is of holy, bold disciples of Jesus Christ living in unique and connected faith communities energized by dynamic spiritual leadership, both lay and clergy.

The Core Process of the North Central Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church is to:

- Provide connections for unique leadership, spiritual and outreach development across the North Central Jurisdiction, and
 - Provide for the election and assignment of bishops in the North Central Jurisdiction.
- A. The Jurisdictional Mission Council shall consult with the College of Bishops and the North Central Jurisdiction Association of Conference Directors of Connectional Ministries in order to:
1. Support the vision and mission of the Church and the development of models for that mission within the jurisdiction.
 2. Constantly test the structures against the stated vision and mission.
 3. Establish criteria for funding and evaluation of programs receiving funding.
 4. Make annualized budget allocations to programs in the jurisdiction.
 5. Prepare a financial budget for the succeeding quadrennium to submit for NCJ Conference action.
 6. Oversee the investments within the jurisdiction.
 7. Review, each quadrennium, the NCJ Plan of Organization and Rules of Order and propose amendments to the same to the Jurisdictional Conference for its consideration.
- B. The membership of the Jurisdictional Mission Council shall consist of the following:
- One person elected by each annual conference within the jurisdiction.
 - Seven (7) to ten (10) members-at-large nominated by the Jurisdictional Committee on Nominations, at their discretion, from the pool of names submitted by annual conference delegations and elected by the Jurisdictional Conference;
 - Two Directors of Connectional Ministries as selected by the NCJ Association of Directors of Connectional Ministries.
 - In addition, the following designated persons will serve the quadrennium in which they are named:
 - One bishop selected by the College of Bishops
 - The NCJ Treasurer
 - The NCJ Conference Secretary
 - The NCJ Coordinator of Communications as selected by the NCJ Mission Council Executive Committee.
 - The Jurisdictional Committee on Nominations shall be faithful to the commitments of the United Methodist Church to racial and ethnic inclusiveness, shall give consideration to the expertise needed to fulfill the functions of the Mission Council, and shall provide for full participation of clergy and laity.
- C. Organizational Structure and Meetings
1. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Mission Council comprised of:

- a) A chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary elected by the Jurisdictional Mission Council;
- b) One of the two (2) DCMs serving on the Mission Council as selected by the NCJ Association of Directors of Connectional Ministries;
- c) The bishop selected by the NCJ College of Bishops to serve as a member of the Mission Council;
- d) The NCJ Treasurer;
- e) The NCJ Conference Secretary;
- f) The NCJ Coordinator of Communications as selected by the Mission Council Executive Committee.

2. The Jurisdictional Mission Council shall meet to organize by October 30th in the year of the Jurisdictional Conference. It shall have the authority to organize as it deems necessary. Organization shall include the election of officers and orientation of the membership. In addition to the organizational meeting, the full council shall meet two additional times during the quadrennium:

- a) The agenda for the second meeting shall include evaluation of the effectiveness of the ministry programs funded in the current quadrennium.
- b) The agenda for the third meeting shall include establishing recommendations for the allocation of funds for the quadrennium and setting the budget. Representatives from funded ministry groups, emerging ministries, networks, and other appropriate resource persons shall be invited and encouraged to be present for all full council meetings at their own expense. They shall have voice but not vote except when invited to do so.
- c) The Executive Committee shall have the discretion to meet as needed.

3. Periodic consultations with the College of Bishops and the Jurisdictional Association of Conference Directors of Connectional Ministries would be highly desirable for exchange of information and resources and opening of possibilities for new ministries to be supported. These may be arranged at the behest of the Mission Council, the College of Bishops, or the council directors. Consultations between any of these bodies shall be coordinated in such a manner as to minimize travel and the total number of jurisdictional meetings.

4. In order for the Jurisdictional Mission Council to understand the scope and nature of its ministry across the jurisdiction, each funded committee, agency or program of the North Central Jurisdiction shall have a member of the Jurisdictional Mission Council as its link or liaison to the Mission Council. During the quadrennium, the liaisons shall attend meetings and events of the committee or agency, receive its minutes, publications and financial reports, and act as a reminder to the affiliated groups of their "goal integrity" in regards to funding.

