



Proposed Legislation

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Bill Number: CON-01

Title: THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL



Submitted by: PAUL MUGALA

Contact: mugalapm@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PART XV

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PAGE xxiii

Intent

TO CHANGE THE TABLE OF CONTENTS TO REFLECT THE APPROPRIATE NEW TITLE OF PART XV AS THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL INSTEAD OF GLOBAL WITNESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA, THE NATIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN, EUROPE, SOUTH AMERICA AND INDIA

Rationale

TO REFLECT THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE CONNECTIONAL AMEC IN ITS INCLUSIVE COLLABORATION AND GOVERNANCE OF THE CHURCH IN AFRICA AND ITS SURROUNDING ISLANDS

Current Text

1. PART XV GLOBAL WITNESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN
2. AFRICA, THE NATIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN, EUROPE,
3. SOUTH AMERICA AND INDIA

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Amended Text

1. THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL [AJC] AN
2. INDEPENDENT AUTONOMY FOR EFFECTIVE
3. SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AND CHURCH GROWTH OF
4. THE AMEC ON THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA AND ITS
5. SURROUNDING ISLANDS BY AFRICANS FROM AN
6. AFRICAN CONTEXT.

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Bill Number: MIN - 17

Title: SATISFACTION/TERMINATION OF UNPAID PASTORAL WAGES AND LOANS



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part V, Section VII

Intent

To prohibit the practice of establishing pastoral salary packages and/or pastoral loans to the church that the church cannot afford to (re)pay during a pastors tenure at the church; then after reassignment or removal, attempt to collect/sue the church for unpaid wages or for repayment of the loan.

Rationale

If a pastor is unable to raise the funds necessary to cover his/her salary or repay loans given during his/her tenure, it is unreasonable to expect the successor pastor to raise enough funds to cover the prior pastors salary and/or loan repayments while endeavoring to raise his/her salary and meet church obligations.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. Any financial agreements between the local church and the
2. pastor, including but not limited to unpaid salary, salary
3. related expenses, benefits, or repayment of loans must be
4. reported as an agreed upon indebtedness on the adopted
5. Quarterly Conference Reports and the Annual Conference
6. Report. Any indebtedness owed to the pastor which is not
7. reported is void, terminated and deemed satisfied in full
8. upon the pastors reassignment, new appointment or
9. removal from the charge.

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Bill Number: MIN - 20

Title: PASTORAL AUTHORITY TO CREATE CHURCH INDEBTEDNESS



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

To establish a policy regarding a pastors authority to obligate the church without the approval of the local church.

Intent

Legislation currently exists regarding a pastors authority to mortgage church property; but there is no policy regarding a pastors ability to obligate the church on non-secured debt obligations.

Rationale

Legislation currently exists regarding a pastors authority to mortgage church property; but there is no policy regarding a pastors ability to obligate the church on non-secured debt obligations.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. The Official Board shall establish a maximum limit for which
2. the pastor may obligate the church without consent of the
3. local church. In the absence of an established policy, the
4. Board of Stewards or Board of Trustees may authorize an
5. amount up to \$1000 without the vote of the Official Board.
6. Any pastor that obligates the church by approving or signing
7. a contract which creates indebtedness in violation of the
8. maximum limit established by the Official Board or by
9. default, shall be deemed to have engaged in
10. maladministration.

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Bill Number: MIN - 19

Title: Withholding FICA Taxes



Submitted by: Submitted by the Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Publication 15-A
Employers Supplemental Tax Guide

Intent

To ensure employees know their job responsibilities and for churches to be in compliance with the federal government responsibility to withhold FICA taxes.

Rationale

All employees should know what is expected of them by their employer and the policies of the place where employed. According to the Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service, Income and Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes must be withheld reported and paid for all employees. Under common-law rules, anyone who performs services for you is generally your employee if you have the right to control what will be done, when it will be done and how it will be done. This is so even when you give the employee freedom of action. What matters is that you have the right to control the details of how the services are performed.

Current Text

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Amended Text

- 1. AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Add to page 88, Local Church
- 2. Organization, 2. Boards
- 3. 3 b. Trustees, 5) Duties, new letter f.
- 4. 4 All employees of a church must have a job description
- 5. and an employment
- 6. 5 contract that outlines their duties and responsibilities.
- 7. Income and Federal
- 8. 6 Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes must be
- 9. withheld, reported and paid for
- 10. 7 all employees. Since this is a personnel issue, the Trustee
- 11. Board is responsible
- 12. 8 for executing this task.
- 13. 9
- 14. 10 Funding: There is no funding associated with this Bill.
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Bill Number: MIN - 18

Title: Employee or Independent Contractor?



Submitted by: Submitted by the Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Publication 15-A Employers Supplemental Tax Guide

Intent

To clarify anyone all church laborers - to whom funds are paid are an employee of the church and not an independent contractor.

Rationale

Before you can know how to treat payments that you make to workers for services, you must first know the business relationship that exist between you and the person performing the services. The person performing the services may be an independent contractor or an employee. According to the Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service under common-law rules, anyone who performs services for you is generally your employee if you have the right to control what will be done, when it will be done and how it will be done. This is so even when you give the employee freedom of action. What matters is that you have the right to control the details of how the services are performed.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Add to page 86, Local Church
2. Organization, 2. Boards
3. 3 a. Stewards, 2) Duties, new letter e.
4. 4 When payment is made to an individual in their name for
5. services performed at
6. 5 or for the church when the church has the right to control
7. what will be done, when
8. 6 it will be done and how it will be done the person is an
9. employee of the church.
10. 7 This person is not an independent contractor, and thus
11. income and Federal
12. 8 Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes must be
13. withheld, reported and paid for
14. 9 the employee.
15. 10
16. 11 (Renumber letters e-k accordingly)
17. 12 Funding: There is no funding associated with this Bill.
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Bill Number: GGB-12

Title: Officer Retirement Age



Submitted by: Lillie Hill

Contact: Lil.hill@verizon.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

None

Intent

The appointment or election of members as officers must not exceed seventy-five years of age by his or her Annual Conference. It shall be mandatory that all officers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church who will become 75 years of age, either prior to or within a year following the adjournment of a General Conference be ineligible for re-election or appointment to office. The aforementioned officers may assist in their local church and in other capacities throughout the Connection as requested by the bishop, presiding elders, pastors and presiding officers of ministries [i.e. advise, train and

Rationale

The basis for this recommendation is two-fold and will justify the need for such a change. The additional legislation will require a mandatory age cap for elected officials just as with clergy. It makes sense for clergy and non-clergy to be measured equally in terms of age eligibility as it relates to fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of the church. Secondly, and most importantly; the proposed legislation would provide an opportunity for young adults to move copiously into leadership positions. The proposed legislation may have an adverse effect on seniors currently holding office and approaching seventy-five years of age (or may have passed that age), in which a grandfather clause would bridge the gap for the year or two needed for transition to complete their term.

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Amended Text

1. An elected officer or employed laity must retire by seventy-
2. five (75) years of age. An elected officer or employed laity is
3. not to be appointed after age seventy-five (75). The
4. appointment or employment must be relieved by Annual
5. Conference Prior to attaining age seventy-six (76)

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Bill Number: DB - 01

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 31

Intent

AMEND THE CLAUSE TO INCLUDE CHURCHES UNDER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS JURISDICTIONS

Rationale

TO REMOVE THE NOTION THAT AME CHURCHES ABROAD ARE SUBJECT TO THE REIGN OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Current Text

1. OF THE RULERS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
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Amended Text

1. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE REFERENCE TO THE
2. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ALL AME CHURCHES
3. OUTSIDE THE USA AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP SHALL
4. BE SUBJECT TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS
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Bill Number: DB - 01

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 31 ARTICLE 23

Intent

AMEND THE CLAUSE TO INCLUDE CHURCHES UNDER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS JURISDICTIONS

Rationale

TO REMOVE THE NOTION THAT AME CHURCHES ABROAD ARE SUBJECT TO THE REIGN OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Current Text

Amended Text

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1. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE REFERENCE TO THE
2. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ALL AME CHURCHES
3. OUTSIDE THE USA AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP SHALL
4. BE SUBJECT TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS
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Bill Number: DB - 01

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 31 ARTICLE 23

Intent

AMEND THE CLAUSE TO INCLUDE CHURCHES UNDER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS JURISDICTIONS

Rationale

TO REMOVE THE NOTION THAT AME CHURCHES ABROAD ARE SUBJECT TO THE REIGN OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. AT END OF ARTICLE INCLUDE THE WORDS,
2. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE REFERENCE TO THE
3. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ALL AME CHURCHES
4. OUTSIDE THE USA AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP SHALL
5. BE SUBJECT TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS
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Bill Number: DB - 01

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 31 ARTICLE 23

Intent

AMEND THE CLAUSE TO INCLUDE CHURCHES UNDER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS JURISDICTIONS

Rationale

TO REMOVE THE NOTION THAT AME CHURCHES ABROAD ARE SUBJECT TO THE REIGN OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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Amended Text

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Bill Number: CP - 01

Title: Annual Reports from AME, Inc.



Submitted by: Jeffrey Leath

Contact: jeffreynleath@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part II, Section I, New Section #22. Page 67

Intent

Require AME, Inc. to file with church bodies both annual and quadrennial reports.

Rationale

While it is agreed that AME, Inc. is amenable only to the General Conference, it should not preclude annual and quadrennial reports on its activity. There is no clear mandate for annual reporting, and no reason the church should be without information on the work of AME, Inc. for up to four years. Moreover, this will require AME, Inc. to submit audited reports, like other major bodies within the denomination.

Current Text

1. None - Insert new section.

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Amended Text

1. 22. Reports
2. The Trustees of AME, Inc. shall make a quadrennial report
3. to the General Conference which shall include a summary,
4. without specific detail, of the numbers of matters addressed,
5. assets liquidated and other pertinent information to give the
6. Church a view of its activity. Where there are personnel, or
7. proprietary and other matters which warrant anonymity, the
8. report shall exclude identifying markers.
9. In addition, AME, Inc. shall submit to the Council of Bishops
10. and the Commission on Statistics and Finance of the
11. General Board an annual audit and an inventory of all real
12. and financial assets of the Church held directly, or
13. controlled, by AME, Inc. Such information shall be kept
14. confidential and used by those entities to observe the
15. activity of the corporation.
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Bill Number: CP - 02

Title: Disposition of Church Property held by Missions and Small Congregations of less than Ten Persons



Submitted by: Jeffrey Leath

Contact: jeffreynleath@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part III, Section III, B. Page 71-72 (Kindle Locations 2497-2503)

Intent

To establish a procedure for the sale of church property held by mission congregations and congregations having fewer than ten full, active members.

Rationale

The current procedure found in the Discipline is not viable when congregational membership falls below ten (10) active, full members.

Current Text

1. B. Local Church Property Transfer of Property
2. The Board of Trustees, duly elected by the local church as
3. provided by The Doctrine and Discipline of he African
4. Methodist Episcopal Church, may take such steps to
5. purchase, mortgage, sell, transfer and convey real and
6. personal property, PROVIDED that such transfer has been
7. duly approved by the resolution in Quarterly Conference of
8. the said church, and also by the trustees of the Annual
9. Conference in which the property is located, and of which
10. the presiding bishop is president.
11. The Board of Trustees and members of the local church
12. hold property of whatever kind IN TRUST for the Annual
13. Conference of the General Church and not in their individual
14. capacities.

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Amended Text

1. INSERT NEW TEXT
2. B. Local Church Property Transfer of Property
3. The Board of Trustees, duly elected by the local church as
4. provided by The Doctrine and Discipline of he African
5. Methodist Episcopal Church, may take such steps to
6. purchase, mortgage, sell, transfer and convey real and
7. personal property, PROVIDED that such transfer has been
8. duly approved by the resolution in Quarterly Conference of
9. the said church, and also by the trustees of the Annual
10. Conference in which the property is located, and of which
11. the presiding bishop is president.
12. Insert:
13. In cases where there are no duly elected trustees of the
14. congregation; or the full membership is less than ten active
15. adult persons; or the church has been designated by the
16. annual conference as having mission status; the Annual
17. Conference Trustees shall have full authority to purchase,
18. mortgage, sell transfer and convey real and personal
19. property without the approval of a church conference or
20. quarterly conference.
21. The Board of Trustees and members of the local church
22. hold property of whatever kind IN TRUST for the Annual
23. Conference of the General Church and not in their individual
24. capacities.

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Bill Number:

Title: Duties



Submitted by: Marvin Louis Harris

Contact: marvin538@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

2016 TDDOAMEC Part V Local Church Organization (page 85-86) Boards A. Stewards

Intent

Add the Trustee to the negotiation of the pastor salary & compensation

Rationale

Steward along with the trustee are the ones who will insure that the pastor is paid, so they should have a say in the negotiation of the pastor salary & Package.

Current Text

1. 2016 TDDOAMEC page 86 Under Duties (B)The Salary of a
2. full time minister shall be negotiated by the pastor and the
3. steward board. The negotiated salary and benefit package
4. shall be commensurate with the cost of living in the given
5. geographical area and the ability of the local congregation.
6. etc.

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Amended Text

1. 2016 TDDOAMEC page 86 Duties (B)The Salary of a full
2. time minister shall be negotiated by the pastor and the
3. steward & trustee boards. The negotiated salary and benefit
4. package shall be commensurate with the cost of living in the
5. given geographical area and the ability of the local
6. congregation. etc.
7. 2016 TDDOAMEC (D). Page 89 (They shall secure by
8. purchase or hire, a house for the pastor's family and also
9. comfortably furnish it. In lieu of this arrangement, the pastor
10. may be given a housing allowance. If a housing allowance
11. is given, it is the Stewards & Trustees duty to negotiate a
12. reasonable housing allowance with the pastor

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Submitted by: Cynthia Gordon-Floyd

Contact: cynthia@willingsteward.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2016 Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2.a.2)b) (page 86)

Intent

The purpose of these requested revisions is to align the current guidance regarding pastoral salary and benefits more closely to stated IRS compensation guidelines. This submission will add the annual requirement to the Doctrine and Discipline for documentation to be provided to the Board of Stewards to support and justify the granting of a minister's housing allowance as a component of a pastor's salary and benefit package.

Rationale

Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) states "In the case of a minister of the gospel, gross income does not include - (1) the rental value of a home furnished to him as part of his compensation; or (2) the rental allowance paid to him as part of his compensation, to the extent used by him to rent or provide a home and to the extent such allowance does not exceed the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of utilities." Per the IRC, in order for the housing allowance to be excluded from federal income taxes it must be designated in advance of payment by official action of the employing church. In order for the employing church to determine the amount to designate, the pastor should complete a housing allowance worksheet and submit this form to the employing church requesting an amount to be designated that is reflective of the actual expenses incurred by the pastor in relation to the fair market value of housing in the applicable geographic area.

Current Text

1. If a housing allowance is given, it is the Stewards' duty to
2. negotiate a reasonable housing
3. allowance with the pastor.

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Amended Text

1. If a housing allowance is given, it is the Stewards' duty to
2. negotiate a reasonable housing
3. allowance with the pastor after the pastor documents
4. his/her applicable housing expenses
5. on a housing allowance worksheet. The Stewards will
6. document the fair market value of
7. housing in the geographic area and officially designate the
8. approved amount of the
9. pastor's housing allowance in advance of payment.

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Bill Number: CM - 07

Title: REVISIONS TO THE BENEFITS INCLUDED IN A PASTOR'S SALARY & BENEFITS PACKAGE - #3



Submitted by: Cynthia Gordon-Floyd

Contact: cynthia@willingsteward.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2016
Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2.a.2)b) (page 86)

Intent

The purpose of this requested revision is to eliminate from the Doctrine and Discipline the inclusion of key person life insurance as a suggested component of a pastor's salary and benefit package.

Rationale

Key Person Life Insurance is a policy that is customarily purchased by a business on its key executives. The premiums are paid by the business and the business is the beneficiary of the policy. If the employee suddenly dies, the company receives the insurance payoff. This payment serves as a means of offsetting the immediate negative effect on the company of the loss of that person. This type of insurance should not be listed in our Doctrine and Discipline as a component of a pastor's salary and benefit package.

Current Text

1. Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2a -
2. Stewards Paragraph 2)b) The benefits
3. include, but are not limited to: pension or retirement,
4. insurance(s); health, disability,
5. professional liability, key person life insurance*; self-
6. employment tax; parsonage or
7. housing allowance; continuing education; travel:
8. connectional, episcopal district,
9. conference, inner parish, and all other related to official
10. duties.

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Amended Text

1. Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2a -
2. Stewards Paragraph 2)b) The benefits
3. include, but are not limited to: pension or retirement,
4. insurance(s); health, disability,
5. professional liability; parsonage or housing allowance;
6. continuing education; travel:
7. connectional, episcopal district, conference, inner parish,
8. and all other related to official
9. duties.

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Bill Number: CM - 08

Title: REVISIONS TO THE BENEFITS INCLUDED IN A PASTOR'S SALARY & BENEFITS PACKAGE



Submitted by: Cynthia Gordon-Floyd

Contact: cynthia@willingsteward.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2016 Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2.a.2)b) (page 86)

Intent

The purpose of this requested revision is to eliminate from the Doctrine and Discipline the inclusion of self-employment taxes as a suggested component of a pastor's salary and benefit package.

Rationale

Pastors are, by law, self-employed persons and therefore are responsible to payment of their personal tax liability. Pastors have "dual" tax status and are therefore employees of their assigned church as well as a self-employed person for federal and state tax purposes at the same time. The church is not responsible for withholding taxes from their pastor and therefore is not required to remit taxes for their pastors or contribute to their tax liability in any form which is consistent to tax treatment for all independent contractors/self-employed persons.

Current Text

1. The benefits include, but are not limited to: pension or
2. retirement, insurance(s); health,
3. disability, professional liability, key person life insurance*;
4. self-employment tax;
5. parsonage or housing allowance; continuing education;
6. travel: connectional, episcopal
7. district, conference, inner parish, and all other related to
8. official duties.

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Amended Text

1. The benefits include, but are not limited to pension or
2. retirement, insurance(s); health,
3. disability, professional liability, key person life insurance*;
4. parsonage or housing
5. allowance; continuing education; travel: connectional,
6. episcopal district, conference,
7. inner parish, and all other related to official duties.

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Bill Number:

Title: Revisions to the Benefits Included in a Pastor's Salary & Benefits Package



Submitted by: Cynthia Gordon-Floyd

Contact: cynthia@willingsteward.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2016 Part V-Local Church Organization Section
1.A.2.a.2)b) (page 86)

Intent

The purpose of this requested revision is to eliminate from the Doctrine and Discipline the inclusion of self-employment taxes as a suggested component of a pastor's salary and benefit package.

Rationale

Pastors are, by law, self-employed persons and therefore are responsible to payment of their personal tax liability. Pastors have "dual" tax status and are therefore employees of their assigned church as well as a self-employed person for federal and state tax purposes at the same time. The church is not responsible for withholding taxes from their pastor and therefore is not required to remit taxes for their pastors or contribute to their tax liability in any form which is consistent to tax treatment for all independent contractors/self-employed persons.