D. Financial Administration and the Jurisdictional Conference

1. On the first day of the Jurisdictional Conference, the Mission council shall present a proposed budget for the ensuing quadrennium, and based upon that proposed budget, determine the amounts to be apportioned to the annual conferences. All additional requests for funds shall be referred to this council.

2. At the final business session of the Jurisdictional Conference, the council shall present for action a revised budget with appropriate adjustments in conference apportionments. The Jurisdictional Mission Council shall recommend to the Jurisdictional Conference for action the per diem and travel expense of all jurisdictional delegates and others attending Conference in an official capacity.

a) The report of attendance by the NCJ Conference secretary shall be the basis for paying the per diem to the delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference.

b) The total expense for travel shall be paid to the delegate who is present and seated. If, during the session of the conference, a reserve delegate is seated in the delegate's place, the delegate shall adjust the travel reimbursement with the reserve delegate on the basis of the time served by each.

VI. PROCEDURES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE NOMINATIONS TO GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL AGENCIES

The annual conferences shall select the nominees for membership on the various general and jurisdictional councils, boards and commissions in accordance with the requirements of The 2016 Book of Discipline and the Plan of Organization of the Jurisdictional Conference. It is strongly urged that bishops be full participants in this process.

1. To secure nominations for general church councils, boards and commission, the Jurisdictional Conference Secretary shall prepare and send as may be necessary the nominating forms for general church councils, boards, and committees to the Annual Conference secretaries. All nominations from the various conferences shall be returned to the Jurisdictional Conference secretary within one week after the close of the annual conference session and no later than fifteen days prior to the convening of Jurisdictional Conference.
2. To secure nominations for jurisdictional councils, boards and committees, the Jurisdictional Conference secretary shall send nominating forms with instructions to delegation chairpersons by November 1 preceding the opening of the next Jurisdictional Conference. All nominations from the various conferences shall be returned to the Jurisdictional Conference secretary by February 15 prior to the Jurisdictional Conference.
3. The Committee on Nominations shall utilize worksheets prepared by the Jurisdictional Conference secretary proving the following information relative to the general church councils, boards and commissions;
 - Number of persons to be nominated; tenure if other than the quadrennium;
 - Names of incumbent members identified as being eligible or ineligible and including the conferences which they represent;
 - The names of persons each annual conference is nominating and the particular general church councils, boards or commissions to which they are being nominated;
 - Number of nominees from each annual conference in ratio relative to annual conference membership within the jurisdiction;
 - Relative representation as indicated in The 2016 Book of Discipline.

4. Each annual conference nominating group shall be encouraged to give strong consideration to returning effective agency members for a second four-year term. No person shall be eligible to serve on any general church council, board or commission for more than the time provided in The 2016 Book of Discipline.

VII. RULES OF ORDER

The Rules of Order adopted by the immediately previous General conference shall be the Rules of Order of the Jurisdictional Conference insofar as they apply. The Plan of Organization and Rules of Order shall remain in effect until changed by this or a succeeding Jurisdictional Conference. They may be amended or changed according to Rule 28 which is printed with other rules in The Advance Journal for delegates to the North Central Jurisdictional Conference.

A. Daily Schedule

Rule 1: Hours of meetings and Order of Agenda are to be set by the Local Arrangements Committee in consultation with the College of Bishops.

Rule 2: After the opening session (which is set by the Plan of Organization), the daily sessions of the conference shall be adjusted by the NCJ Conference Secretary in consultation with the College of Bishops and adopted by the Jurisdictional Conference. Validity of questions of privilege, complimentary resolutions, and courtesies will also be determined in the same manner.

B. Presiding Officers

Rule 3: Authority of the Chairperson

- a. The bishop presiding shall be the legal chairperson of the Jurisdictional Conference.
- b. The chairperson shall decide points of order raised by the members and shall rule on points of order not raised by the members, as the chair deems necessary to conform to these Rules of Order, subject in both cases to an appeal to the conference by any member without debate, except that the chairperson and the appellant, in the order here named, shall each have three minutes for a statement in support of their respective positions. A tie vote in the case of appeal shall sustain the chair (see Rule 25b). Any member who raises a point of order shall cite by number the rule adjudged to have been violated.
- c. The bishop presiding shall have the right to recess a session of the Jurisdictional Conference at any time at the chair's discretion and to reconvene at such time as the chair shall announce. The bishop presiding shall also have the right to stipulate that the session shall reconvene with only delegates' authorized guests permitted to attend such a session following recess.