Current Text

1. The benefits include, but are not limited to: pension or
2. retirement, insurance(s); health, disability, professional
3. liability, key person life insurance*; self-employment tax;
4. parsonage or housing allowance; continuing education;
5. travel: connectional, episcopal district, conference, inner
6. parish, and all other related to official duties.

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Amended Text

1. The benefits include, but are not limited to pension or
2. retirement, insurance(s); health, disability, professional
3. liability, key person life insurance*; parsonage or housing
4. allowance; continuing education; travel: connectional,
5. episcopal district, conference, inner parish, and all other
6. related to official duties.

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Bill Number:

Title: Revisions to the Benefits Included in a Pastor's Salary & Benefits Package - #2



Submitted by: Cynthia Gordon-Floyd

Contact: cynthia@willingsteward.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2016 Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2.a.2)b) (page 86)

Intent

The purpose of these requested revisions is to align the current guidance regarding pastoral salary and benefits more closely to stated IRS compensation guidelines. This submission will add the annual requirement to the Doctrine and Discipline for documentation to be provided to the Board of Stewards to support and justify the granting of a minister's housing allowance as a component of a pastor's salary and benefit package.

Rationale

Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) states "In the case of a minister of the gospel, gross income does not include - (1) the rental value of a home furnished to him as part of his compensation; or (2) the rental allowance paid to him as part of his compensation, to the extent used by him to rent or provide a home and to the extent such allowance does not exceed the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances such as a garage, plus the cost of utilities." Per the IRC, in order for the housing allowance to be excluded from federal income taxes it must be designated in advance of payment by official action of the employing church. In order for the employing church to determine the amount to designate, the pastor should complete a housing allowance worksheet and submit this form to the employing church requesting an amount to be designated that is reflective of the actual expenses incurred by the pastor in relation to the fair market value of housing in the applicable geographic area.

Current Text

1. Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2a -
2. Stewards Paragraph 2)b) The benefits include, but are not
3. limited to: pension or retirement, insurance(s); health,
4. disability, professional liability, key person life insurance*;
5. self-employment tax; parsonage or housing allowance;
6. continuing education; travel: connectional, episcopal district,
7. conference, inner parish, and all other related to official
8. duties.

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Amended Text

1. Part V-Local Church Organization Section 1.A.2a -
2. Stewards Paragraph 2)b) The benefits include, but are not
3. limited to: pension or retirement, insurance(s); health,
4. disability, professional liability; parsonage or housing
5. allowance; continuing education; travel: connectional,
6. episcopal district, conference, inner parish, and all other
7. related to official duties.

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Bill Number:

Title: Revisions to the Benefits Included in a Pastor's Salary & Benefits Package - #3



Submitted by: Cynthia Gordon-Floyd

Contact: cynthia@willingsteward.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2016 Part V-Local Church Organization Section
1.A.2.a.2)b) (page 86)

Intent

The purpose of this requested revision is to eliminate from the Doctrine and Discipline the inclusion of key person life insurance as a suggested component of a pastor's salary and benefit package.

Rationale

Key Person Life Insurance is a policy that is customarily purchased by a business on its key executives. The premiums are paid by the business and the business is the beneficiary of the policy. If the employee suddenly dies, the company receives the insurance payoff. This payment serves as a means of offsetting the immediate negative effect on the company of the loss of that person. This type of insurance should not be a listed in our Doctrine and Discipline as a component of a pastors salary and benefit package.

Current Text

1. If a housing allowance is given, it is the Stewards' duty to
2. negotiate a reasonable housing allowance with the pastor.
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Amended Text

1. If a housing allowance is given, it is the Stewards' duty to
2. negotiate a reasonable housing allowance with the pastor
3. after the pastor documents his/her applicable housing
4. expenses on a housing allowance worksheet. The Stewards
5. will document the fair market value of housing in the
6. geographic area and officially designate the approved
7. amount of the pastor's housing allowance in advance of
8. payment.
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Bill Number: CM - 01

Title: Uniform AME Pulpit and Altar Color Calendar



Submitted by: Anthony Steele

Contact: assteele@msn.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 92; Section 2 - Duties; Subsection 4

Intent

To add language that creates a uniform liturgical color calendar specifically for the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rationale

The current language leaves ambiguity of which Christian calendar to follow. New language and calendar would give specificity to an AME Liturgical Color Calendar to follow for the entire connection. To date there are many conflicting color calendars from a number of Christian denominations, (i.e, Presbyterian, Lutheran, etc.) that are used by a number of local churches without any continuity. This change would allow for clarity in the AME church around the world to operate with the same liturgical color calendar.

Current Text

1. 4.) To dress the pulpit and altar with suitable, clean, colored
2. coverings for
3. the various seasons of the Christian year, for funerals, and
4. for memorials.

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Amended Text

1. 4.) To dress the pulpit and altar with suitable, clean, colored
2. coverings for the various seasons of the Christian year as
3. prescribed by the African Methodist Episcopal Church
4. seasonal calendar.
5. The pulpit and altar are to be dressed in the colors for the
6. AME Christian Season except on 1st Sunday or
7. Communion Services. Colors for funerals and memorials
8. are at the discretion of the minister in charge. They are to
9. be dressed in these colors until the following season.
10. AME Christian Seasons Color Calendar
11. 1st Sunday or Communion Services - White
12. Advent Season - Purple
13. Christmas Eve - White
14. After Epiphany (Ordinary Time) - Green
15. Lenten Season - Purple
16. Easter - White
17. Pentecost - Red
18. After Pentecost (Ordinary Time) - Green

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Bill Number: CM - 02

Title: Growing the Local Lay Organization



Submitted by: Bill Dickens

Contact: dickensb@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Pages 94-95 of the 2016 Book of Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Intent

To incentivize more local members to become members of the local lay organization.

Rationale

The Lay Organization is the key educational and training component for members to understand how the AME Church works and functions. Currently too few members and local officers are lay participants. Much of the cause for low lay participation is attributed to a "monthly meeting schedule". The low lay participation rate could be addressed by requiring local lay organizations to adopt a more flexible meeting schedule similar to Church School. This bill would require the local lay to meet more frequently thereby maximizing interest and member participation.

Current Text

1. The current text (pp. 94-95) reads: "The Lay Organization is
2. usually composed of three (3) or more persons. formed for
3. the purpose of instilling in its membership a love and
4. appreciation for the history, tradition, and principles of
5. African Methodism; advocating respect and loyalty to
6. constituted authority; encouraging the support of the total
7. program of the local church; fostering systematic and
8. regular study which will provide greater knowledge. and
9. participation in the church; organizing and training lay
10. members concerning the goals and objectives of the
11. Connectional Lay Organization."

Amended Text

1. After the last sentence in the above text insert: "The local
2. lay will conduct at least two meetings per month by in-
3. person or thru virtual meeting technologies like Zoom,
4. Facebook Live or GoTo Meeting to accommodate the
5. scheduling conflicts created by a monthly local lay meeting."

Bill Number: CM - 09

Title: The Local Church Organization



Submitted by: Submitted by Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016,
Section I, B, 4 (page 98) and Section II, C, 3c (pages 103-104)

Intent

To clarify the African Methodist Episcopal Church has one system of operating business.

Rationale

There is one system of operating the business of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The text in the Discipline suggests there are two systems the local church and an optional system of operating. The Central Budget Fund needs to be removed from the Optional Local Church Organization Commissions in the Local Church section because the Central Budget Fund is not a Commission, and would thus erase the idea that it is optional.

Current Text

1. 1 CURRENT TEXT: page 103, Section 3 Commission on
2. Stewardship and Finance, c.
3. 2 c. Central Budget Fund The work of the local church
4. requires the support of each member.
5. 3 Participation through services and gifts is a Christian duty
6. and a means of grace. In order that all
7. 4 members of the AME Church on the local level may share
8. in its manifold ministries at home and
9. 5 abroad, and that work committed to us may prosper, the
10. following financial plan is hereby duly
11. 6 approved and adopted. [(See Part II, Section VII:
12. Stewardship: Tithes and Offerings (Rules for
13. 7 Giving)]
14. 8 1) There may be established a central fund in the local
15. church known as the Central Budget
16. 9 Fund.
17. 10 2) The various causes and services included in this local
18. fund shall be:
19. 11 a) Ministers Support
20. 12 b) Benevolences
21. 13 c) Christian Education
22. 14 d) Public Relations
23. 15 e) Connectional Budget
24. 16 f) Conference Budget (District, Annual)
25. 17 g) Community Projects
26. 18 h) Current Trustee Expenses
27. 19 i) Purchase and Repair
28. 20 j) Church Expansion (Local)
29. 21 k) Travel (Minister and Lay)
30. 22 l) Extra Budget Projects
31. 23 m) Insurance
32. 24 n) Contingency

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Amended Text

1. 1 AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Add to page 99, Section 4
2. Business, new number e
3. 2 e. Central Budget Fund The work of the local church
4. requires the support of each member.
5. 3 Participation through services and gifts is a Christian duty
6. and a means of grace. In order that all
7. 4 members of the AME Church on the local level may share
8. in its manifold ministries at home and
9. 5 abroad, and that work committed to us may prosper, the
10. following financial plan is hereby duly
11. 6 approved and adopted. [See Part II, Section VII:
12. Stewardship: Tithes and Offerings (Rules for
13. 7 Giving)]
14. 8 1) There may be established a central fund in the local
15. church known as the Central Budget
16. 9 Fund.
17. 10 2) The various causes and services included in and not
18. limited to this local fund shall be:
19. 11 a) Ministers Support
20. 12 b) Benevolences
21. 13 c) Christian Education
22. 14 d) Public Relations
23. 15 e) Connectional Budget
24. 16 f) Conference Budget (District, Annual)
25. 17 g) Community Projects
26. 18 h) Current Trustee Expenses
27. 19 i) Purchase and Repair
28. 20 j) Church Expansion (Local)
29. 21 k) Travel (Minister and Lay)
30. 22 l) Extra Budget Projects
31. 23 m) Insurance
32. 24 n) Contingency

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35. 27 Funding: There is no funding associated with this Bill.
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Bill Number: CM - 03

Title: Accountability in Reporting



Submitted by: Submitted by the Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016,
page 98

Intent

To ensure official reports submitted by the pastor and/or The Official Board
of a local church are accurate.

Rationale

There is a need to ensure accuracy in data shared in reports to the Quarterly
Conference, Annual Conference and other official reports of the local church. These documents are used to verify the
essential points of information in legal proceedings, personnel decisions, disciplinary actions and other processes. Thus,
accuracy, validation and honesty are essential in church reports. A signature is recognized as a sign of affirmation of
accuracy of the report.

Current Text

1. CURRENT TEXT: No current text.

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Amended Text

1. AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Add to Part V Local Church
2. Organization, Section 1. Local
3. 3 Church Organization Required, Subsection B. The
4. Official Board, 4. Business
5. 4 4. Business
6. 5 a. The secretary shall keep a strict record of the
7. proceedings. All official reports
8. 6 called for in The Doctrine and Discipline of the African
9. Methodist Episcopal Church
10. 7 from the local church must include a signed affidavit as a
11. part of each report
12. 8 including the financial report, which is included in the
13. report from the Steward
14. 9 Board. The signature page of each report now serves as
15. the affidavit attesting to the
16. 10 accuracy of the report and must be signed by pastor and
17. the chairperson of the
18. 11 Organization. Copies of these reports must be
19. maintained in the official files of the
20. 12 church and when necessary copies should be given to
21. the Presiding Elder.
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23. 14 Funding: There is no funding associated with this Bill.
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Bill Number: CM - 04

Title: Accountability of Optional Commissions



Submitted by: Submitted by the Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Section II Local Church Organization Optional Commissions A. Guidelines for Establishing Commissions, 1. Types, page 99

Intent

To clarify the African Methodist Episcopal Church's optional commission system of operating is accountable to the Official Board and Quarterly Conference.

Rationale

The use of optional commissions, is at times, misrepresented as operating outside the authority of the Official Board and Quarterly Conference. This legislation clarifies that optional commissions are accountable to the Official Board and Quarterly Conference.

Current Text

1. CURRENT TEXT: Section II, A. Guidelines for Establishing
2. Commissions, page 99
3. 2 1. Types
4. 3 There may be constituted in each local church the
5. following commissions, whose respective
6. 4 duties are hereinafter defined: a) The Commission on
7. Membership, Evangelism and
8. 5 Discipleship b) The Commission on Christian Education,
9. c) The Commission on Missions
10. 6 and Welfare, d) The Commission on Stewardship and
11. Finance, e) The Commission on Public
12. 7 Relations, f) The Commission on Christian Social Action
13. and g) The Commission on Health.

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Amended Text

1. 8 AMENDED/NEW TEXT: page 99, Section II LOCAL
2. CHURCH ORGANIZATION
3. 9 OPTIONAL COMMISSIONS A. Guidelines for
4. Establishing Commissions
5. 10 1. Types: There may be constituted in each local church
6. the following commissions, that are
7. 11 accountable to the Official Board and
8. QuarterlyConference, whose respective duties are
9. 12 hereinafter defined: a) The Commission on Membership,
10. Evangelism and Discipleship
11. 13 b) The Commission on Christian Education c) The
12. Commission on Missions and Welfare
13. 14 d) The Commission on Public Relations e) The
14. Commission on Christian Social Action and
15. 15 f) The Commission on Health.
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17. 17 Funding: There is no funding associated with this Bill.

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Bill Number: CM - 10

Title: Planning for Pandemics & Natural Disasters



Submitted by: Bill Dickens

Contact: ameeconomist@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Page 105, Paragraph 6c.

Intent

To increase budgeted resources by \$200,000 per year for the AME Church to adequately respond to unexpected public health crises.

Rationale

The Coronavirus pandemic has radically changed our normal way of life. In order to be properly prepared in the likelihood of a future pandemic, the AME Church must have a sound contingency plan that can be rapidly deployed to serve our church communities. The current budget for the Commission on Health is woefully underfunded to adequately meet a future public health challenge.

This legislation will create additional funding to meet the challenges of pandemics and natural disasters like earthquakes, hurricanes and tornadoes.

Current Text

1. Page 106, Paragraph 6c reads: It (Commission on Health)
2. will submit an annual budget to the Commission on
3. Statistics and Finance.

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Amended Text

1. After the sentence above insert the following: The
2. Commission on Health will include in its budget request a
3. line item for \$200,000 per year in the next Quadrennial
4. Budget for the acquisition of skilled public health personnel
5. for rapid response to pandemics and/or natural disasters.

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Bill Number: CM - 11

Title: Planning for Pandemics



Submitted by: Bill Dickens

Contact: dickensb@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 105, Paragraph 6c of the 2016 Book of Doctrine and Discipline

Intent

To increase budgeted resources by \$100,000 per year for the AME Church to adequately respond to unexpected public health crises.

Rationale

The Coronavirus has radically altered our normal way of life. In order to be better prepared in the likelihood of a future pandemic, the AME Church must have a sound contingency plan in place that can be rapidly deployed to serve our church communities. The current budget for the Commission on Health is woefully underfunded to adequately meet a future public health challenge. This legislation will create additional funding to meet the challenge.

Current Text

1. Page 105, paragraph 6c reads: "It (Commission on Health)
2. shall submit an annual budget to the Commission on
3. Stewardship and Finance."

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Amended Text

1. "The Commission on Health will include in its budget
2. request a line item specifically for public health pandemic
3. planning in the amount of no less \$100,000 each for the
4. Quadrennial Budget."

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Bill Number: MIN - 14

Title: CALL TO PREACH QUESTION



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. A. Qismat Alim

Contact: Qismat2002@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part VII Procedures for Ministerial Service, Section I. The Call to Preach A. Questions for Persons Seeking a License to Preach (p. 113)

Intent

This legislation will provide clear guidance to assist those with a desire to serve the church and will make a distinction between those who are called to teach, become a missionary or a call to preach.

Rationale

Adding the question Have they acknowledged and confessed that God has called them to Preach the Gospel? will help the Board of Examiners to provide the necessary guidance to assist individuals with fulfilling this commission.

The current questions regarding the call to preach do not address the commissioning of God to specifically preach. The current questions could apply to all persons who become Christians without a distinction to the call to preach.

Current Text

1. A. Questions for Persons Seeking a License to Preach
2. As to religious experience:
3. a. Do they know God as a pardoning God?
4. b. Do they have the love of God abiding in them?
5. c. Do they desire and seek nothing but God?
6. d. Are they holy in all manner of conversation?
7. As to gifts:
8. Do they have a clear, sound understanding; a right
9. judgment in the things of God, and
10. just conception of salvation by faith?
11. As to fruits:
12. Are they truly convinced of sin and converted to God by
13. their preaching?
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Amended Text

1. ADD 4. As to commissioning:
2. Have they acknowledged and confessed that God has
3. called them to Preach the Gospel?
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Bill Number:

Title: Call to Preach Question



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. A. Qismat Alim

Contact: Qismat2002@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part VII Procedures for Ministerial Service, Section I. The Call to Preach A. Questions for Persons Seeking a License to Preach (p. 113)

Intent

This legislation will provide clear guidance to assist those with a desire to serve the church and will make a distinction between those who are called to teach, become a missionary or a call to preach.

Rationale

Adding the question Have they acknowledged and confessed that God has called them to Preach the Gospel? will help the Board of Examiners to provide the necessary guidance to assist individuals with fulfilling this commission. The current questions regarding the call to preach do not address the commissioning of God to specifically preach. The current questions could apply to all persons who become Christians without a distinction to the call to preach.

Current Text

1. A. Questions for Persons Seeking a License to Preach As
2. to religious experience: a. Do they know God as a
3. pardoning God? b. Do they have the love of God abiding in
4. them? c. Do they desire and seek nothing but God? d. Are
5. they holy in all manner of conversation? As to gifts: Do they
6. have a clear, sound understanding; a right judgment in the
7. things of God, and just conception of salvation by faith? As
8. to fruits: Are they truly convinced of sin and converted to
9. God by their preaching?

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Amended Text

1. ADD As to commissioning: Have they acknowledged and
2. confessed that God has called them to Preach the Gospel?

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Bill Number: MIN - 16

Title: Licentiate



Submitted by: Veronica Finney

Contact: vmfinney@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 119

Intent

To add language that will allow for virtual attendance of candidates for orders to the Annual Conference and/or other conferences as outlined in part VII Procedures for Ministerial Service for Board of Examiners examination.

Rationale

There are AME members who are called to the ministry but are not able to physically attend the Annual Conference and/or other conferences as outlined in part VII Procedures for Ministerial Service for examinations by the Board of Examiners (BOE) due to military, DOD (Department of Defense), other job commitments, and/or living OCONUS (outside the continental United States). The current language does not call for a physical presence. It merely states that the candidates are to be examined at the annual conference. This proposal will provide an avenue for candidates to meet the board of examiners requirements and continue to fulfill their job commitment. This proposal will also implement a strategy that supports the mission, vision, purpose, and objectives of the AMEC, supports Bishops vision for 21st century technology integration in the AMEC, relieve AMEC members of undue emotional and financial hardship (possible job lose and excessive travel expenses), and further the spread of the gospel of Christ and the mission of the AMEC around the globe.