Rule 4: Calling the Conference to Order

When the chairperson stands and calls the conference to order, no member shall speak, address the chair, or stand while the chairperson stands.

C. Rights and Duties of Members**Rule 5: Attendance and Seating Reserves**

- a. No member, unless hindered by sickness or otherwise from being present, shall be absent from the sessions of the conference without permission of the conference; all absentees shall be reported by the chairpersons of the annual conference delegations to the NCJ Conference Secretary on forms provided by the secretary for that purpose.
- b. Reserve delegates may be seated upon authority of the chairpersons of the delegations who shall report the substitutions in writing to the NCJ Conference Secretary on a form provided by the secretary. Any reserve delegate seated in the place of a delegate shall have been duly elected by his/her annual conference and shall meet the requirements set forth in The 2016 Book of Discipline. If the NCJ Conference Secretary disapproves the substitution, after consultation with the chairperson of the delegation, he/she may report to the Jurisdictional Conference with a recommendation. The NCJ Conference Secretary shall make a daily written report listing all changes of seating. These reports shall be recorded in The Journal.
- c. The general or executive secretaries of the general church councils, boards and commissions of the United Methodist Church, who are members of annual conferences within the bounds of the North Central Jurisdiction, but who are not elected delegates of the Jurisdictional Conference, shall be seated within the voting area of the conference. These persons shall have the privilege of the floor, without vote, on matters affecting the interests of their respective councils, boards and commissions. The expenses for these persons shall not be assumed by the Jurisdictional Conference.

Rule 6: Directions for Securing the Floor

Unless raising a point of order or parliamentary inquiry, the delegate shall not speak until granted the floor. A delegate desiring to speak to the conference shall move to a microphone and wait to be recognized by the presiding officer. Once recognized, the delegate shall first announce her or his name and the annual conference represented, which the presiding officer shall then announce to the conference.

Rule 7: Interrupting the Speaker

No member who has the floor may be interrupted except for a point of order, a misrepresentation, a parliamentary inquiry, a point of information, or to call attention that the time has arrived for a special order.

Rule 8: Speaking More than Once; Length of Speech

No member shall speak a second time on the same question if any member who has not spoken desires the floor, no more than twice on the same subject under the same motion, and no longer than three minutes unless that time shall be extended by the conference. This three-minute limit may be amended by a majority vote of the conference at any time and for any period of duration.

Rule 9: Point of Order

A delegate wishing to raise a point of order shall address the presiding officer and say, "I rise to a point of order." The presiding officer shall interrupt the proceeding; if a delegate is speaking, that one shall immediately yield the floor. The presiding officer shall then direct the delegate raising the point of order to state the point as briefly and concisely as possible, citing the authority of the point, but the delegate shall not presume to decide the question or argue the point. A point of order is decided by the presiding officer without debate, unless in doubtful cases the chair submits the question to the body for advice or decision. When the presiding officer rules on a point, debate is closed, but the decision may be appealed.

Rule 10: Voting Area of the Conference

Only delegates within the area of the conference when the vote is taken shall be entitled to vote. All delegates within the area at the time a question is put shall vote, except such as have been excused for special reasons by the conference.

Rule 11: Voting Procedures

- a. Voting shall be as recommended by the Local Arrangements Committee unless otherwise ordered by the conference.
- b. No other business shall be in order when a vote is being taken, or when the previous question has been called, until the process is completed, except such as relates to the vote itself or such business as the chair may deem appropriate.

Rule 12: Division of the Question

Before a vote is taken, any delegate shall have the right to call for a division of any question, if it is subject to such division as the delegate indicates. If no delegate objects, the division shall be made, but if there is an objection, the chair shall put the question of division to vote, not waiting for a second.

D. Business Procedures

Rule 13: Motion for Adoption of Reports

Whenever a report of a committee, signed by the chairperson and secretary thereof shall be presented to the conference for its action, it shall be deemed in proper order for consideration by the conference without the formality of a motion to adopt.