Current Text

1. Candidates for orders shall be examined twice a year by the
2. Annual Conference Board of Examiners. These
3. examinations shall take place at the Annual Conference and
4. before the expiration of a period not exceeding six (6)
5. months after the close of the Annual Conference. The
6. candidates shall be notified by mail thirty (30) days before
7. the scheduled examinations.

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Amended Text

1. Candidates for orders shall be examined twice a year by the
2. Annual Conference Board of Examiners. These
3. examinations shall take place at the Annual Conference and
4. before the expiration of a period not exceeding six (6)
5. months after the close of the Annual Conference. The
6. candidates who plan to physically attend the Annual
7. Conference shall be notified by mail thirty (30) days before
8. the scheduled examinations.
9. When physical attendance to the Annual Conference and/or
10. other conferences as outlined in part VII Procedures for
11. Ministerial Service is not possible due to extenuating
12. circumstances, i.e. living outside of the continental United
13. States in an area where there are no AMEC, military, DoD,
14. or other justifiable obligations or circumstances, candidates
15. can meet the examination requirements virtually via Zoom,
16. Go2Meeting, Skype, Google Hangout, Conference Calls, or
17. some other appropriate virtual venue established by the
18. BOE. Candidates are responsible to inform and provide
19. evidence of extenuating circumstances to their pastor and
20. the BOE sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Conference.
21. The candidates shall be notified at least thirty (30) days
22. prior to the scheduled examinations and/or Annual
23. Conference of their decision, by email and/or telephone, to
24. allow for virtual attendance. Regular mail when applicable. If
25. the BOE approves of virtual attendance, the BOE will
26. provide all necessary connectivity information (links, phone
27. numbers, instruction for connecting, etc.). The Candidate
28. has five (5) days after receiving the BOE decision to accept
29. or repeal. The acceptance or repeal must be in writing via
30. email, fax, and/or scan. Regular mail when applicable.

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Bill Number: MIN - 02

Title: Ministerial Training Board Composition



Submitted by: Sandra Nelson on behalf of 5th District Lay Organization

Contact: sen50@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part VII, Section III, Subsection C -Ministerial Training Board (Committee on Instruction); Pages 120 and 121.

Intent

To amend the composition of the Ministerial Training Board to include lay instructors.

Rationale

Under the current composition listed in the Doctrine and Discipline, there is no requirement that the members of the Training Board be only ordained persons as is the case with the Board of Examiners. The Course of Instruction includes classes that credentialed members of laity are highly qualified to teach. The AME church should take full advantage of its resources in an effort to get the best results in all its endeavors, for the benefit of our Zion. Therefore, lay persons who are certified and qualified to teach classes in the Course of Instruction should be retained for the purpose, thus promoting clergy and laity collaborating in the training of our ordained servants.

Current Text

1. Part VII, Sec. III. B.; Page 120 (1st paragraph)
2. The presiding bishop shall appoint the Dean of Ministerial
3. Training of the conference. The dean, in turn, shall
4. nominate the staff (committees) which shall be confirmed by
5. the Annual Conference.
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Amended Text

1. Part VII, Sec. III. B.; Page 120 (1st para.)
2. The presiding Bishop shall appoint the Dean of Ministerial
3. Training of the conference. The dean, in turn, shall
4. nominate the staff (committees) which will consist of highly
5. qualified and/or certified clergy and laity which shall be
6. confirmed by the Annual Conference.
7. Financial Implications: Should be neutral as the composition
8. is changing and not necessarily the number of instructors.
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Submitted by: JACQUELYN DUPONT-WALKER

Contact: JDUPONTW@AOL.COM

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

page 121- course of instruction for preachers

page 122 - continued

page 144 - Evangelist

Intent

The 2016 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church provides some guidance, but does not clearly delineate the standards, skills, and education required to become an effective Evangelist. The current legislation does not define this ministry, nor outline the scope of ministry, license requirements, training needed and restrictions of this office. This legislation proposes to do just that.

Rationale

The Church, from its founding, has recognized the diversity of gifts and callings that made up the body of Christ. In fact, in Methodism, we refer to "the priesthood of all believers". In Ephesians, Paul not only elaborates on the diversity of callings, but he also lists several. He writes:

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and father of all, who is above all and through all, and in you all.... Paul in his letter to the church of Ephesus identifies Evangelist as a distinct ministry and call. Furthermore Christ changed the church to: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with always even to the end of the age. Amen" "Matthew 28:18-20 (NKLX)

While it is a responsibility for all members to participate in the evangelism programs of the local church there are those who are gifted and called to this ministry. At a time when we lament the dwindling number of "members" and visitors attending worship services, the need for Evangelist is of utmost importance. Those called to Evangelism have the awesome responsibility as well as gifts necessary to ministry to the souls of people who are wondering, hurting, confused, intolerant angry and despondent. Evangelists have the opportunity to reach out beyond the walls of the church to spread the good news that God loves unconditionally. It is the purpose of this legislation to further define the role of an Evangelist as well as the necessary training and preparation.

Current Text

1. page 144
2. E. Evangelist
3. 1. Each Evangelist licensed b our bishop and Annual
4. Conferences shall be required to be of good moral
5. character
6. 2. An Evangelist must hold, at least a licence to preach
7. 3. An Evangelist must be a member of the local church,
8. assist with class meetings and and cooperating with the
9. pastor for the good of the work.
10. 4. Evangelists are amenable to the Quarterly District and
11. Annual Conferences and are required to report to all. All
12. evangelists shall be subject to the authority of minister-in-
13. charge.

Amended Text

1. Evangelism
2. Evangelist Definition
3. A person who is zealous in teaching, proclaiming and spreading the Gospel in
4. order to lead the unsaved, unchurched, and unconcerned to active participation in
5. the work of the Lord and the Church. A person who seeks to tell the story of a
6. liberating faith and win souls for Christ through conversations and expanding the
7. body of Christ through accessions.
8. Scope of Ministry
9. An Evangelist must
10. 1. Be able to communicate a clear understanding of the Bible's message of
11. forgiveness and salvation through Christ and to convey the message in his/her
12. own style.
13. 2. Be able to effectively share and establish relation ship with the unsaved,
14. unchurched, and unconcerned.
15. 3. Be able to use his/her talents to fulfill the Calling through programs, witnessing,
16. teaching and other activities that spread the Gospel beyond the walls of the
17. church.
18. License
19. 1) An evangelist must be amenable to the Quarterly, District, and Annual
20. Conferences and is required to report to all. All Evangelists shall be subject to the
21. authority of the minister-in-charge of their local congregations.
22. 2) An Evangelist may hold a license to preach from the Quarterly Conference
23. prior to licensing by the Annual Conference.
24. 3) An Evangelist must successfully complete the Class on Evangelism prior to
25. licensing by the Annual Conference
26. 4) Evangelists shall be licensed by the bishop and annual conference. Each shall
27. be required to be of good and moral character.
28. 5) An Evangelist must be a member of a local church, assisting with class
29. meetings and cooperating with the pastor for the good of the work.
30. Training and Recommended Course of Study
31. The Board of Examiners Class on Evangelism shall ensure that each applicant for
32. license has completed a course of study to include readings, papers,
33. presentations, and project. The shall should prepare each student for a. teaching,
34. b, witnessing, c. program development, d. preaching, e. social justice intervention,
35. f. other activities that spread the Gospel and bring people to Christ. The
36. Evangelism class would include, but not be limited to:
37. A. Evangelism
38. 1. Bible
39. 2. Christian Apologetics
40. 3. Program Development
41. 4. Marketing/Advertising
42. 5. Civic Engagement, Equity and Advocacy
43. Readings
44. The course should identify the best resources,, and update the reading list as
45. needed. Core readings would include, such as:
46. 1)The Heart of Evangelism - Jerram Barrs
47. 2) Evangelism in the Early Church - Michael Green
48. 3) The Unchurched Next Door - Understanding Faith Stages as Keys to Sharing
49. Your Faith- Thom S Rainer
50. 4) Lost in America - How You and Your Church Can Impact the World Next Door
51. - Tom Clegg
52. 5) Moving In the Right Direction - Earl R. Jefferson
53. 6) The Laity in Ministry - Gregory Peck, John Hoffman
54. 7) Freedom's Prophet - Richard S Newman
55. 8) A Black Theology of Liberation - James Cone
56. 9) The Bible - any translation but NRSV preferred
57. Restrictions
58. Evangelists may conduct devotional exercises, participate in services of worship,
59. preach the gospel and conduct acts of ministry from the lectern, except that
60. Evangelists shall not perform those function of ministry generally regarded as
61. priestly responsibility such as solemnizing weddings, unless authorized by
62. government authorities, as a notary public; marriage officer or recorder of deeds,
63. consecrating the elements of the Holy Communion, performing baptisms,
64. unveiling tombstones, and perform rituals associated with burying the dead
65. except when authorized by the Presiding Bishop of the Annual Conference.
66. NOTE: This legislation has no financial impact.
67. Submitted by the 5th District Legislative Task Force

Bill Number:

Title: EVANGELISM



Submitted by: JACQUELYN DUPONT-WALKER

Contact: JDUPONTW@AOL.COM

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

page 121- course of instruction for preachers

page 122 - continued

page 144 - Evangelist

Intent

The 2016 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church provides some guidance, but does not clearly delineate the standards, skills, and education required to become an effective Evangelist. The current legislation does not define this ministry, nor outline the scope of ministry, license requirements, training needed and restrictions of this office. This legislation proposes to do just that.

Rationale

The Church, from its founding, has recognized the diversity of gifts and callings that made up the body of Christ. In fact, in Methodism, we refer to "the priesthood of all believers". In Ephesians, Paul not only elaborates on the diversity of callings, but he also lists several. He writes:

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and father of all, who is above all and through all, and in you all.... Paul in his letter to the church of Ephesus identifies Evangelist as a distinct ministry and call. Furthermore Christ changed the church to: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with always even to the end of the age. Amen" "Matthew 28:18-20 (NKLX)

While it is a responsibility for all members to participate in the evangelism programs of the local church there are those who are gifted and called to this ministry. At a time when we lament the dwindling number of "members" and visitors attending worship services, the need for Evangelist is of utmost importance. Those called to Evangelism have the awesome responsibility as well as gifts necessary to ministry to the souls of people who are wondering, hurting, confused, intolerant angry and despondent. Evangelists have the opportunity to reach out beyond the walls of the church to spread the good news that God loves unconditionally. It is the purpose of this legislation to further define the role of an Evangelist as well as the necessary training and preparation.

Current Text

1. page 144
2. E. Evangelist
3. 1. Each Evangelist licensed b our bishop and Annual
4. Conferences shall be required to be of good moral
5. character
6. 2. An Evangelist must hold, at least a licence to preach
7. 3. An Evangelist must be a member of the local church,
8. assist with class meetings and and cooperating with the
9. pastor for the good of the work.
10. 4. Evangelists are amenable to the Quarterly District and
11. Annual Conferences and are required to report to all. All
12. evangelists shall be subject to the authority of minister-in-
13. charge.

Amended Text

1. Evangelism
2. Evangelist Definition
3. A person who is zealous in teaching, proclaiming and spreading the Gospel in
4. order to lead the unsaved, unchurched, and unconcerned to active participation in
5. the work of the Lord and the Church. A person who seeks to tell the story of a
6. liberating faith and win souls for Christ through conversations and expanding the
7. body of Christ through accessions.
8. Scope of Ministry
9. An Evangelist must
10. 1. Be able to communicate a clear understanding of the Bible's message of
11. forgiveness and salvation through Christ and to convey the message in his/her
12. own style.
13. 2. Be able to effectively share and establish relation ship with the unsaved,
14. unchurched, and unconcerned.
15. 3. Be able to use his/her talents to fulfill the Calling through programs, witnessing,
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17. church.
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20. Conferences and is required to report to all. All Evangelists shall be subject to the
21. authority of the minister-in-charge of their local congregations.
22. 2) An Evangelist may hold a license to preach from the Quarterly Conference
23. prior to licensing by the Annual Conference.
24. 3) An Evangelist must successfully complete the Class on Evangelism prior to
25. licensing by the Annual Conference
26. 4) Evangelists shall be licensed by the bishop and annual conference. Each shall
27. be required to be of good and moral character.
28. 5) An Evangelist must be a member of a local church, assisting with class
29. meetings and cooperating with the pastor for the good of the work.
30. Training and Recommended Course of Study
31. The Board of Examiners Class on Evangelism shall ensure that each applicant for
32. license has completed a course of study to include readings, papers,
33. presentations, and project. The shall should prepare each student for a. teaching,
34. b, witnessing, c. program development, d. preaching, e. social justice intervention,
35. f. other activities that spread the Gospel and bring people to Christ. The
36. Evangelism class would include, but not be limited to:
37. A. Evangelism
38. 1. Bible
39. 2. Christian Apologetics
40. 3. Program Development
41. 4. Marketing/Advertising
42. 5. Civic Engagement, Equity and Advocacy
43. Readings
44. The course should identify the best resources,, and update the reading list as
45. needed. Core readings would include, such as:
46. 1)The Heart of Evangelism - Jerram Barrs
47. 2) Evangelism in the Early Church - Michael Green
48. 3) The Unchurched Next Door - Understanding Faith Stages as Keys to Sharing
49. Your Faith- Thom S Rainer
50. 4) Lost in America - How You and Your Church Can Impact the World Next Door
51. - Tom Clegg
52. 5) Moving In the Right Direction - Earl R. Jefferson
53. 6) The Laity in Ministry - Gregory Peck, John Hoffman
54. 7) Freedom's Prophet - Richard S Newman
55. 8) A Black Theology of Liberation - James Cone
56. 9) The Bible - any translation but NRSV preferred
57. Restrictions
58. Evangelists may conduct devotional exercises, participate in services of worship,
59. preach the gospel and conduct acts of ministry from the lectern, except that
60. Evangelists shall not perform those function of ministry generally regarded as
61. priestly responsibility such as solemnizing weddings, unless authorized by
62. government authorities, as a notary public; marriage officer or recorder of deeds,
63. consecrating the elements of the Holy Communion, performing baptisms,
64. unveiling tombstones, and perform rituals associated with burying the dead
65. except when authorized by the Presiding Bishop of the Annual Conference.
66. NOTE: This legislation has no financial impact.
67. Submitted by the 5th District Legislative Task Force

Bill Number: MIN - 01

Title: Course of Instruction for Preachers



Submitted by: Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine & Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, C. Ministerial Training Board (Committees on Instruction) page 121

Intent

To ensure all candidates entering the ministry are trained in the history, polity, administration and doctrine of the AME Church.

Rationale

Given there are several optional educational institutions that candidates for ministry may attend, the educational programs may not offer instruction in the AME Church history, polity, administration and doctrine. It is important all candidates entering the ministry in the AME Church receive training in the history, polity, administration and doctrine of the AME Church.

Current Text

1. 1 CURRENT TEXT: C. Ministerial Training Board
2. (Committee on Instruction),
3. 2 D. Course of Instruction for Preachers, page 121
4. 3 D. Course of Instruction for Preachers
5. 4 The following course of study constitutes the minimum
6. requirement for each of
7. 5 the four (4) years of study, after the candidate has been
8. admitted to the Annual
9. 6 Conference. A candidate who is regularly enrolled in an
10. approved theological
11. 7 seminary may be exempted from the general course of
12. study, but must be
13. 8 required to study and pass an examination in the history,
14. polity, doctrine and
15. 9 current program of the AME Church. The Board of
16. Examiners should determine
17. 10 whether a candidate is fully registered and presently
18. attending an accredited
19. 11 seminary.

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Amended Text

1. 1 AMENDED/NEW TEXT: D. Course of Instruction for
2. Preachers, page 121
3. 2 D. Course of Instruction for Preachers
4. 3 The following course of study constitutes the minimum
5. requirement for each of
6. 4 the four (4) years of study, after the candidate has been
7. admitted to the Annual
8. 5 Conference. A candidate who is regularly enrolled in an
9. approved theological
10. 6 seminary may be exempted from the general course of
11. study. The Board of
12. 7 Examiners must provide instruction in the history, polity,
13. doctrine,
14. 8 administration and current program of the AME Church to
15. all candidates.
16. 9 Candidates should be directed to experience AME
17. Churches to assist in their
18. 10 understanding of the function of the local church.
19. Candidates will also be tested
20. 11 on their ability to conduct the Official Board, Church
21. Conference and Quarterly
22. 12 Conference. In addition, the candidate must pass an
23. exam on the history, polity,
24. 13 administration doctrine and current program of the AME
25. Church. The Board of
26. 14 Examiners should determine whether a candidate is fully
27. registered and
28. 15 presently attending an accredited seminary.
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31. 18 Funding: There is no funding associated with this Bill.

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Bill Number:

Title: EVANGELISM



Submitted by: Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker & Roger Richardson

Contact: jdupontw@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

page 121 - course of instruction for preachers

page 122 - continued

page 144 - Evangelist

Intent

The 2016 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church provides some guidance, but does not clearly delineate the standards, skills, and education required to become an effective Evangelist.

the current legislation does not define this ministry. nor outline the scope of ministry, license requirements, training needed and restrictions of this office. This legislation proposes to do just that.

Rationale

The Church, from its founding, has recognized the diversity of gifts and callings that make up the body of Christ. In fact, in Methodism, we refer to the priesthood of all believers. In Ephesians Paul not only elaborates on the diversity of callings but he also lists several. He writes:

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended"--what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, Ephesians 4:4-12 (NKJV)

Paul in his letter to the church at Ephesus identifies Evangelist as a distinct ministry and calling. Furthermore, Christ charged the church to:

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV)

While it is a responsibility for all members to participate in the evangelism programs of the local church there are those who are gifted and called to this ministry. At a time when we lament the dwindling numbers of members, and visitors attending worship services, the need for Evangelist is of utmost importance. Those called to Evangelism have the awesome responsibility as well as gifts necessary to minister to the souls of people who are wondering, hurting, confused, intolerant, angry and despondent. Evangelists have the opportunity to reach out beyond the walls of the church to spread the good news that God loves unconditionally. It is the purpose of this legislation to further define the role of an Evangelist as well as the

Current Text

1. page 122; Our team always insures
2. The Course of Instruction
3. a. Admissions;
4. 1) Bible
5. 2) Church Tradition
6. b. First Year Studies;
7. c. Second Year Studies;
8. d. Third Year Studies;
9. e. Fourth Year Studies;
10. page 144
11. E Evangelist
12. 1. Each Evangelist licensed by our bishop and Annual
13. Conferences shall be required to be of good moral
14. character.
15. 2. An evangelist must hold, at least, a local preacher's
16. license.
17. 3. An evangelist must be a member of the local church,
18. assisting with class meetings, and cooperating with the
19. pastor for the good of the work.
20. 4. Evangelists are amenable to the Quarterly, District and
21. Annual Conferences and are required to report to all. All
22. evangelists shall be subject to the authority of the minister-
23. in-charge.
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Amended Text

1. Recommended Course of Study
2. A. Evangelism
3. 1. Bible
4. 2. Christian Apologetics
5. 3. Program Development
6. 4. Marketing/Advertising
7. Page 144
8. Evangelist
9. Definition
10. A person who is zealous in preaching, teaching and spreading the Gospel in
11. order to lead the unsaved, unchurched and unconcerned to active
12. participation in the work of the Lord and the Church. A person who seeks to
13. win souls for Christ through conversions and expanding the body of Christ
14. through accessions.
15. Scope of Ministry
16. 1) Must be able to communicate a clear understanding of the Bible's message
17. of forgiveness and salvation through Christ and to convey the message in
18. his/her own style.
19. 2) Must be able to effectively share and establish relationships with the
20. unsaved, unchurched and unconcerned.
21. 3) Must be able to use her/his talents to fulfill this Calling through preaching,
22. programs, witnessing, teaching and other activities that spread the Gospel
23. beyond the walls of the church.
24. License
25. 1) An Evangelist must be amenable to the Quarterly, District and Annual
26. Conferences, and is required to report to all. All Evangelists shall be subject
27. to the authority of the minister-in-charge of their local congregations.
28. 2) An Evangelist may hold, a license to preach from the quarterly conference
29. prior to licensing by the Annual Conference.
30. 3) An Evangelist must successfully complete the Class on Evangelism prior to
31. licensing by the Annual Conference.
32. 4) Evangelist shall be licensed by our bishops and Annual Conferences. Each
33. shall be required to be of good and moral character.
34. 5) Must be a member of the local church, assisting with class meetings and
35. cooperating with the pastor for the good of the work.
36. Training
37. 1. The Board of Examiners Class on Evangelism shall ensure that each
38. applicant for license has completed a course of study that includes: readings,
39. papers, presentations, and projects. The class should prepare each student
40. for: a. preaching, b. program development, c. witnessing, d. marketing, e.
41. teaching and f. other activities that spread the Gospel and bring people to
42. Christ.
43. Readings
44. 1) The Heart of Evangelism - Jerram Barrs
45. 2) Evangelism in the Early Church - Michael Green
46. 3) The Unchurched Next Door: Understanding Faith Stages as Keys to
47. Sharing Your Faith - Thom S. Rainer
48. 4) Lost in America: How You and Your Church Can Impact the World Next
49. Door - Tom Clegg
50. Restrictions
51. 1) They may; conduct devotional exercises, participate in services of worship,
52. preach the gospel and conduct acts of ministry from the lectern, except that;
53. 2) Evangelists shall not perform those functions of ministry generally regarded
54. as priestly responsibility such as solemnizing weddings, unless authorized by
55. government authorities, as a notary public, marriage officer or recorder of
56. deeds, consecrating the elements of the Holy Communion, performing
57. baptisms, unveiling tombstones, and performing rituals associated with
58. burying the dead except when authorized by the Presiding Bishop of the
59. Annual Conference.
60. NOTE: This legislation has no financial impact.
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Bill Number: MIN - 04

Title: Ministerial Training Board Course of Instruction



Submitted by: Sandra Nelson on behalf of 5th District Lay Organization

Contact: sen50@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part VII, Section III, Subsection C -Ministerial Training Board (Committee on Instruction); Pages 122

Intent

To amend the Doctrine and Discipline to augment the Course of Instruction by including study of the Doctrine and Discipline of the A. M. E. Church, and training in Fiscal and Personnel Management.

Rationale

The Course of Instruction should provide comprehensive training, addressing all areas for effective ministerial service that will enhance the local churches. Study of the Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and training in fiscal and personnel management are essential areas of ministerial preparation for effectual leadership at every level of our Zion. These classes need to be specifically listed.

Current Text

1. Part VII, Sec. III. C.; Page 122
2. The Course of Instruction
3. A. Admissions: 1) Church Tradition 2) Bible
4. B. First Year Studies: 1) Bible 2) Church Administration 3)
5. Church Tradition 4) Preaching
6. 5) Theology
7. D. Third Year Studies: 1) Bible 2) Christian Education 3)
8. Church History
9. 4) Church Leadership 5) Preaching 6) Theology 7)Worship
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Amended Text

1. Part VII, Sec. III. C.; Page 122
2. The Course of Instruction
3. A. Admissions: 1) Bible 2)Church Tradition
4. 3) The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist
5. Episcopal Church (current ed.)
6. B. First Year Studies: 1) Bible 2) Church Administration 3)
7. Church Tradition 4) Preaching 5) Theology 6) The Doctrine
8. and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
9. D. Third Year Studies: 1) Bible 2) Christian Education 3)
10. Church History
11. 4) Church Leadership 5) Preaching 6) Theology 7)Worship
12. 8) Management Financial and Personnel
13. Financial Implications: None
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Bill Number: MIN - 15

Title: LOVE FEAST TICKET LANGUAGE CHANGE



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Clay Barrow

Contact: Revb614@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

MINISTERIAL CLASSIFICATIONS, RULES AND SUPPORT, Paragraph B. Responsibilities item 16 (p. 131)

Intent

Revision of the wording from compulsory and obligatory language to more open language

Rationale

Love Feast is a historical and cherished Ritual observed by early Methodists and the forefathers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a ritual that has, unfortunately, lost preeminence in many churches and is unknown in others. This change intends to encourage the renewal of this beautiful ritual not as a mandate but as a tool providing the means of teaching love of God and neighbors. With the revision, the concept of who can come to Communion should be broadened in keeping with Article #19 of the Articles of Religion, which forbids the denial of the cup of any layperson. Whoever partakes of this Holy Sacrament should always be allowed to participate in a free and open table after praying the General Confession.

Current Text

1. According to MINISTERIAL CLASSIFICATIONS, RULES
2. AND SUPPORT,
3. Paragraph B. Responsibilities item 16 (p. 131): The pastor
4. shall give Love Feast Tickets
5. to all full members in good standingbut to no othersand
6. shall renew said tickets
7. quarterly. The pastor may, with the utmost caution, issue a
8. note of permission to attend
9. the Love Feast to any serious person who has attended
10. class three (3) times or is
11. recommended by a responsible person known to the pastor,
12. but never to two (2)
13. consecutive Love Feasts, nor more than three (3) times,
14. without the person becoming a
15. member.
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Amended Text

1. The pastor is encouraged to conduct Love Feast before
2. each Communion service.
3. Those who participate in Love Feast will be invited to the
4. first table at Communion when
5. feasible.
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Bill Number:

Title: Love Feast Ticket Language Change



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Clay Barrow

Contact: Revb614@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

MINISTERIAL CLASSIFICATIONS, RULES AND SUPPORT, Paragraph B. Responsibilities item 16 (p. 131)

Intent

Revision of the wording from compulsory and obligatory language to more open language

Rationale

Love Feast is a historical and cherished Ritual observed by early Methodists and the forefathers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a ritual that has, unfortunately, lost preeminence in many churches and is unknown in others. This change intends to encourage the renewal of this beautiful ritual not as a mandate but as a tool providing the means of teaching love of God and neighbors. With the revision, the concept of who can come to Communion should be broadened in keeping with Article #19 of the Articles of Religion, which forbids the denial of the cup of any layperson. Whoever partakes of this Holy Sacrament should always be allowed to participate in a free and open table after praying the General Confession.

Current Text

1. According to MINISTERIAL CLASSIFICATIONS, RULES
2. AND SUPPORT, Paragraph B. Responsibilities item 16 (p.
3. 131): The pastor shall give Love Feast Tickets to all full
4. members in good standingbut to no othersand shall renew
5. said tickets quarterly. The pastor may, with the utmost
6. caution, issue a note of permission to attend the Love Feast
7. to any serious person who has attended class three (3)
8. times or is recommended by a responsible person known to
9. the pastor, but never to two (2) consecutive Love Feasts,
10. nor more than three (3) times, without the person becoming
11. a member.

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Amended Text

1. The pastor is encouraged to conduct Love Feast before
2. each Communion service. Those who participate in Love
3. Feast will be invited to the first table at Communion when
4. 13. feasible.

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Bill Number: MIN - 05

Title: Mileage Reimbursement for Ministers Church Travel



Submitted by: Submitted by Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine & Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2016, page 139 and Internal Revenue Service

Intent

To ensure mileage reimbursement for the ministers church travel is the same rate as the Internal Revenue Service mileage rate.

Rationale

A minister uses his/her personal vehicle for church travel. The mileage reimbursement rate is intended to cover the costs for operating a car for business purposes. The costs that are contemplated by the standard mileage rate are standard maintenance, repairs, taxes, gas insurance and registration fees. Ministers should be compensated the same rate as the Internal Revenue Service mileage rate. In addition, because the rate changes, this law shall change when the rate changes.

Current Text

1. 1 CURRENT TEXT: Page 139, Section C, Note: It shall be
2. understood that the term
3. 2 pastoral charge shall be interpreted to mean an individual
4. church or group of
5. 3 churches (circuit) that a pastor serves on a Presiding
6. Elders District. In the case
7. 4 of circuits and Presiding Elders Districts, the travel
8. expenses of the minister,
9. 5 unless otherwise provided for, shall be computed on the
10. basis of thirty-five (35)
11. 6 cents per mile one way, and these expenses shall be an
12. allowable deduction from
13. 7 the ministers income from the pastoral charge.

Amended Text

1. 1 AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Page 139, Section C. Note: It
2. shall be understood that
3. 2 the term pastoral charge shall be interpreted to mean an
4. individual church or
5. 3 group of churches (circuit) that a pastor serves on a
6. Presiding Elders District. In
7. 4 the case of circuits and Presiding Elders Districts, the
8. travel expenses of the
9. 5 minister, unless otherwise provided for, shall be computed
10. on the basis of
11. 6 fifty-seven and one half (57.5) cents per mile one way,
12. and these expenses shall be
13. 7 an allowable deduction from the ministers income from
14. the pastoral charge. The
15. 8 rate shall be in accordance with the current rate the
16. federal government pays and
17. 9 the rate adjusted as the Internal Revenue Service
18. changes its rate and thus
19. 10 becoming the current law.

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21. 12
22. 13 Funding: At the local church level there is funding
23. associated with this Bill.

Bill Number: MIN - 13

Title: MINISTERS BILL OF RIGHTS COMPARABLE DEFINITION CLARIFICATION



Submitted by: Rev. Linda E. Mouzon

Contact: revlindamouzon@verizon.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part VIII Ministerial Classification, Rules and Support Section III. Ministers Bill of Rights, B. Basic Rights of Itinerant Ministers;
1. Pastoral Appointment (140)

Intent

The proposed legislation intends to eliminate/decrease the number of lawsuits by defining comparable. This clarification is based upon accepted dictionary definitions

Rationale

This proposal provides clarification of the terms shall be comparable to or better than the previous one and reflects the church's current standing at the time of his/her departure. This clarification eliminates subjective interpretations of the word comparable.

Current Text

1. A pastoral appointment equal to their abilities, training, and
2. experience, when available.
3. The new appointment, when available, shall be comparable
4. to or better than the previous
5. one, provided the pastor has not been found guilty under
6. Judicial Administration. The
7. action shall result in location or an appointment that reflects
8. the Church's current
9. standing at the time of his or her departure.

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Amended Text

1. A pastoral appointment equal to their abilities, training, and
2. experience, when
3. available. The new appointment when available shall be
4. comparable to (i.e. similar to
5. the church's current status) and or better than the previous
6. one, provided the pastor has
7. not been found guilty under Judicial Administration. The
8. action may result in location
9. or an appointment that reflects the Church's current standing
10. at the time of his or
11. her departure as confirmed by the numerical and financial
12. condition of the church
13. certified by the Quarterly Conference and the Presiding
14. Elder and affirmed by a
15. document written, submitted, and signed by the Board of
16. Stewards verifying that the
17. information is accurate.

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Bill Number: MIN - 13

Title: Ministers Bill of Rights Comparable Definition Clarification



Submitted by: Rev. Linda E. Mouzon

Contact: revlindamouzon@verizon.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part VIII Ministerial Classification, Rules and Support Section III. Ministers Bill of Rights, B. Basic Rights of Itinerant Ministers;
1. Pastoral Appointment (140)

Intent

The proposed legislation intends to eliminate/decrease the number of lawsuits by defining comparable. This clarification is based upon accepted dictionary definitions

Rationale

This proposal provides clarification of the terms shall be comparable to or better than the previous one and reflects the church's current standing at the time of his/her departure. This clarification eliminates subjective interpretations of the word comparable.

Current Text

1. A pastoral appointment equal to their abilities, training, and
2. experience, when available. The new appointment, when
3. available, shall be comparable to or better than the previous
4. one, provided the pastor has not been found guilty under
5. Judicial Administration. The action shall result in location or
6. an appointment that reflects the Church's current standing at
7. the time of his or her departure.

Amended Text

1. A pastoral appointment equal to their abilities, training, and
2. experience, when available. The new appointment when
3. available shall be comparable to (i.e. similar to the church's
4. current status) and or better than the previous one, provided
5. the pastor has not been found guilty under Judicial
6. Administration. The action may result in location or an
7. appointment that reflects the Church's current standing at
8. the time of his or her departure as confirmed by the
9. numerical and financial condition of the church certified by
10. the Quarterly Conference and the Presiding Elder and
11. affirmed by a document written, submitted, and signed by
12. the Board of Stewards verifying that the information is
13. accurate.

Bill Number: MIN - 06

Title: Transfer to Another Annual Conference



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 142, Section III B.9

Intent

To assure certificates are issued in a timely manner.

Rationale

To preclude arbitrary denials and delays in issuing certificates without explanation as to reason or cause.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. conference. Absent extenuating circumstances, the

2. certificate of transfer or written denial shall be issued within

3. 90 days of the request. The written denial must include why

4. the requesting minister is not considered in good and

5. regular standing. The certificate of transfer once issued

6. shall be accepted by the receiving Bishop. Open transfers

7. shall also be acknowledged.

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Bill Number: MIN - 08

Title: Timeframe for Request by Presiding Elders to Locate a Preacher



Submitted by: Submitted by Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part IX Section I-D. Request by Presiding Elders to Locate a Preacher (page 156)

Intent

To allow the Ministerial Efficiency Committee (MEC) as a Standing Committee to act as provided for in Part IX, Section I-C.

Rationale

A function of the Ministerial Efficiency Committee should be to serve as a clearing house to help solve issues with ministers before the Annual Conference. Therefore, to give a minister more time for mediation prior to the Annual Conference, change time interval for Presiding Elders to notify a preacher of a request for location from 6 months to 3 months.

Current Text

1. 1. CURRENT TEXT: Section I. THE LOCATED MINISTER
2. 2. D. Request by Presiding Elders to Locate a Preacher,
3. page 156
4. 3. Whenever it is unanimously agreed by the presiding
5. elders of an
6. 4. Annual Conference that a minister should be located for
7. the above specified reasons, they
8. 5. shall notify the preacher in writing six (6) months prior to
9. the session of the Annual
10. 6. Conference. The Conference shall take such action as
11. provided for in the above
12. 7. paragraph regarding the report of the Committee on
13. Ministerial Efficiency (Part IX,
14. 8. Section I-C).

Amended Text

1. 1. AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Section I. THE LOCATED
2. MINISTER
3. 2. D. Request by Presiding Elders to Locate a Preacher,
4. page 156
5. 3. Whenever it is unanimously agreed by the presiding
6. elders of an Annual Conference
7. 4. that a minister should be located for the above specified
8. reasons, they shall notify
9. 5. the preacher in writing three (3) months prior to the
10. session of the Annual
11. 6. Conference. The Conference shall take such action as
12. provided for in the above
13. 7. paragraph regarding the report of the Committee on
14. Ministerial Efficiency (Part
15. 8. IX, Section I-C).
16. 9. Funding: There is no Funding associated with this bill.

Bill Number: MIN - 07

Title: Timeframe for Notifying a Pastor to Request Location



Submitted by: Submitted by the Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part IX Section I-C Request for Location by a Committee on Ministerial Efficiency
(page 156)

Intent

To allow the Ministerial Efficiency Committee (MEC) as a Standing Committee to review the efficiency and moral conduct of ministers before Annual Conference.

Rationale

A function of the Ministerial Efficiency Committee should be to serve as a clearing house to help solve issues with ministers before the Annual Conference. Therefore, to give a minister more time for mediation prior to the Annual Conference, change time interval to inform a minister of a recommendation for location from 6 months to 3 months.

Current Text

1. 1. CURRENT TEXT: Section 1. THE LOCATED MINISTER
2. 2. C. Request for Location by a Committee on Ministerial
3. Efficiency, page 156
4. 3. Whenever it is determined by a Committee on Ministerial
5. Efficiency that a member of the
6. 4. Annual Conference is unacceptable, inefficient or
7. indifferent, or that secular affairs
8. 5. disqualifies him or her from pastoral work, the Committee
9. shall notify said pastor in writing
10. 6. six (6) months prior to the Annual Conference session
11. and ask the pastor to request
12. 7. location.

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Amended Text

1. 1. AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Section 1. THE LOCATED
2. MINISTER
3. 2. C. Request for Location by a Committee on Ministerial
4. Efficiency, page 156
5. 3. Whenever it is determined by a Committee on Ministerial
6. Efficiency that a member of the
7. 4. Annual Conference is unacceptable, inefficient or
8. indifferent, or that secular affairs
9. 5. disqualifies him or her from pastoral work, the Committee
10. shall notify said pastor in writing
11. 6. three (3) months prior to the Annual Conference session
12. and ask the pastor to request
13. 7. location.

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16. Funding: There is no funding associated with this bill.

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Bill Number: MIN - 10

Title: MINISTERIAL LOCATION, RETIREMENT AND TERMINATION



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Tyrone Hicks

Contact: pastorhicks@sbcglobal.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part IX, Section II.B

Page 157

Voluntary Retirement

Intent

To allow ministers who have voluntarily retired and relocated to another Conference and District to move their membership and answer Roll Call at their new Conference and District of residence.

Rationale

Each year retired ministers who have voluntarily retired and relocated to another Conference and District are required to report back to the Conference and District of their retirement which can become a major challenge because of cost, age, and/or health challenges.

Current Text

1. Those who desire to retire before age seventy-five (75)
2. must submit a letter to the Annual Conference requesting
3. retirement. The retired minister shall be a member of a
4. Quarterly Conference. Retired ministers are encouraged to
5. continue preaching. They may assist in their local church
6. and other capacities, as required by the bishop, presiding
7. elder or local pastor.

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Amended Text

1. Those who desire to retire before age seventy-five (75)
2. must submit a letter to the Annual Conference requesting
3. retirement. The retired minister shall be a member of a
4. Quarterly Conference. Retired ministers are encouraged to
5. continue preaching. They may assist in their local church in
6. other capacities, as requested by the bishop, presiding
7. elder or local pastor. Pastors retiring who are in "good and
8. regular standing" and moving to another state or country
9. should be allowed to transfer officially from one Conference
10. and District to another Conference and District, placing their
11. membership and answering the Roll in the new Conference
12. and District.