Rule 14: Required Forms for Resolutions, Reports, Motions, Amendments

All resolutions and committee reports shall be prepared as directed by the secretary of the Jurisdictional Conference. Motions, including amendments, shall be presented in writing.

Rule 15: Alterations of Motions, Etc.

When a motion is made and seconded, or a resolution is introduced and seconded, or a committee report is read or is published, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the conference and may not be altered except by action of the conference.

Rule 16: Un-debatable Motions

The following motions shall be acted upon without debate:

- a. To adjourn, when unqualified, except to adjourn the conference finally (See Rule 19);
- b. To suspend the rules;
- c. To lay on the table;
- d. To take from the table;
- e. To call for the previous questions (See Rule 21);
- f. To reconsider a non-debatable motion (See Rule 26);
- g. To limit or extend the limits of debate;
- h. To call for the orders of the day.

Rule 17: Rights of the Main Question

The main question may be opened to debate under the following motions: to adopt, to commit or to refer, to substitute, to postpone and to reconsider, No new motion, resolution, or subject shall be entertained until the one under consideration shall have been disposed of, except as provided in Rule 11b. The foregoing does not apply to secondary motions if otherwise allowable in the existing parliamentary situation.

Rule 18: Precedence of Motions

If any one or more of the following motions shall be made when one or more other motions are pending, the order of their precedence in relation to one another shall be the same as the order of their listing below (see also Rule 24):

- a. To fix the time at which the conference shall adjourn. (This motion is subject to amendment, or it may be laid on the table);

- b. To adjourn;
- c. To take a recess;
- d. To lay on the table;
- e. To order the previous question (see Rules 16e, 21, 23);
- f. To limit or extend the limits of debate;
- g. To postpone to a given time;
- h. To commit or refer;
- i. To amend or to amend by substitution (one amendment being allowed to an amendment);
- j. To postpone indefinitely.

Rule 19: Exceptions to the Motion to Adjourn Being in Order

The motion to adjourn, when unqualified, shall be taken without debate and shall always be in order, except:

- a. When a delegate has the floor;
- b. When a question is actually put, or a vote is being taken and before it is finally decided;
- c. When the previous question has been ordered and action there under is pending;
- d. When a motion to adjourn has been lost and no business or debate has intervened;
- e. When the motion to fix the time to which the conference shall adjourn is pending. The foregoing does not apply to a motion for final adjournment of the conference.

Rule 20: Tabling Related Motions

No motion which adheres to another motion or has another motion adhering to it can be laid on the table by itself. Such motions, if laid on the table, carry with them the motions to which they respectively adhere or which adhere to them.

Rule 21: Previous Question

Any member who moves the previous question (that is, that the vote now be taken on the motion or motions pending) shall also indicate to what it is intended to apply if any secondary motions are also pending. If said member does not so indicate, it shall be regarded as applying only to the immediately pending question. This motion shall be taken without debate and shall require a two-thirds vote of those present and voting for its adoption. If it is adopted, the vote shall be taken on the motion or motions to which it applies without further debate. (See also Rules 16, 23, 24).

Rules 22: Referring Reports, Etc.

It shall be in order for the conference to refer to a committee a section or part of a report or resolution which is before the conference for consideration or any amendment offered thereunto.

Rules 23: Procedure for Amending by Substitution

When a resolution or committee report is properly before the conference for consideration, even if amendments are pending, a substitute may be offered by any member moving that the same be substituted for the report, resolution, or amendment under consideration. The substitute shall be an alternative to what is before the house and not simply a negation of the main motion. Debate on the motion to substitute will be limited to the question of substitution only. No amendments to the main motion or the substitute will be considered during this period of initial consideration. Following the debate on the motion to substitute, a vote on substitution will occur. If the motion to substitute prevails by a majority vote, then the substitute becomes the main motion. If the motion to substitute does not prevail, then the main motion remains on the floor for further consideration. Debate, including the offering of amendments, then moves forward according to these Rules. A motion for the previous question shall not be in order on the motion to substitute until after opportunity has been given for at least three speeches on each side of the question.

Rule 24: Unlawful Motion after Speech

It shall not be in order for a member immediately after discussing a pending question, and before relinquishing the floor, to make a motion whose adoption would limit or stop debate.

Rule 25: Exceptions to Majority Vote

A majority of those voting, a quorum being present, shall decide all questions with the following exceptions:

- a. One-third of those present and voting shall suffice to sustain a call for a count vote in case the decision of the chair is doubted.
- b. A tie vote sustains the chair. (See Rule 3b)
- c. A two-thirds vote shall be required to sustain a motion to suspend (Rule 27) or amend the rules. (Rule 28) A call for the previous question is a motion to suspend the rules and therefore requires a two-thirds vote.
- d. A majority of 60% shall be required to approve a proposal for a constitutional amendment.
- e. A majority of 60% shall be required for an Episcopal election.

Rule 26: Reconsideration

A motion to reconsider an action of the conference shall be in order at any time if offered by a member who voted with the prevailing side. If the motion it is proposed to reconsider is non-debatable, the motion to reconsider may not be debated. (Rule 16f)

E. Suspending, Amending, and Supplementing

Rule 27: Suspension of the Rules

The operation of any of the provisions of the Plan of Organization or of these Rules of Order may be suspended at any time by a two-thirds vote of the conference. (Rule 25c)

Rule 28: Amending Rules

The Plan of Organization and these Rules of Order may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of the conference, provided the proposed change or amendment has originated in the NCJ Mission Council, or has been presented to the conference in writing and referred to the Mission Council. The Mission Council shall report on the proposed change or amendment not later than the following day. If submitted on the last business day of Jurisdictional Conference, it will be referred to the The Mission Council for the next session of the Jurisdictional Conference.

Rule 29: Robert's Rules of Order as the Supplement Authority

In any parliamentary situation not covered by the Plan of Organization or these Rules of Order, the Jurisdictional Conference shall be governed in its actions by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

F. Additional Rules

Rule 30: Persons Without Right to Make or Second Motions

A person seated in the conference with the right to speak, but without vote, does not have the right to make a motion or second a motion.

Rule 31: Effective Date

All legislation of the Jurisdictional conference shall become effective January 1 following the session of the conference at which it is enacted, unless otherwise specified.

BOUNDARIES OF CONFERENCES IN THE NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION

The North Central Jurisdiction consists of the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota.

DAKOTAS

The entire state of North Dakota, all of South Dakota, and the Humboldt United Methodist Church in Kittson County, Minnesota.

DETROIT

In the State of Michigan: The conference encompasses the entire Upper Peninsula and the eastern half of the lower peninsula in the State of Michigan. The conference's western boundary in the lower peninsula coincides with the western county line of the following counties, beginning at the Straits of Mackinac: Cheboygan, Otsego, Crawford, Roscommon, Gladwin, Midland, Saginaw, Shiawassee, Livingston, Washtenaw and Lenawee.

EAST OHIO

In the state of Ohio: Counties of Ashland, Ashtabula, Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Huron, Jefferson, Know, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Monroe, Morrow, Noble, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas and Wayne; the towns of Homer and Utica in Licking County; east of the Muskingum River in the counties of Moran, Muskingum (plus the Trinway United Methodist Church and excluding the city of Zanesville); Washington (excluding the city of Marietta); the portions of Delaware County east and north of a boundary line which follows Route 23 coming from the north of the city of Delaware and Sandusky Street in the city of Delaware), thence going east on Route 36 from Delaware to Old State Road, thence south to Lewis Center Road, thence east on Lewis Center Road and Big Walnut Road to Hoover Reservoir and continuing easterly along Center Village Road to the Licking County Line; East of Route 23 in the counties of Marion and Wyandot (excluding the city of Upper Sandusky); east of the 83rd longitude in Ottawa County; and east of the Sandusky River through the counties of Sandusky (excluding the city of Fremont); and Seneca.

ILLINOIS GREAT RIVERS

In the state of Illinois: The new Illinois Conference includes that part of the state below a line beginning at the point where Whiteside County intersects the Mississippi River, proceeding south along the west boundary of Whiteside County to Highway 78; then diagonally southeast to the point where Route 23 intersects the east boundary of Henry County. Continue on the diagonal to the point where County Highway 24 intersects County Highway 28; then straight east along a line designated as 1200 N to the center of the Illinois River. Continue east along the Illinois River to the point where the west boundary of Will County intersects the Illinois (Des Plaines) River. Turn south following the west boundary of Will County to Highway 113. Turn east on Highway 113 following a straight line which becomes the south boundary of Will County and proceed on the Illinois-Indiana State Line.