13. Note: There is no cost associated with this change.

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Bill Number: MIN - 12

Title: INCLUSION OF AN EXISTING IMMIGRANT CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS INTO THE AFRICAN METHODIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Donna Melynda Clarke

Contact: revmelyndaclarke@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Location, Retirement, and Termination, Section III, Subpoint A (p. 157-158)

Intent

This legislation will provide a formal process for immigrant Christian congregations who are accepting and affirming of our doctrine, including the polity, Articles of Religion and Declaration of Faith, and are desirous to unite as a local charge into the AME Church, are guided and mentored through a structured and standardized process under the leadership and direction of the presiding prelate of that district. In addition, the intent is to address the unique requirements of accommodating language and cultural needs, while also considering the possible residue of trauma, exploitation and alienation that occur against

Rationale

The objective of this legislative proposal is to enable the AME Church to respond to the growing immigrant population that exists throughout the United States and Europe. The opportunity is ripe for harvesting many souls who need the love and support to transition to a Western culture. Secondly, the AME Church has historically been the church to represent people of color, people enslaved, people objectified and marginalized. The AME Church has demonstrated a social justice mandate that must be relevant for all social issues today, including the controversial debate about immigration.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. Add SECTION III To PART VI STARTING AND MERGING

2. CONGREGATIONS.

3. SECTION III: INCLUSION OF AN EXISTING IMMIGRANT

4. CHRISTIAN

5. CONGREGATIONS INTO THE AFRICAN METHODIST

6. EPISCOPAL CHURCH

7. The pastor along with the congregation of the immigrant

8. church, shall strive to abide to

9. the requirement of starting a new congregation outlined in

10. SECTION I, Part A, by

11. submitting a letter requesting consideration to become part

12. of the AME Church. The

13. Presiding Prelate of the District in which the congregation

14. resides will assign a Presiding

15. Elder and local church to provide training on the AME

16. Church. The organization of the

17. church found in Part B. Organizational Meeting, beginning

18. on page 107, will adjusted to

19. accommodate language differences and the need for

20. interpreters and translation of any

21. needed documentation. Training classes will be offered to

22. the new congregation by

23. direction of the appointed Presiding Elder. The incoming

24. congregation will be considered

25. a mission church for a minimum of 36 months (three years)

26. as currently stated in Part C.

27. Budgetary Responsibility, found on page 109. The clergy of

28. the congregation will be

29. vetted by the local church Pastor and Presiding Elder for

30. determination of steps for

31. licensing and/or forwarding to applicable conferences for

32. further review and training in

33. the Board of Examiners. The district providing the training

34. and mentorship shall attempt

35. to obtain any necessary resources including interpreters

36. and translation of AME

37. materials for the new church community. The new church

38. will report each year to the

39. annual conference of the work accomplished.

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Bill Number: MIN - 11

Title: On Loan Policy Clarification



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Clay Barrow

Contact: revb614@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Location, Retirement, and Termination, Section III, Subpoint A (p. 157-158)

Intent

To remove the contradiction within the paragraph regarding the termination of ministerial orders, as well as clarify the interpretation of loan status by narrowing the scope to avoid doctrine and polity, which may conflict with present doctrine and polity of the AME Church.

Rationale

Existing policy will give special privilege to the itinerant deacon or elder to serve in our sister denominations without impunity that we share in the same doctrine, polity, and ecclesial structure. The addition defines what returning to the AME Church looks like by defining what it means to show proof of his or her renunciation of his or her membership in another denomination outside of Pan-Methodism.

Current Text

1. Ministerial Location, Retirement and Termination, Section
2. III, Subpoint A (p. 157-158):
3. If a deacon or elder accepts a pastoral appointment with
4. another denomination and
5. becomes a part of that denominations ministerial program,
6. administering the
7. Sacraments and accepting the doctrines of that
8. denomination, he or she shall lose his or
9. her membership in the Annual Conference forthwith. If he or
10. she desires to stay in the
11. African Methodist Episcopal Church, he or she must show
12. proof of his or her
13. renunciation of his or her membership in the other
14. denomination. A presiding bishop or
15. an annual conference may allow a deacon or elder to pastor
16. temporarily in another
17. denomination for a period not to exceed two years. Said
18. pastor must return to the annual
19. conference or lose membership in the same.
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Amended Text

1. If a deacon or elder accepts a pastoral appointment with
2. another denomination and
3. becomes a part of that denominations ministerial program,
4. administering the
5. Sacraments and accepting the doctrines of that
6. denomination, he or she shall lose his or
7. her membership in the Annual Conference forthwith. If he or
8. she desires to stay in the
9. African Methodist Episcopal Church, he or she must show
10. proof of his or her
11. renunciation of his or her membership in the other
12. denomination. In addition, a
13. presiding bishop or an annual conference may allow a
14. deacon or elder to pastor
15. temporarily in another denomination without losing his or
16. her orders if said
17. denomination shares alike doctrine and polity to the African
18. Methodist Episcopal
19. Church, i.e. if the denomination is a member of the Pan-
20. Methodist Commission. Said
21. pastor must return to the annual conference in full
22. connection after two years indicated
23. by 1) no longer serving another denomination in a
24. sacramental capacity, 2) must
25. also associate with a local AME church or lose membership
26. in the Annual Conference,
27. and, 3) must answer the roll of the respective AME Annual
28. Conference while they are
29. serving in another denomination.
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Bill Number: MIN - 09

Title: MINISTERIAL LOCATION, RETIREMENT AND TERMINATION



Submitted by: TYRONE HICKS

Contact: pastorhicks@sbcglobal.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 157

Intent

TO AMEND CURRENT LANGUAGE FOR RETIRED PREACHERS TO ALLOW FOR TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP FROM ONE DISTRICT OR ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO ANOTHER DISTRICT OR ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Rationale

SOME RETIRED PREACHERS MOVE TO OTHER LOCATIONS IN THE STATE OR COUNTRY AND ARE UNABLE TO TRAVEL TO MEET THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE WHERE THEY RETIRED.

Current Text

1. VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT: THOSE WHO RETIRE
2. BEFORE AGE SEVENTY-FIVE (75) MUST SUBMIT A
3. LETTER TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE REQUESTING
4. RETIREMENT. THE RETIRED MINISTER SHALL BE A
5. MEMBER OF A QUARTERLY CONFERENCE. RETIRED
6. MINISTERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE
7. PREACHING. THEY MAY ASSIST IN THEIR LOCAL
8. CHURCH AND OTHER CAPACITIES, AS REQUESTED
9. BY THE BISHOP, PRESIDING ELDER OR LOCAL
10. PASTOR.

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Amended Text

1. THOSE WHO DESIRE TO RETIRE BEFORE AGE
2. SEVENTY-FIVE (75) MUST SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE
3. ANNUAL CONFERENCE REQUESTING RETIREMENT.
4. THE RETIRED MINISTER SHALL BE A MEMBER OF A
5. QUARTERLY CONFERENCE. RETIRED MINISTERS
6. ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE PREACHING. THEY
7. MAY ASSIST IN THE LOCAL CHURCH AND OTHER
8. CAPACITIES, AS REQUESTED BY THE BISHOP,
9. PRESIDING ELDER OR LOCAL PASTOR. RETIRED
10. PREACHER MOVING TO ANOTHER LOCATION
11. OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ANNUAL
12. CONFERENCE WHERE THEY RETIRED BE ALLOWED
13. TO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OR
14. ANNUAL CONFERENCE. THEY MUST REPORT TO THE
15. NEW ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND BE A MEMBER OF A
16. QUARTERLY CONFERENCE WHERE THEY HAVE
17. LOCATED.

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Bill Number:

Title: On Loan Policy Clarification



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Clay Barrow

Contact: revb614@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Location, Retirement, and Termination, Section III, Subpoint A (p. 157-158)

Intent

To remove the contradiction within the paragraph regarding the termination of ministerial orders, as well as clarify the interpretation of loan status by narrowing the scope to avoid doctrine and polity, which may conflict with present doctrine and polity of the AME Church.

Rationale

Ministerial Location, Retirement and Termination, Section III, Subpoint A (p. 157-158): If a deacon or elder accepts a pastoral appointment with another denomination and becomes a part of that denominations ministerial program, administering the Sacraments and accepting the doctrines of that denomination, he or she shall lose his or her membership in the Annual Conference forthwith. If he or she desires to stay in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, he or she must show proof of his or her renunciation of his or her membership in the other denomination. A presiding bishop or an annual conference may allow a deacon or elder to pastor temporarily in another denomination for a period not to exceed two years. Said pastor must return to the annual conference or lose membership in the same.

Current Text

1. If a deacon or elder accepts a pastoral appointment with
2. another denomination and becomes a part of that
3. denominations ministerial program, administering the
4. Sacraments and accepting the doctrines of that
5. denomination, he or she shall lose his or her membership
6. in the Annual Conference forthwith. If he or she desires to
7. stay in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, he or she
8. must show proof of his or her renunciation of his or her
9. membership in the other denomination. In addition, a
10. presiding bishop or an annual conference may allow a
11. deacon or elder to pastor temporarily in another
12. denomination without losing his or her orders if said
13. denomination shares alike doctrine and polity to the African
14. Methodist Episcopal Church, i.e. if the denomination is a
15. member of the Pan- Methodist Commission. Said pastor
16. must return to the annual conference in full connection after
17. two years indicated by 1) no longer serving another
18. denomination in a sacramental capacity, 2) must also
19. associate with a local AME church or lose membership in
20. the Annual Conference, and, 3) must answer the roll of the
21. respective AME Annual Conference while they are serving
22. in another denomination.

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Amended Text

1. If a deacon or elder accepts a pastoral appointment with
2. another denomination and becomes a part of that
3. denominations ministerial program, administering the
4. Sacraments and accepting the doctrines of that
5. denomination, he or she shall lose his or her membership in
6. the Annual Conference forthwith. If he or she desires to stay
7. in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, he or she must
8. show proof of his or her renunciation of his or her
9. membership in the other denomination. In addition, a
10. presiding bishop or an annual conference may allow a
11. deacon or elder to pastor temporarily in another
12. denomination without losing his or her orders if said
13. denomination shares alike doctrine and polity to the African
14. Methodist Episcopal Church, i.e. if the denomination is a
15. member of the Pan- Methodist Commission. Said pastor
16. must return to the annual conference in full connection after
17. two years indicated by 1) no longer serving another
18. denomination in a sacramental capacity, 2) must also
19. associate with a local AME church or lose membership in
20. the Annual Conference, and, 3) must answer the roll of the
21. respective AME Annual Conference while they are serving
22. in another denomination.

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Bill Number:

Title: Inclusion of an Existing Immigrant Christian Congregations Into the African Methodist Episcopal Church Episcopal Church



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. Donna Melynda Clarke

Contact: revmelyndaclarke@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Location, Retirement, and Termination, Section III, Subpoint A (p. 157-158)

Intent

This legislation will provide a formal process for immigrant Christian congregations who are accepting and affirming of our doctrine, including the polity, Articles of Religion and Declaration of Faith, and are desirous to unite as a local charge into the AME Church, are guided and mentored through a structured and standardized process under the leadership and direction of the presiding prelate of that district. In addition, the intent is to address the unique requirements of accommodating language and cultural needs, while also considering the possible residue of trauma, exploitation and alienation that occur against

Rationale

The objective of this legislative proposal is to enable the AME Church to respond to the growing immigrant population that exists throughout the United States and Europe. The opportunity is ripe for harvesting many souls who need the love and support to transition to a Western culture. Secondly, the AME Church has historically been the church to represent people of color, people enslaved, people objectified and marginalized. The AME Church has demonstrated a social justice mandate that must be relevant for all social issues today, including the controversial debate about immigration.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. Add SECTION III To PART VI STARTING AND MERGING
2. CONGREGATIONS. SECTION III: INCLUSION OF AN
3. EXISTING IMMIGRANT CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS
4. INTO THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
5. The pastor along with the congregation of the immigrant
6. church, shall strive to abide to the requirement of starting a
7. new congregation outlined in SECTION I, Part A, by
8. submitting a letter requesting consideration to become part
9. of the AME Church. The Presiding Prelate of the District in
10. which the congregation resides will assign a Presiding Elder
11. and local church to provide training on the AME Church.
12. The organization of the church found in Part B.
13. Organizational Meeting, beginning on page 107, will
14. adjusted to accommodate language differences and the
15. need for interpreters and translation of any needed
16. documentation. Training classes will be offered to the new
17. congregation by direction of the appointed Presiding Elder.
18. The incoming congregation will be considered a mission
19. church for a minimum of 36 months (three years) as
20. currently stated in Part C. Budgetary Responsibility, found
21. on page 1The clergy of the congregation will be vetted by
22. the local church Pastor and Presiding Elder for
23. determination of steps for licensing and/or forwarding to
24. applicable conferences for further review and training in the
25. Board of Examiners. The district providing the training and
26. mentorship shall attempt to obtain any necessary resources
27. including interpreters and translation of AME materials for
28. the new church community. The new church will report each
29. year to the annual conference of the work accomplished.
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Bill Number: GGB-01

Title: The Ecumenical Officer of the AME Church_1



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. V. Gordon Glenn III

Contact: rev_glenn@yahoo.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part XI, Section I. Active Bishops, D. Assignment of Bishops, p. 167

Intent

To change who may hold this office from being one of the active bishops of the Church to being an office held by a general officer. This will be effective at the 2024 General Conference.

Rationale

This office should be more fully defined so that the work of ecumenism can be more fully utilized by our Church.

Current Text

1. 5. An active bishop, in lieu of an Episcopal district, may be
2. assigned as an ecumenical officer or may be given a
3. special assignment, such as author of books for the Church,
4. and/or any other duties recommended by the Episcopal
5. Committee.

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Amended Text

1. 5. An active bishop, in lieu of an Episcopal district, may be
2. assigned a special assignment, such as author of books for
3. the church, supervise urban ministry, endorse AME
4. chaplains and/or any other duties recommended by the
5. Episcopal Committee.

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Bill Number: GGB-02

Title: Filling Episcopal Vancancies in Episcopal Districts



Submitted by: Kimberly Gordon Brooks

Contact: kimberlysaponi@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part XI, Section III., D Authority

Page 171, (Kindle Locations 4219-4223)

Intent

To clarify the process for ascertaining the request of an episcopal district on the vacancy in the supervision of an episcopal district due to suspension, resignation, death, or otherwise.

Rationale

The current text does not delineate a process for determining how the episcopal district is to convey its request for the filling of a vacancy.

Current Text

1. 2. Should a vacancy occur in the supervision of an
2. episcopal district by suspension, resignation, death or
3. otherwise, the Council of Bishops is authorized to assign
4. one of its number to the said district.
5. No assignment shall be made, however, until the members
6. of the said episcopal district shall have the opportunity to
7. make a request to the Council of Bishops regarding the
8. assignment.

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Amended Text

1. 2. Should a vacancy occur in the supervision of an
2. episcopal district by suspension, resignation, death or
3. otherwise, the Council of Bishops is authorized to assign
4. one of its number to the said district.
5. No assignment shall be made, however, until the members
6. of the said episcopal district shall have the opportunity to
7. make a request to the Council of Bishops regarding the
8. assignment
9. The President of the Council of Bishops, or his/her
10. designee, shall convene a meeting of the districts clergy
11. and lay delegates from the last session of the general
12. conference. The group so constituted, after due notice, shall
13. agree on a recommendation by majority vote determined by
14. a secret ballot. The district shall convey its request to the
15. Council of Bishops through the clergy and lay leaders of the
16. delegation.
17. In the event of the death of the presiding bishop, the district
18. shall not meet prior to a religious ceremony and/or the
19. resting of the remains, except when such ceremony has
20. been delayed beyond a reasonable time of respect.

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Bill Number: GGB-03

Title: Extending the General Officers term of service between elections



Submitted by: General Officers Council

Contact: Gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Pg. 174

Intent

This proposed legislation seeks to bring about a greater level of parity among the offices of the church, which are elected by the General Conference.

Rationale

The General Conference elects three categories of offices of the church: Bishops, who are elected to serve for life, but with a mandatory retirement age of 75; Judicial Council members, who are elected for eight (8) year renewable terms without a mandatory retirement age; and General Officers, who are elected for four (4) year renewable terms with a mandatory retirement age of 75. A greater level of parity among the offices of the church, which are elected by the General Conference, is achieved if General Officers are also elected to serve for eight (8) year renewable terms. Longer terms of service allow for greater continuity as it relates to programmatic planning and implementation and the administration of central services of the connectional church, promoting more institutional stability.

Current Text

1. Pg. 174, C. Election (The section speaks of the modalities
2. for election but is silent regarding length of term.)
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Amended Text

1. Section C should begin: A General Officer shall be elected
2. by the General Conference to a term of eight (8) years and
3. can be subsequently re-elected to additional terms of eight
4. years each up to the time of retirement. Regarding
5. retirement, Section IV, J (pg. 193, BoDD2016) shall apply.
6. (Current text of section C should follow this amended text.)
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Bill Number: GGB-04

Title: Global Development Council Record Keeping



Submitted by: J. Cooper

Contact: cio@ame-church.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Page 176

Intent

To foster greater communication among all Districts of the GDC. To improve record keeping and information sharing for the denomination. To establish a permanent repository for GDC minutes in the office of the General Secretary/CIO

Rationale

Currently, there is no defined process for formation, archiving, or disseminating the minutes of the GDC.

Current Text

1. No existing text. New text to be inserted under the duties of
2. the General Secretary/CIO as item W.
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Amended Text

1. The General Secretary/CIO shall serve as a resource and
2. technical support for the duly elected Secretary of the
3. Global Development Council. The General Secretary/CIO
4. shall also assist in the formation, archiving, and
5. dissemination of minutes of GDC meetings.
6. The administrative budget of the General Secretary/CIO
7. shall be adjusted by the Commission on Statistics and
8. Finance to account for these additional duties and
9. responsibilities.
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Bill Number: GGB-05

Title: Global Development Council Financial Management Act



Submitted by: J. Cooper

Contact: cio@ame-church.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Page 183.

Intent

To improve management of GDC Finances. To improve reporting procedures of GDC Finances

Rationale

No current mechanism exists for collaboration with the CFO of the church.

Current Text

1. : New text to be inserted under the duties of the
2. Treasurer/CFO ii.
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Amended Text

1. The CFO shall serve as a resource and financial advisor to
2. the GDC for instituting a system of financial management
3. for the GDC and a plan for investing/management of GDC
4. finances.
5. The CFO shall assist the GDC Treasurer in receiving
6. annual financial commitment payments from districts 14-20.
7. The CFO shall receive yearly finance reports from the GDC
8. and assist the GDC in producing an annual Audit.
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Bill Number: GGB-06

Title: Qualification for General Board Membership



Submitted by: Jeffrey Leath

Contact: jeffreynleath@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part XII, Section I, Page 197, (Kindle Locations 4720-4721)

Intent

To allow for the election of persons to the General Board who are not a part of the sitting delegation.

Rationale

There are qualified clergy and lay who would be an asset to the General Board who are currently ineligible because they are not a part of the General Conference delegate. This would be a way to make participation in the work of the church more inclusive and open to better utilization of skills among our constituents.