INDIANA

The entire state of Indiana.

IOWA

The entire state of Iowa and the town of East Dubuque in Jo Daviess County in the state of Illinois. Carter Lake is in the Iowa Conference. This agreement was worked out between a task force from Iowa and Nebraska.

MINNESOTA

The entire state of Minnesota with the exception of the Humboldt United Methodist Church in Kittson County.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS

In the state of Illinois: Counties of Boone, Carroll, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Jo Daviess (excluding the town of East Dubuque), Kane, Kendall, Lake, Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago; northeast of a diagonal line drawn from Route 78 at the northern boundary of Henry County to the intersection of roads 24 and 28 in Bureau County; north of the Illinois River through Grundy and LaSalle Counties; and north of Route 113 in Will County.

WEST MICHIGAN

Part of the state of Michigan: The conference encompasses the western half of the lower peninsula in the state of Michigan. The conference's eastern boundary coincides with the eastern county line of the following counties, beginning at the Straits of Mackinac: Emmett, Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, Missaukee, Clare, Isabella, Gratiot, Clinton, Ingham, Jackson and Hillsdale.

WEST OHIO

In the state of Ohio: Counties of Adams, Allen, Athens, Auglaize, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Defiance, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Gallia, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Licking (excluding the towns of Homer and Utica), Logan, Lucas, Madison, Meigs, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Paulding, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Putnam, Ross, Scioto, Shelby, Union, Van Wert, Vinton, Warren, Williams and Wood; west of the Muskingum River in the counties of Morgan, Muskingum (including the city of Zanesville), and Washington (including the city of Marietta); the portions of Delaware County west and south of a boundary line which follows Route 23 coming from the north to the city of Delaware and Sandusky Street in the city of Delaware (excluding Asbury United Methodist Church), thence going east on Route 36 from Delaware to Old State Road, thence south to Lewis Center Road, thence east on Lewis Center Road and Big Walnut Road to Hoover Reservoir and continuing easterly along Center Village Road to the Licking County line; west of Route 23 in the counties of Marion and Wyandot (including the city of Upper Sandusky); west of the 83rd longitude in the Ottawa County; and west of the Sandusky River through the counties of Sandusky (including the city of Fremont) and Seneca.

WISCONSIN

The entire state of Wisconsin.

Locations of North Central Jurisdictional Conferences

In the historic list which follows, the name of the conference where the jurisdictional conference was held is given first followed by the specific city in that conference. Note the names of conferences that no longer exist are included:

1940	ROCK RIVER: Chicago	1984	MINNESOTA: Duluth
1944	MINNESOTA: Minneapolis	1988	NORTHERN ILLINOIS: DeKalb
1948	INDIANA: Indianapolis	1992	DETROIT: Adrian
1952	WISCONSIN: Milwaukee	1996	NORTH INDIANA: Fort Wayne
1956	SOUTH IOWA: Des Moines	2000	WISCONSIN: Madison
1960	WEST MICHIGAN: Grand Rapids	2004	IOWA: Davenport
1964	EAST OHIO: Cleveland	2008	WEST MICHIGAN: Grand Rapids
1968	CENTRAL ILLINOIS: Peoria	2012	EAST OHIO: Akron
1972	SOUTH INDIANA: Indianapolis	2016	ILLINOIS GREAT RIVERS: Peoria
1976	SOUTH DAKOTA: Sioux Falls	2020	INDIANA: Fort Wayne
1980	WEST OHIO: Dayton		

The NCJ College of Bishops 2016-2020

Bishops Assigned to Areas

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Betty Ann Boulton (Bishop Edwin C.)

Virginia Clymer (Bishop Wayne)

Polly Anne Hodapp (Bishop Leroy)

Beverly Job (Bishop Rueben)

Ruth Thomas (Bishop James S.)

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Persons are encouraged to visit the NCJ Website at www.ncjumc.org for jurisdictional information. Jurisdictional events and information may also be submitted to the NCJ Coordinator/Website Manager, Jim Searls at jrs@macatawa.org.