Current Text

1. No persons from an episcopal district other than delegates
2. may be in the voting assembly.
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Amended Text

1. No persons from an episcopal district other than delegates
2. may be in the voting assembly.
3. Insert new text: However, any member of the church in
4. good standing, clergy or lay, is eligible to be elected to the
5. General Board.
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Bill Number:

Title: Responsibilities of the Commission on Economic Development



Submitted by: Randolph R. Scott, 5th District Lay Member General Board AMEC

Contact: rrscottspr73@yahoo.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

2016 The Doctrine and Discipline of the AME Church

PART XII the General Board (Page 197)

SECTION V Commissions (14) (page 201)

Intent

To codify the Commission on Economic Development Purpose adopted by the General Board of the AME Church at its meeting in December 2016.

To codify the Commission on Economic Development Guiding Principles adopted by the General Board of the AME Church at its meeting in June 2017.

Rationale

To confirm the Purpose and Guiding Principles of Economic Development for all projects that are sponsored, endorsed and supported by the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Current Text

1. NONE

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Amended Text

1. A. The purpose of the Economic Development Commission
2. shall be to promote and share practical and innovative
3. approaches for stewardship ministries and economic
4. empowerment for churches, communities and persons.
5. B. To accomplish this purpose the Economic Development
6. Commission shall use and promote these Project Phases
7. and Guiding Principles for all Economic Development
8. projects sponsored, endorsed and supported by the AME
9. Church:
10. 1. Research and Analysis
11. Consisting of activities such as data collection, feasibility
12. analysis, project scope definition, project governance.
13. These project activities should result in a Go/No Go
14. decision for the Project.
15. 2. Design and Development
16. Consisting of activities such as written and approved project
17. plans with goals, timelines and legal, financial and human
18. resource requirements.
19. 3. Implementation
20. Consisting of activities such as project plan execution with
21. transparent and regular reporting on project progress,
22. delays and results to the project governing structure.
23. 4. Evaluation
24. Consisting of activities such as assessing the results and
25. completion of the project plan with a final operational and
26. financial written audit report on the project to the governing
27. structure.
28. Approved at General Board Meeting June 25-26, 2019
29. Atlanta, Georgia
30. Approved at Convo IX December 4-5, 2019 Atlanta,
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Bill Number: GGB-07

Title: Mandated Meeting of Commission on Retirement Services in Interim of the General Board.



Submitted by: Jeffrey Leath

Contact: jeffreynleath@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part XII, Section V, D., 3, Page 205 (Kindle Locations 4848-4851)

Intent

Require quarterly reports and virtual meetings for this commission during the interim of the General Board.

Rationale

With over \$150 million in assets, there should be closer scrutiny of the operation of this department. Commission members should receive quarterly reports, and they should approve/monitor changes in the investment instruments on a regular basis.

Current Text

1. b. Commission on Retirement Services: Shall receive the
2. report of the Executive Director of the Department of
3. Retirement Services. Shall have the power to amend the
4. annuity, retirement and hospitalization plan, provided the
5. amendments are approved by the Council of Bishops and
6. the General Board and do not diminish the vested rights of
7. any beneficiary.

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Amended Text

1. b. Commission on Retirement Services: Shall receive the
2. report of the Executive Director of the Department of
3. Retirement Services. Shall have the power to amend the
4. annuity, retirement and hospitalization plan, provided the
5. amendments are approved by the Council of Bishops and
6. the General Board and do not diminish the vested rights of
7. any beneficiary.

8. Add New Paragraph:

9. This commission shall receive quarterly reports on the
10. finances of the department. It shall meet in a video/virtual
11. session not less than three additional times in the interim of
12. the annual meeting of the General Board. The Commission
13. shall approve/monitor all movement of investments.

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Bill Number: GGB-08

Title: Change in Frequency of Publication of The Christian Recorder



Submitted by: John Thomas III

Contact: editor@thechristianrecorder.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 210

Part XIII A ,9

Intent

To adjust the frequency of physical printing of The Christian Recorder

Rationale

The current news environment allows for the rapid transmittal of information via electronic means. Printing biweekly is no longer cost-effective.

Current Text

1. 9. Publication of The Christian Recorder
2. The Christian Recorder shall be published biweekly under
3. the direction of the Commission on Publications of the
4. General Board of the AME Church at the AME Sunday
5. School Union in Nashville, Tennessee. The Department of
6. Publications shall be the publishing agent for The Christian
7. Recorder and shall have full responsibility for its printing
8. and publication.

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Amended Text

1. 9. Publication of The Christian Recorder
2. The Christian Recorder shall be printed at least monthly
3. under the direction of the Commission on Publications of
4. the General Board of the AME Church at the AME Sunday
5. School Union in Nashville, Tennessee.
6. Special/Commemorative editions may be physically printed
7. at the discretion of the Editor and the Publisher. Periodic
8. news updates shall be distributed online. The Department of
9. Publications shall be the publishing agent for The Christian
10. Recorder and shall have full responsibility for its printing
11. and publication.

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Bill Number: GGB-09

Title: Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC)



Submitted by: Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC)

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part XIII, Section III F, #5, 6 Christian Debutante-Master Commission (Page 229 and 230)

Intent

Change existing text to make it current.

Rationale

Some structures and practices in the current text reflect an earlier model and structure of the ministry, particularly as it relates to the role of the CDMC administrator. The changes seek to make the role and the recognition of it current.

Current Text

1. c). Administrator: (2) The CDMC administrator shall have
2. the rank of a Connectional officer, receiving all recognition
3. and courtesies, but shall not received salary; stipend;
4. honorarium or expense from the General Church.
5. (4) Said administrator shall have the authority to contact
6. local pastors, individual and community organizations
7. requesting voluntary membership in the CDMC. The
8. administrator must submit a literary and financial report to
9. the General Conference. He or she shall also report to the
10. General Board annually if it is requested.
11. (d) Funding: (1) The CDMC shall be completely funded
12. through voluntary local church and community membership
13. subscriptions with no financial obligations whatsoever
14. required from the General Church. All administrative and
15. operational expenses plus promotional funds for CDMC
16. must be secured through the annual membership fees of
17. CDMC Patrons.
18. All profit realized from membership patrons shall be used to
19. supplement the Richard Allen Young Adult Councils
20. expanded budget for other youth advancement, enrichment
21. and social service programs, for AME involvement in
22. community and national welfare projects as decided upon
23. from time to time by the General Conference, the Council of
24. Bishops, or the General Board.
25. (2) All profit realized from membership patrons shall be
26. used to supplement the Richard Allen Young Adult Councils
27. expanded budget for other youth advancement, enrichment
28. and social service programs, for AME involvement in
29. community and national welfare projects as decided upon
30. from time to time by the General Conference, the Council of
31. Bishops, or the General Board.
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Amended Text

1. c) Administrator (2) The CDMC administrator shall have the
2. rank of a connectional officer, receiving all recognition and
3. courtesies including an honorarium from the General
4. Church.
5. (4) Said administrator shall have the authority to contact
6. local pastors, individual and community organizations
7. requesting voluntary membership in the CDMC. The
8. administrator must submit a literary report to the General
9. Conference and an annual financial report to the
10. Department of Christian Education. He or she shall also
11. report to the General Board annually if it is requested.
12. (d) Funding: (1)The CDMC shall be completely funded
13. through voluntary local church and community membership
14. subscriptions, donations and fundraisers, with no financial
15. obligations whatsoever required from the General Church.
16. All administrative and operational expenses plus
17. promotional funds for CDMC must will be secured through
18. the annual membership fees of CDMC Patrons, donations
19. and fundraisers
20. (2) All profit realized from membership patrons, fund raisers,
21. and donations shall be used to supplement the Richard
22. Allen Young Adult Councils expanded budget for other
23. youth advancement, enrichment and social service
24. programs, for AME involvement in community and national
25. welfare projects as decided upon from time to time by the
26. General Conference, the Council of Bishops, or the General
27. Board.
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Bill Number: GGB-10

Title: The General Conference and Social Action Commission



Submitted by: JACQUELYN DUPONT-WALKER

Contact: JDUPONTW@AOL.COM

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016 - Page 235, Section A: Number 3; Page 234, Part XIV; page 247, Section 1 - A; Composition

Intent

To authorize the designation of the Director/Consultant of the Social Action Commission to be added to the list under Composition of the General Conference.

Rationale

The mission of the Connectional commission, as listed in the 2016 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church identifies a structure from the Connectional level to the Local Church level and spells out the distinctive charge for the Social Action Officer. As such, the Director/consultant is actively engaged throughout the Quadrennium in a network of inter-faith and ecumenical bodies engaging with and speaking for the AME Church. The next step and logical outcome of this involvement is to take action via legislation, resolutions, and engagement at the highest level of deliberation in the AME Church. Pro-active steps as well as react to harmful policy are limited without the ability to participate in the deliberations of the General Conference, thus the Director/consultant of the Social action Commission cannot responsibly carry out eh designated duties and bring integrity to the role of advocate.

This request is consistent with the designation of 80% of the other Connectional Officers. NOTE This Legislation has no fiscal impact.

Current Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops, general officers elected by the General
3. Conference..... the President and Treasurer of the Women's
4. Missionary Society, ... the Connectional President of the
5. Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC) the
6. Connectional Lay President, the Executive and Medical
7. Directors of the Health Commission,....and other elected
8. clergy and lay delegates from each annual conference.

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Amended Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops, general officers elected by the General
3. Conference..... the President and Treasurer of the Women's
4. Missionary Society, ... the Connectional President of the
5. Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC) the
6. Connectional Lay President, the Executive and Medical
7. Directors of the Health Commission,..the
8. Director/Consultant of the Social Action Commission,
9. active-duty military.....
10. This Legislation has NO FISCAL IMPACT. Connectional
11. Officers cover costs from their budgets.
12. Submitted by the Social Action Commission

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Bill Number: GGB-11

Title: Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC)



Submitted by: Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC)

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2008, Part XIII, Section II A-4 Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC) (Page 237 and 238)

Intent

Change current text so that the three areas of the Doctrine and Discipline that reference CDMC are consistent in language and description.

Rationale

Update text to reflect wording from other suggested revision on page 229 and 230

Current Text

1. 4. Meetings: b). The Commission shall meet annually during
2. the summer session of the Council of Bishops. The
3. members of the Commission shall not receive stipend,
4. salary or honorarium for attending the meetings.

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Amended Text

1. Meetings: b). The Commission shall meet annually during
2. the summer session of the Council of Bishops. The
3. administrator of the Commission shall not received stipend
4. nor salary but shall receive an honorarium.

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Bill Number: CC-02

Title: General Conference Composition



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 247, Part XIV Section I A

Intent

To bring fair representation of Connectional components

Rationale

To adjust the disparity among Connectional Components in the General Conference Composition.

Current Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops; the general officers elected by the General
3. Conference; the General Secretary/CIO of the General
4. Conference; the presidents of the universities and colleges;
5. the deans of seminaries that have been in operation
6. continuously for one (1) or more years prior to the General
7. Conference; the president and treasurer of the Womens
8. Missionary Society; the editor of the Womens Missionary
9. Magazine; the director of the Young Peoples and Childrens
10. Division; the Connectional presidents of Women in Ministry
11. (WIM), Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC), Young
12. Peoples and Childrens Division (YPD) and Lay
13. Organization; Episcopal District Lay Presidents; the
14. president of the Connectional Council; the Executive
15. Director and Medical Director of the Health Commission;
16. active-duty military and veterans administration chaplains
17. who have been ordained for at least four (4) years
18. preceding the General Conference and those who are
19. retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years of service in the
20. Armed Forces of the United States; former World War II
21. Chaplains who are in good and regular standing in their
22. annual conferences; the administrators of all Connectional
23. institutions (i.e., Douglas Hospital); the President of the
24. Connectional Presiding Elders Council, and elected clergy
25. and lay delegates from each annual conference.

Amended Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops; the general officers elected by the General
3. Conference; the general secretary/CIO of the General
4. Conference; the presidents of the universities and colleges;
5. the deans of seminaries that have been in operation
6. continuously for one (1) or more years prior to the General
7. Conference; the president and treasurer of the Womens
8. Missionary Society; the editor of the Womens Missionary
9. Magazine; the director of the Young Peoples and Childrens
10. Division and one at large seat; the Connectional President
11. and four at large seats of Women in Ministry (AME/WIM),
12. the connectional presidents of the Richard Allen Young
13. Adult Council (RAYAC), Young Peoples and Childrens
14. Division (YPD) and Lay Organization; Episcopal District Lay
15. Presidents; the president of the Connectional Council; the
16. Executive Director and Medical Director of the Health
17. Commission; active-duty military and veterans
18. administration chaplains who have been ordained for at
19. least four (4) years preceding the General Conference and
20. those who are retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years
21. of service in the Armed Forces of the United States; former
22. World War II Chaplains who are in good and regular
23. standing in their annual conferences; the administrators of
24. all Connectional institutions (i.e., the Bishop Sarah Frances
25. Davis Connectional Womens Missionary Society Outpatient
26. Health Clinic); the President of the Connectional Presiding
27. Elders Council, and elected clergy and lay delegates from
28. each Annual Conference.

Bill Number: CC-01

Title: General Conference Composition



Submitted by: Robin Porter Smith

Contact: rps14069@msn.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 247, Part XIV Section IA

Intent

Inclusion of elected and/or appointed Connectional Leadership

Rationale

All Connectional Officers are voting members of the General Board. Some Connectional Officers are voting members of the General Conference. This legislation seeks to include those Connectional Officers elected and/or appointed by Connectional organizations within the AME Church. There are no finances associated with this legislation as expenses for these officers are covered within their organizations.

Current Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops; the general officers elected by the General
3. Conference; the General Secretary/CIO of the General
4. Conference; the presidents of the universities and colleges;
5. the deans of seminaries that have been in operation
6. continuously for one (1) or more years prior to the General
7. Conference; the president and treasurer of the Womens
8. Missionary Society; the editor of the Womens Missionary
9. Magazine; the director of the Young Peoples and Childrens
10. Division; the Connectional presidents of Women in Ministry
11. (WIM), Richard Allen Youth Council (RAYAC), Young
12. Peoples and Childrens Division (YPD) and Lay
13. Organization; Episcopal District Lay Presidents; the
14. president of the Connectional Council; the Executive
15. Director and Medical Director of the Health Commission;
16. active-duty military and veterans administration chaplains
17. who have been ordained for at least four (4) years
18. preceding the General Conference and those who are
19. retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years of service in the
20. Armed Forces of the United States; former World War II
21. Chaplains who are in good and regular standing in their
22. annual conferences; the administrators of all Connectional
23. institutions (i.e. Douglas Hospital); the President of the
24. Connectional Presiding Elders Council, and elected clergy
25. and lay delegates from each annual conference.

Amended Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops; the general officers elected by the General
3. Conference; the General Secretary/CIO of the General
4. Conference; the presidents of the universities and colleges;
5. the deans of seminaries that have been in operation
6. continuously for one (1) or more years prior to the General
7. Conference; the president and treasurer of the Womens
8. Missionary Society; the editor of the Womens Missionary
9. Magazine; the director of the Young Peoples and Childrens
10. Division; the Connectional presidents of Women in Ministry
11. (WIM), Richard Allen Youth Council (RAYAC), Young
12. Peoples and Childrens Division (YPD), Lay Organization,
13. Music and Christian Arts Ministry (MCAM), Christian
14. Debutante-Master (CDMC), Sons of Allen (SoA), Fellowship
15. of Church Educators (FCE), Association of AME Scouts
16. (AAMES, which includes a representative from the Boy
17. Scouts, and the Girl Scouts); Episcopal District Lay
18. Presidents; the president of the Connectional Council; the
19. Executive Director and Medical Director of the Health
20. Commission; active-duty military and veterans
21. administration chaplains who have been ordained for at
22. least four (4) years preceding the General Conference and
23. those who are retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years
24. of service in the Armed Forces of the United States; former
25. World War II Chaplains who are in good and regular
26. standing in their annual conferences; the administrators of
27. all Connectional institutions (i.e. Douglas Hospital); the
28. President of the Connectional Presiding Elders Council, and
29. elected clergy and lay delegates from each annual
30. conference.

Bill Number:

Title: Social Action Commission Membership in the General Conference



Submitted by: JACQUELYN DUPONT-WALKER

Contact: jdupontw@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

page 247 - PART XIV Conferences, Section 2. The General Conference, A. Composition

Intent

To authorize the designation of The Director/Consultant of the Social Action Commission as a member of the General Conference.

Rationale

The social justice mission/ministry of the African Methodist Episcopal Church is vested in the work of the Social Action Commission, led by its Director/Consultant. As such, The Director is actively engaged through the Quadrennium in a network of inter-faith and ecumenical bodies engaging with and speaking for the AME Church. The next step and logical outcome of this involvement is to take action via legislation, resolutions, and engagement at the highest level of deliberation of the AME Church. Pro-active steps as well as reaction to harmful policy are limited without the ability to participate in the deliberations of the General Conference, thus the Director/Consultant of the Social Action Commission cannot responsibly carry out the designated duties and bring integrity in the role as advocate.

This request is consistent with 80% of the Connectional Officers. This legislation has no fiscal impact.

Current Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops, the general officers elected by the General
3. Conference, the presidents of the universities and colleges,
4. the deans of seminaries that have been in operation
5. continually for one (1) or more years prior to the general
6. Conference, the president and treasurer of the Women's
7. Missionary Society, the editor of the Women's Missionary
8. Magazine, the director of Young People's and Children's
9. Division, the Connectional presidents of Women in Ministry
10. (WIM), Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC), Young
11. People's and Children's Division (YPD), and Lay
12. Organization, Episcopal District Lay Presidents, the
13. president of the Connectional Council, the Executive
14. Director and Medical Director of the Health Commission,
15. active-duty military and veterans administration chaplains
16. who have been ordained for at least four (4) years
17. preceding the General Conference and those who are
18. retired with a minimum of twenty (20) years of service in the
19. Armed Forces of the United States, former World War II
20. Chaplains who are in good and regular standing in their
21. annual conferences, the administrators of all Connectional
22. institutions, the president of the Connectional Presiding
23. Elders Council and elected clergy and lay delegates from
24. each annual conference.

Amended Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be
2. bishops, the general officers elected by the General
3. Conference Medical Director; the
4. Director/Consultant of the Social Action Commission; active
5. duty military and veterans..... NOTE: Intended to capture
6. the short phrase, which adds the Director of Social Action
7. Commission, in the midst of the full paragraph.

Bill Number: CC-14

Title: Qualifications of Delegates: Financial Compliance for Pastors and Lay Delegates to Electoral College



Submitted by: Submitted by the Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, page 248

Intent

To ensure the churches that are represented by pastors and lay delegates to the Electoral College have paid all financial obligations to the Presiding Elder and Episcopal District before being considered a delegate to the General Conference.

Rationale

It is the responsibility of the pastors and the officers of the local church to ensure all bills, salaries and church expenses are paid each conference year. Financial obligations should not go unpaid. Delegates to the General Conference should be leaders of the Episcopal District and thus should ensure their church has paid all financial obligations, particularly to the Presiding Elder and the Episcopal District.

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Amended Text

1. AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Add to Part XIV Conferences Section 1. The
2. General
3. 3 Conference, C. Qualifications of Delegates
4. 4 1. Ministerial
5. 5 Every itinerant minister elected a delegate by any Annual
6. Conference shall have been
7. 6 an elder during the four (4) years immediately preceding the
8. General Conference to
9. 7 which said minister is elected, and must be in good and regular
10. standing in the
11. 8 Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church at the
12. time of his or
13. 9 her election. He or she shall be a member of the Conference that
14. elects him or her and
15. 10 shall be in actual service within the bounds of that Conference.
16. The church where the
17. 11 itinerant minister serves as the pastor should be current on all
18. financial obligations,
19. 12 particularly to the Presiding Elder and the Episcopal District. The
20. Presiding Elder
21. 13 should verify the church represented by him or her is current on
22. their financial
23. 14 obligations to the Presiding Elder and the Episcopal District. If the
24. church is not
25. 15 current with these financial obligations then the itinerant minister
26. cannot be elected
27. 16 a delegate or alternate delegate to the General Conference.
28. 17 2. Lay
29. 18 Every lay member elected a delegate by an Electoral College shall
30. be a member of
31. 19 said college and a person of good, natural or acquired who knows
32. and loves The
33. 20 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Church and has
34. maintained a full,
35. 21 good and regular membership in said church four (4) consecutive
36. years next
37. 22 preceding the General Conference, and shall have been a member
38. of his or her local
39. 23 church for six (6) months next preceding the meeting of the
40. Electoral College. No lay
41. 24 member shall vote or be voted for more than once in a
42. quadrennium as a delegate
43. 25 to the Electoral College. The church where the lay member was
44. elected a delegate to
45. 26 the Electoral College should be current on all financial obligations
46. particularly to
47. 27 the Presiding Elder and the Episcopal District. The Presiding Elder
48. should verify
49. 28 the church represented by the lay member is current on their
50. financial obligations
51. 29 to the Presiding Elder and the Episcopal District. If the church is
52. not
53. 30 current with these financial obligations then the lay member cannot
54. be elected
55. 31 a delegate or alternate delegate to the General Conference.
56. 32
57. 33 Funding: There is no funding associated with this Bill.
58.

Bill Number: CC-13

Title: Council of Bishops Representation on Planning Sub-Commission and Video/Virtual Participation in the General Conference



Submitted by: Jeffrey Leath

Contact: jeffreynleath@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part XIV, Section I, J., 1, c, 5 Page 261 (Kindle Locations 5928-5931)

Intent

To clarify the officer of the Council of Bishops to participate in the logistical planning of the General Conference, and to provide the technology for video/virtual participation of delegates.

Rationale

Current text is unclear as the Secretary of the Council of Bishops changes annually. To provide for the planning and implementation of virtual participation in the General Conference.

Current Text

1. 5) Create Sub-Commission for General Conference
2. Planning
3. The Commission shall create a sub-commission, which, in
4. conjunction with the Secretary of the Council of Bishops, the
5. Chief Financial Officer and the General Secretary of the
6. AME Church, shall perfect all arrangements for the proper
7. planning and entertainment of the General Conference.
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Amended Text

1. 5) Create Sub-Commission for General Conference
2. Planning
3. The Commission shall create a sub-commission, which, in
4. conjunction with the Program Committee Chairperson of the
5. Council of Bishops, the Chief Financial Officer (Treasurer)
6. and the Chief Information Officer (General Secretary) of the
7. AME Church, shall perfect all arrangements for the proper
8. planning and entertainment of the General Conference,
9. including provisions for the video/virtual participation of
10. delegates.
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Bill Number: CC-03

Title: Annual Conference Audit



Submitted by: Submitted by Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016,
Section II. The Annual Conference (pages 266-267)

Intent

To bring more transparency to the operation of the church.

Rationale

The Annual Conference is the only legal entity in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. If we are auditing areas in the AME Church that are not legal entities, i.e. the Episcopal District, then we should audit legal entities. The Episcopal District is a fiduciary entity a body that people entrust their money to for management and not a legal body of the AME Church. In order to make sure information in the Episcopal District is accurate, then information coming from the Annual Conference should come from an audited report.

Current Text

1. CURRENT TEXT: No Current Text.

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Amended Text

1. 1 AMENDED/NEW TEXT: Add to page 267, Section II, new
2. number 4) 4. Every Annual
3. 2 Conference must have an external audit annually by an
4. accredited auditor, that will be
5. 3 financed by each entity (Annual Conference).
6. 4 (Consequently, renumber #4 8 accordingly.)
7. 5
8. 6
9. 7 Funding: There is no funding on the General Budget.
10. However, there is funding associated
11. 8 at the expense of the Annual Conference.

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Bill Number: CC-04

Title: Letter of Good and Regular Standing



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 269, Section II Annual Conference F (1)

Intent

To ensure letters of good and regular standing are not arbitrarily withheld

Rationale

To preclude denial of letters for clergy in good and regular standing.

Current Text

1. It shall be the duty of every member of the Annual
2. Conference to attend its sessions.
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Amended Text

1. It shall be the duty of every member of the Annual
2. Conference to attend its sessions. Upon request, a member
3. in good and regular standing of the Annual Conference may
4. request a letter stating same. Absent extenuating
5. circumstances, the letter of good and regular standing or
6. denial of a letter shall be issued within 90 days of the
7. request. The written denial must include why the requesting
8. member is not considered in good and regular standing.
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Bill Number: CC-05

Title: Ministerial Efficiency as a Standing Committee



Submitted by: Submitted by the Chicago Conference Legislative Task Force, 4th Episcopal District

Contact: tripettis@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine & Discipline of the AMEC 2016, Part XIV Section II - The Annual Conference J1., page 271 and The Glossary, Page 821

Intent

To allow the Ministerial Efficiency Committee (MEC) to convene and work throughout the Annual Conference year, including making determinations and presenting disposition recommendations to the Presiding Elder and Bishop as soon as they have been established and discussed with the Minister.

Rationale

For the welfare of the minister, the local church and the Annual Conference, matters requiring Ministerial Efficiency Committee (MEC) involvement need not be delayed until Annual Conference. Referrals to the MEC may be submitted throughout the conference year by the Presiding Elder and Presiding Bishop, and addressed in a timely fashion with the minister. After a determination has been made that involves either mediation and/or corrective action other than Location of a pastor, said remedial work can begin immediately for the good of the individual and the church. All minister and pastor MEC referrals, determinations, and disposition actions that occur in a given Conference year shall be presented and recorded at the Annual Conference closest to said referral.

Current Text

1. Current Text: None exists pertaining to Ministerial Efficiency
2. Committee as Standing Committee.
3. Glossary, page 821
4. Current Text: An annual conference committee level
5. committee appointed by the Bishop to review the efficiency
6. and moral conduct of those minsters referred to it.
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Amended Text

1. Page 271 J. Committees
2. Ministerial Efficiency
3. add c. The Ministerial Efficiency Committee as a standing
4. committee shall meet at the
5. call of the Committee chairperson as s/he may deem
6. necessary for carrying out the work of the Committee.
7. Glossary, page 821
8. An annual conference committee level standing committee
9. appointed by the Bishop to review the efficiency and moral
10. conduct of those minsters referred to it.
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Bill Number: CC-06

Title: Realignment of Presiding Elder Districts in Eighth Episcopal District



Submitted by: Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Sr.

Contact: eighthdistamec@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, page 281, Annual Conferences and their Boundaries within the Episcopal Districts No. 1

Intent

To reduce and consolidate the four (4) presiding elder districts in the South Mississippi Annual Conference to three (3) presiding elder districts.

Rationale

Once the reduction and consolidation occur, it will better equip the presiding elder districts to increase church growth, lay and clergy participation and greater efficiency and effectiveness in achieving their vision and mission.

Current Text

1. 1. Eighth District (4 Conferences)
2. 2. South Mississippi Conference: The South Mississippi
3. 3. Conference includes Natchez-Port Gibson, Brookhaven-
4. Hattiesburg, Jackson-Vicksburg and Jackson-Meridian
5. Presiding Elder Districts.

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Amended Text

1. 5. No. 1
2. 6. South Mississippi Conference: The South Mississippi
3. 7. Conference includes Southeast, Southwest and North
4. Presiding Elder Districts.
5. FINANICAL IMPLICATIONS
6. There are no financial implications associated with this bill.

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Bill Number: CC-07

Title: Realignment of Presiding Elder Districts in the Eighth Episcopal District



Submitted by: Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Sr.

Contact: eighthdistamec@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, page 281, Annual Conferences and their Boundaries within the Episcopal Districts Number: 4

Intent

To reduce and consolidate the three (3) presiding elder districts in the Central North Louisiana Annual Conference to two presiding elder districts.

Rationale

Once the reduction and consolidation occur, it will better equip the presiding elder districts to increase church growth, lay and clergy participation and greater efficiency and effectiveness in achieving their vision and mission.

Current Text

1. 1. Eighth District (4 Conferences)
2. 2. No. 4 Central North Louisiana Conference:
3. 3. The Central North Louisiana Conference includes
4. Shreveport,
5. 4. Monroe-Lake Providence, and Alexandria-Thibodaux
6. 5. Presiding Elder Districts.

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Amended Text

1. 7. Central North Louisiana Conference: The Central North
2. 8. Louisiana Conference includes Shreveport-Monroe
3. 9. and Alexandria-Thibodaux Presiding Elder Districts.
4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
5. There are no financial implications associated with this bill.

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Submitted by: W. Raymond Bryant

Contact: drbryant7@icloud.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, pages 292-294, Section: Procedure: Disciplinary Questions; and pages 799- 801, Certificates

Intent

To facilitate more accurate reporting of each local church and provide clarity to equal to or better as transitions are made by pastors from church to church.

Rationale

Currently the Quarterly Conference disciplinary questions are ambiguous and in need of clarity. These amended disciplinary questions will ensure (1) the accuracy of the information from local churches (i.e. spiritual, membership and financial status); (2) the transparency of reports; and (3) assist the Boards of Stewards and Trustees with the requirements of their reports. These disciplinary questions are designed to provide the Presiding Elder with more accurate quarterly documentation. It will also provide the Presiding Bishop an accurate end of year report of the local church.

The amended disciplinary questions will accomplish the aforementioned by:

1. reducing redundancy.
2. updating the language.
3. obtaining a more accurate assessment of the condition of the church.

Current Text

1. The Following questions shall be asked by the Presiding Elder and answered by the
2. pastor, in general and in particular and recorded:
3. 1. Are there any appeals from members of the society?
4. 2. Is there any application for license to preach or exhort?
5. 3. Is there any license to be renewed?
6. 4. How many persons have been converted?
7. 5. How many persons have been received as new members?
8. 6. How many persons have been received into full membership?
9. 7. How many persons are now ready to be received into full membership?
10. 8. How many persons have been received by certificate?
11. 9. How many have left with certificate? Names. Where did they go?
12. 10. How many have left without certificate?
13. 11. Total number of persons joining the church this quarter?
14. 12. How many expelled? Names. Why?
15. 13. How many members have died this quarter, and what are their names?
16. 14. What is the number of full members in this church or on this circuit?
17. 15. How many of this church or circuit are registered voters?
18. 16. What is the number of new members in this church or on this circuit? (New
19. members are persons transferring from other Methodist denominations, joining from
20. non-Methodist churches and converts.)
21. 17. Have the new members been instructed in doctrine, laws and history of our church
22. during this quarter.
23. 18. Number of affiliated members?(Affiliated members are members of our
24. denomination residing in the community who have joined temporarily and whose
25. memberships are in AME churches in other locales. They are not to be counted as
26. accessions.)
27. 19. Number of preparatory members. (Preparatory members are youth through age
28. 17. They are not to be counted as full members.)
29. 20. What has been the increase of full members this quarter?
30. 21. How many marriages have been performed by the minister this quarter?
31. 22. How many baptisms this quarter?
32. a. Infants (a weeks to 5 years of age)
33. b. Children (6-12)
34. c. Youth (13-17)
35. d. Adults (18 and over)
36. 23. How many Church Schools?
37. a. Give Church School reports, which should include total number of pupils on roll and
38. average attendance.
39. b. Include amount of money collected and disbursed-purpose and manner of
40. appropriation.
41. c. Books in the library?
42. 24. Does this station, circuit or mission have a Lay Organization?
43. a. If so, how many members does the Lay Organization have?
44. 25. Does the station, circuit or mission have a Womens Missionary Society?
45. a. If so, how many does the Womens Missionary Society have?
46. 26. Is the church incorporated properly?
47. a. Where are the incorporation papers located?
48. 27. What are the number of community projects within the church receiving funds from
49. outside the church? (Child care, Senior Citizens homes, etc.)
50. 28. Give report of stewards, which should include money raised to pay minister and
51. presiding elder, benevolence and all other purposes.
52. 29. Give report of trustees, which must include all money handed by the trustees,
53. manner and
54. purpose of disbursements.
55. 30. Are all church properties insured? For what amount?
56. 31. What is the present indebted?
57. 32. How much money has been collected for the General Budget Fund?
58. a. For retirement and hospitalization?
59. 33. How many subscribers are there this quarter for our church periodicals?
60. Name the periodicals.
61. 34. The chairperson will call for reports from all organizations and auxiliaries of the
62. church,
63. mission and circuit.
64. 35. All reports shall be carefully written out prior to the quarterly conference session.
65. The
66. conference may receive and adopt these reports at once, or send them back to their
67. respective departments for correction. If necessary, they shall be returned to the next
68. quarterly conference, unless otherwise ordered.
- 69.
- 70.
- 71.

Amended Text

1. The Following questions shall be asked by the Presiding Elder and answered by the pastor, in general and in particular and recorded:
2. THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH OF THE CONGREGATION
3. 1. Has any member registered an appeal with the Elder before the convening of this quarter?
4. 2. What date was the Church Conference held to organize for the new Conference year (ask at the first quarter)?
5. 3. Who are the stewards to be nominated for this conference year?
6. 4. Who is the steward delegate to the District Conference?
7. 5. Are there any applications for licenses to preach, to be renewed or license to exhort?
8. 6. Who are the preachers serving in this church? (List name and order)
9. a. Itinerant Elders
10. b. Itinerant Deacons
11. c. Locals
12. d. Licentates
13. e. Exhorters
14. 7. How many have confessed Christ as their Savior this quarter? (List total and names)
15. a. At a worship service
16. b. Through other evangelistic efforts of the church
17. 8. Who are those persons who have joined this church this quarter? (List names and total)
18. a. From other denominations
19. b. With no other church affiliation
20. c. Transferred from another affiliated Methodist tradition
21. 9. Within the period of this quarter have all the new members been instructed in the basic tenants of scripture, faith and the Discipline and
22. Doctrine of the African Methodist Episcopal Church?
23. 10. Who are they that have been read into full membership of our church this past quarter? Please give number and names.
24. 11. Name those persons who have left this church this quarter.
25. a. With letter
26. b. Without letter
27. 12. Have any of the members been expelled by the Pastor this quarter. If so, has their right to appeal been sufficiently adjudicated by church law
28. prior to the quarter?
29. 13. Please list the names of the persons who have died this quarter.
30. 14. What is the number of verified full members? At the end of the fourth (4th) quarter the stewards are to make this list available to the Elder.
31. a. Adults
32. b. Affiliated
33. c. Young Adults (18-39)
34. 15. What is the number of preparatory members (17 and under)?
35. 16. What youth ministries does this church have?
36. 17. How many worship services did you have this Quarter?
37. a. What is the average attendance to each worship service?
38. 18. How many Bible Studies are there weekly and what is the average attendance?
39. a. Does the Pastor teach Bible Study?
40. b. Is there an online or teleconference Bible Study and what is the attendance?
41. 19. Has your full membership increased beyond your reported verified membership, if so by what number?
42. 20. Name those who have been baptized this quarter.
43. a. Infants
44. b. Children (6-12)
45. c. Youth (13-17)
46. d. Adults
47. 21. Name those persons who have been married by the clergy of the church this quarter.
48. 22. The following components are to submit a brief summary of their activities, successes, and challenges during the quarter:
49. a. Christian Education e. Youth Ministries
50. b. Church School f. Young Adult Ministry
51. c. Missionary Society
52. d. Lay Organization
53. CHURCH FISCAL MANAGEMENT
54. 1. FINANCIAL REPORT
55. a. Please provide for the quarter a comprehensive financial report dating from the close of the previous quarter. All income and disbursement
56. must be itemized. The report should include all and any accounts in the name of the Church including Certificates of Deposits, investments,
57. grants and gifts, not associated with your 501(c)3. Pursuant to the Discipline Board of Stewardsthey shall make accurate reports of every
58. expenditure of money whether to the pastor, church, sick or poor. The Treasurer of Church and a minimum of three stewards, must sign off on
59. this report.
60. b. Please submit by the second quarter an operating budget.
61. c. Please provide for the quarter an aging report of all bills: 30 days (current) 60 days
62. (past due) 90 days (past due).
63. d. What was the support of the pastor for the quarter?
64. e. What is the outstanding debt owed the pastor?
65. 1. what is the outstanding debt owed the Presiding Elder?
66. f. Name the Insurance Company what is the current renewal date; who is the agent
67. and provide proof that the policy is current and at replacement value?
68. a. Includes wind damage? Yes _____ No _____
69. b. Includes flood damage Yes _____ No _____
70. c. Includes earthquake damage Yes _____ No _____
71. g. Mortgage company information
72. - Who holds the mortgage?
73. - What are the basic terms of the mortgage?
74. - Who are the guarantors on the mortgage?
75. - What is the interest rate?
76. - What was the principle and initial date of the loan?
77. - What is the monthly payment and show a statement that provides proof that the mortgage is current?
78. - Have you changed your mortgage company since the last Quarter?
79. h. Have all Connectional, Episcopal District, Annual Conference, and Presiding Elders District Financial obligations been met?
80. i. What other financial obligation, i.e. additional debt, with contractual obligation, open line of credit, credit cards, and leases are outstanding?
81. What is the amount due?
82. 2. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS
83. a. How many times has the pastor met with the Board of Stewards this quarter?
84. b. What has been the work of the Board of Stewards this quarter?
85. c. What successes, new endeavors and challenges have you met?
86. d. What goals have you accomplished?
87. e. What are you planning with the pastor to implement church growth?
88. f. Have all of the officers of the church taken the sexual harassment training per Discipline?
89. g. Does the church have an active Health Ministry? Yes _____ No _____
90. In development? Yes _____ No _____ Provide information on event (s):
91. h. Did the church engage in ministry or awareness events towards eliminating or addressing congregation or community needs associated with
92. the HIV/AIDS pandemic? Yes _____ No _____ Provide information on events (s).
93. i. Does the church actively seek to support the inclusion of persons who are differently abled? (include services for the hearing and vision
94. impaired, emergency evacuation and ensuring all persons can safely exit the building, etc.).
95. j. Have all persons working with children had background checks? Yes _____ No _____
96. 3. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
97. a. What has been the work of the Trustees this quarter?
98. 1) How many times has the pastor met with the Board of Stewards this quarter?
99. 2) List the addresses of all properties. Are these properties included in the insurance policy at replacement value or liability?
100. 3) Has there been any property sold since the last quarter? If so, for what amount?
101. 4) Is there a resolution from the church conference for the sale of the property and for what amount?
102. 5) Is there a resolution from the church conference to borrow money or to incumber property?
103. 6) What property is being leased and for how much? And provide proof that the taxes are being paid on this property.
104. 7) Are all leased or rental property properly insured showing the local church (Conference Trustees) as loss payee?
105. 8) Provide for the Presiding Elder the recorded deed at the first quarter and provide any changes to the deed or property at the remaining
106. quarters.
107. 9) Please list problem areas on the property.
108. 10) If the Church owns a cemetery is it properly managed, cataloged and insured?
109. 11) Where are the important documents of the church kept? Annually, please present to the quarter.
110. 12) Has the church initiated an active shooter training? Yes _____ No _____ Date _____
111. 13) Has the church conducted disaster preparedness activities? Yes _____ No _____ (include evacuation drills, CPR/AED training, gathering
112. of recommended supplies, training, etc.)
113. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
114. There are no financial implications associated with this bill.
- 115.
- 116.
- 117.
- 118.

Bill Number: CC-08

Title: THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL



Submitted by: PAUL MUGALA

Contact: mugalapm@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PART XV

PAGE 297

PAGE 298

Intent

PAGE 297:

THIS IS TO STREAMLINE THE AMEC OPERATIONS ON THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA AND ITS SURROUNDING ISLANDS WHICH HAS TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW EXPONENTIALLY IN TERMS OF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT, CHURCH GROWTH, ECUMENICAL AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT, EDUCATION, HEALTH, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WITH THE INTENT TO POSITIVELY IMPACT THE COMMUNITIES

Rationale

PAGE 297

TO BORROW SOME OF THE COMMENTS IN THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF THE PREAMBLE AS IT IS IN THE AMEC 2016 BOOK OF DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE; WE BELIEVE THIS IS A LIBERATING AND PROACTIVE GOVERNANCE MODEL THAT EMBRACES, EMPOWERS, AND ENVISIONS FULL PARTICIPATION OF LEADERSHIP AMONG ALL CONSTITUENTS THROUGHOUT THE CONNECTION.

PAGE 298

TO REFLECT THE APPROPRIATE REASON FOR THE CHANGE OF THE NAME OF AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL

Current Text

1. PAGE 297
2. GLOBAL WITNESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA, THE NATIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN, EUROPE,
3. SOUTH AMERICA AND INDIA
4. PAGE 298
5. Last Sentence:
6. The initiative is now known as the Global Development Council.
7. PAGE 299 PART XV
8. SECTION 1. PREAMBLE
9. CURRENT TEXT:
10. B. GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
11. 1 NAME
12. The name of this initiative shall be the GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE AME CHURCH.
13. 2. Mission and Purpose
14. c. unite all AME Churches in Africa, the nations of the Caribbean, South
15. America, Europe and India.
16. h. promote deeper understanding, collaboration and cohesion among Churches
17. in Africa, the nations of the Caribbean, South America, Europe, India and Canada with those in the US.
18. j. propose legislation in the General Conference to move the process beyond
19. the Global Development Council.
20. 3. Membership The membership of the Global Development Council shall be:
21. a. all bishops page 300
22. b. general officers
23. c. connectional officers and field representatives
24. d. members of the General Board
25. e. supervisors and presidents of episcopal auxiliaries and organizations
26. residing and serving in Africa, the nations of the Caribbean, South
27. America, Europe and India, and
28. f. one (1) clergy and one (1) layperson from each annual conference, elected
29. by simple majority at the first (1st) session of the annual conference after
30. the closure of the 47th Session of the General Conference of the AME
31. Church, rotating between one (1) youth [age eighteen (18) to thirty-five
32. (35)] and adult layperson with each succeeding General Conference.
33. 4. Members of the Executive Board The members of the Executive Board shall
34. be:
35. a. all bishops serving in Africa, the nations of the Caribbean, South America and Europe.
36. b. one (1) layperson and one (1) clergy of each episcopal district.
37. c. all Field Representatives.
38. d. the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer elected at the biennial
39. meetings of the Global Development Council.
40. 5. Election The mode of election shall be determined by the Global
41. Development Council in accordance with The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal
42. Church.
43. 6. Duties of the Executive Board The duties of the Executive Board shall be to:
44. a. facilitate the realization of the aspirations of the members of the AME
45. Church resident in the Global Community.
46. b. create, appoint and spell out the terms of references of ad hoc task forces,
47. committees or coordinators and, when need arises, address specific issues
48. and matters.
49. c. receive, hear, edit and prepare all bills agreed upon by the Global
50. Development Council meetings for submission to the biennial meetings for subsequent submission to the
51. General Conference Revisions Committee.
52. d. draft rules, procedures, regulations and Bylaws that are in keeping with The Doctrine and Discipline of
53. the African Methodist Episcopal Church to govern the Global Development Council.
54. PAGE 301
55. e. develop budgets for its operations and submit to the Global Development Council for approval.
56. f. consider reports from the Field Representatives for possible advice, direction, feedback and
57. implementation.
58. g. raise, receive and administer funds received from the Connectional Church, episcopal districts, and
59. other sources independent of the Connectional Church for its operation.
60. 7. Meetings
61. a. The Global Development Council will hold biennial meetings. The first biennial meeting shall be called
62. by the senior bishop serving in the Global community not later than February 15, 2005.
63. b. The Executive Board of the Global Development Council shall meet at least annually.
64. c. The expenses of members attending meetings (Biennial or Executive Board Annual Meetings) of the
65. Global Development Council shall be borne by their respective annual conference.
66. 8. Program Coordinator
67. a. As part of the development and empowerment program for ministry, the Global Development Council
68. may appoint a Program Coordinator from time to time, to plan and implement specific activities (i.e., Joint
69. Leadership Congress and other such activities), and
70. b. One (1) of the two (2) Episcopal representatives to the Global Development Council must be
71. designated by his or her presiding bishop as Global Development Council Episcopal Coordinator,
72. responsible for the total program of the Global Development in consultation with the bishop.
73. 9. Amenability The Global Development Council shall be amenable to the General
74. Board Commission on Global Development of Africa and shall be governed by
75. The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
76. 10. Amendments This legislation can be amended by the General Conference of the
77. African Methodist Episcopal Church.
78. 11. Parliamentary Procedure The
79. Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the
80. current edition of Roberts Rules of Order page 302 Newly Revised, when not in
81. conflict with The Discipline, shall govern the proceedings of the Global
82. Development Council.
83.
84.
85.
86.
87.

Amended Text

1. PAGE 297
2. THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL [AJC] AN INDEPENDENT AUTONOMY FOR EFFECTIVE SPIRITUAL
3. DEVELOPMENT AND CHURCH GROWTH OF THE AMEC ON THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA AND ITS SURROUNDING
4. ISLANDS BY AFRICANS FROM AN AFRICAN CONTEXT
5. PAGE 298
6. THE INITIATIVE HAS NOW BEEN REVERTED BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL NAME KNOWN AS THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION
7. COUNCIL. THE AJC IS WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT [AS OF THE 51ST QUADRENNIAL OF THE AMEC 2020 GENERAL
8. CONFERENCE CONVENED IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA] TO HAVE ITS OWN GOVERNANCE AND MODE OF ELECTION FOR
9. ONLY PEOPLE BORN IN AFRICA AND MEET THE APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS SHALL CONTEST FOR ALL THE
10. ELECTED OFFICES TO SERVE IN LEADERSHIP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.
11. PAGE 299
12. AMENDED TEXT:
13. B. AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL
14. 1 NAME
15. THE NAME OF THIS INITIATIVE SHALL BE THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL OF THE AME CHURCH AMENABLE TO
16. THE CONNECTIONAL AMEC GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR DOCTRINE AND SOME PARTS OF THE DISCIPLINE ONLY
17. 2. Mission and Purpose
18. c. Unite all AME Churches in Africa and pursue new opportunities in areas
19. where there is no AMEC presence; such as the, Ethiopia, Chad, exploit
20. Church Growth opportunities in Ghana and Nigeria.
21. f. Secure for members in the emerging African and its Islands Communities for
22. opportunities for service in the ministry of governance.
23. h. Promote deeper understanding, collaboration and cohesion among Churches
24. in Africa and its surrounding Islands
25. * Please Note that the following items are not relevant to the AJC so please
26. Get rid of these items completely i, j, .
27. 3. Membership
28. The membership of the African Jurisdiction Council shall be:
29. a. All AJC elected and consecrated Bishops
30. b. All AJC elected Connectional and General officers; the Judicial Council
31. c. All the African Episcopal Districts Constituents
32. d. All members of the AJC General Board Members
33. e. All the AJC supervisors and presidents of episcopal auxiliaries and organizations serving in Africa and its surrounding Islands
34. Please Note: the rest from item f; the whole 4; 6, 7, 8; are no longer relevant to the AJC; 5 becomes; 9 becomes 5; 10 becomes 6;
35. and 11 becomes 7 as noted below.
36. 4. ELECTIONS / MEETINGS, ETC REFER TO PAGE 247 PART XIV
37. FOR NOW, PLEASE REFER TO PAGE 247 PART XIV TO BE RATIFIED AT
38. THE AJC ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE TO BE ORGANIZED
39. PRIOR TO THE CONNECTIONAL 51ST QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE
40. AMEC GENERAL CONFERENCE CURRENTLY POSTPONED TO THE YEAR
41. 2021 SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA USA
42. 5. AMENABILITY
43. THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL OF THE AME CHURCH
44. SHALL BE AMENABLE TO THE CONNECTIONAL
45. AMEC GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR DOCTRINE AND SOME PARTS OF
46. THE DISCIPLINE ONLY. HOWEVER, SHALL HAVE ITS OWN AUTONOMY
47. TO ORGANIZE ITS OWN GENERAL CONFERENCE IN CONFORMITY TO
48. THE CONNECTIONAL GENERAL CONFERENCE SET UP
49. 6. AMENDMENTS
50. THIS LEGISLATION CAN BE AMENDED BY THE AJC GENERAL
51. CONFERENCE AND RATIFIED AT THE CONNECTIONAL GENERAL
52. CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
53. 7. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE
54. THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST
55. EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND THE CURRENT EDITION OF ROBERTS RULES
56. OF ORDER PAGE 302 NEWLY REVISED, WHEN NOT IN CONFLICT WITH
57. THE DISCIPLINE, SHALL GOVERN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFRICAN
58. JURISDICTION COUNCIL.
59. 8. JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION PLEASE REFER TO PAGE 315 PART XVI
60. PAGE 315 PART XVI JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION SHALL SERVE AS THE
61. JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL
62. UNTIL IT IS RATIFIED AT THE ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE
63. OF THE AJC.
64. 9. THE AJC POTENTIAL EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS RE-DISTRICTING MAP
65. HERE IS THE SUGGESTED AJC EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS MAPPING TO BE
66. RATIFIED AT THE ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE PRIOR TO
67. THE CONNECTIONAL 51ST QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE AMEC
68. GENERAL CONFERENCE:
69. A. THE 14TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Burkina Faso, Cote DeVore, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, and Sierra Leone
70. B. THE 15TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Angola, Botswana, and Namibia
71. C. THE 17TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Zambia
72. D. THE 18TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Madagascar, Mozambique, and Swaziland
73. E. 19TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Lesotho and South Africa
74. F. 20TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Malawi and Zimbabwe
75. G. 21ST EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Cameroon, Central, African Republic, Gabon, Congo Brazzaville, and Congo DRC
76. H. 22ND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uganda
77. I. 23RD EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Somalia
78. J. 24TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Benin, Chad, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo
79. K. THE ECUMENICAL ECONOMICAL EMPOWERMENT EPISCOPAL OFFICE TO OPERATE FROM THE AJC HQ
80. L. POTENTIAL AJC HQ NIGERIA DUE TO ITS MAJOR HARVEST IN TERMS OF CHURCH GROWTH WITH ITS MASSIVE
81. POPULATION OF MORE THAN 200 MILLION GODS PEOPLE
82. M. REGIONAL OFFICES IN ETHIOPIA, GHANA, CAMEROON, AND SOUTH AFRICA/ZAMBIA
83. 10. THE AJC GOVERNANCE MODEL AND CONNECTIONAL AMEC
84. GENERAL CONFERENCE ENGAGEMENT IN ALIGNMENT TO
85. PAGE 159 PART X ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF GENERAL
86. AND CONNECTIONAL DIVISIONS
87. 12. THE AJC COUNCIL OF BISHOPS
88. IN ORDER TO EXERCISE FAIR PLAY AND JUSTICE ONLY BISHOPS ELECTED BY
89. THE AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO SERVE
90. IN THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS
91. PAGE 302 PART XV SECTION II TO SECTION VIII
92. INTENT TEXT:
93. IN ORDER TO HAVE A TOTAL AFRICAN CONSTITUENT CONENSUS THESE SECTIONS BEGINNING WITH ESECTION II TO
94. SECTION VIII SHALL BE REVIEWED AND RATIFIED AT THE ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN
95. JURISDICTION COUNCIL TO BE CALLED AHEAD OF THE CONNECTIONAL GENERAL CONFERENCE BARRING NO
96. CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC
97. RATIONALE TEXT:
98. TO REFLECT THE AFRICAN PURSUIT OF CONSTITUENTS VOICE INCLUSION IN THE SHAPING THE VISION, MINISTRY,
99. AND MISSION OF THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL
100. CURRENT TEXT:
101. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPROPRIATE SECTIONS FROM PAGE 302 SECTION II TO PAGE 312 SECTION VIII
102. AMENDED TEXT:
103. LEAVE AS IS FOR NOW BUT SHALL BE RATIFIED BY THE AFRICAN CONSTITUENTS AS A VOICE OF INCLUSION IN THE
104. SHAPING OF THE VISION, MINISTRY, AND MISSION OF THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL AT THE ORGANIZATION
105. AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE
106. BUDGET:
107. ZERO BUDGET IMPACT TO THE GENERAL TREASURY AME CHURCH.

Bill Number: CC-09

Title: THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL



Submitted by: PAUL MUGALA

Contact: mugalapm@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PART XV

PAGE 297

PAGE 298

Intent

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PAGE 298

TO REPLACE THE LAST SENTENCE TO REFLECT THE NEW NAME OF AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL

Current Text

1. PAGE 297
2. GLOBAL WITNESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA,
3. THE NATIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN, EUROPE, SOUTH
4. AMERICA AND INDIA
5. PAGE 298
6. SECTION 1. PREAMBLE
7. A. BACKGROUND:
8. Last Sentence:
9. The initiative is now known as the Global Development
10. Council.
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Amended Text

1. PAGE 297
2. THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL [AJC] AN
3. INDEPENDENT AUTONOMY FOR EFFECTIVE
4. SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AND CHURCH GROWTH OF
5. THE AMEC ON THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA AND ITS
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7. AFRICAN CONTEXT.
8. PAGE 298
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10. ITS ORIGINAL NAME KNOWN AS THE AFRICAN
11. JURISDICTION COUNCIL. THE AJC IS WITH IMMEDIATE
12. EFFECT [AS OF THE 51ST QUADRENNIAL OF THE
13. AMEC 2020 GENERAL CONFERENCE CONVENED IN
14. ORLANDO, FLORIDA] TO HAVE ITS OWN
15. GOVERNANCE AND MODE OF ELECTION FOR ONLY
16. PEOPLE BORN IN AFRICA AND MEET THE
17. APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS SHALL CONTEST FOR
18. ALL THE ELECTED OFFICES TO SERVE IN
19. LEADERSHIP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.
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Bill Number:

Title: THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL/GLOBAL WITNESS AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA, THE NATIONS OF THE CARIBBEAN, EUROPE, SOUTH AMERICA AND INDIA



Submitted by: PAUL MUGALA

Contact: mugalapm@gmail.com

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19. the Global Development Council.
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22. b. general officers
23. c. connectional officers and field representatives
24. d. members of the General Board
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26. residing and serving in Africa, the nations of the Caribbean, South
27. America, Europe and India, and
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29. by simple majority at the first (1st) session of the annual conference after
30. the closure of the 47th Session of the General Conference of the AME
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32. (35)] and adult layperson with each succeeding General Conference.
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37. c. all Field Representatives.
38. d. the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer elected at the biennial
39. meetings of the Global Development Council.
40. 5. Election The mode of election shall be determined by the Global
41. Development Council in accordance with The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal
42. Church.
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45. Church resident in the Global Community.
46. b. create, appoint and spell out the terms of references of ad hoc task forces,
47. committees or coordinators and, when need arises, address specific issues
48. and matters.
49. c. receive, hear, edit and prepare all bills agreed upon by the Global
50. Development Council meetings for submission to the biennial meetings for subsequent submission to the
51. General Conference Revisions Committee.
52. d. draft rules, procedures, regulations and Bylaws that are in keeping with The Doctrine and Discipline of
53. the African Methodist Episcopal Church to govern the Global Development Council.
54. PAGE 301
55. e. develop budgets for its operations and submit to the Global Development Council for approval.
56. f. consider reports from the Field Representatives for possible advice, direction, feedback and
57. implementation.
58. g. raise, receive and administer funds received from the Connectional Church, episcopal districts, and
59. other sources independent of the Connectional Church for its operation.
60. 7. Meetings
61. a. The Global Development Council will hold biennial meetings. The first biennial meeting shall be called
62. by the senior bishop serving in the Global community not later than February 15, 2005.
63. b. The Executive Board of the Global Development Council shall meet at least annually.
64. c. The expenses of members attending meetings (Biennial or Executive Board Annual Meetings) of the
65. Global Development Council shall be borne by their respective annual conference.
66. 8. Program Coordinator
67. a. As part of the development and empowerment program for ministry, the Global Development Council
68. may appoint a Program Coordinator from time to time, to plan and implement specific activities (i.e., Joint
69. Leadership Congress and other such activities), and
70. b. One (1) of the two (2) Episcopal representatives to the Global Development Council must be
71. designated by his or her presiding bishop as Global Development Council Episcopal Coordinator,
72. responsible for the total program of the Global Development in consultation with the bishop.
73. 9. Amenability The Global Development Council shall be amenable to the General
74. Board Commission on Global Development of Africa and shall be governed by
75. The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
76. 10. Amendments This legislation can be amended by the General Conference of the
77. African Methodist Episcopal Church.
78. 11. Parliamentary Procedure The
79. Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the
80. current edition of Roberts Rules of Order page 302 Newly Revised, when not in
81. conflict with The Discipline, shall govern the proceedings of the Global
82. Development Council.
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Amended Text

1. PAGE 297
2. THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL [AJC] AN INDEPENDENT AUTONOMY FOR EFFECTIVE SPIRITUAL
3. DEVELOPMENT AND CHURCH GROWTH OF THE AMEC ON THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA AND ITS SURROUNDING
4. ISLANDS BY AFRICANS FROM AN AFRICAN CONTEXT
5. PAGE 298
6. THE INITIATIVE HAS NOW BEEN REVERTED BACK TO ITS ORIGINAL NAME KNOWN AS THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION
7. COUNCIL. THE AJC IS WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT [AS OF THE 51ST QUADRENNIAL OF THE AMEC 2020 GENERAL
8. CONFERENCE CONVENED IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA] TO HAVE ITS OWN GOVERNANCE AND MODE OF ELECTION FOR
9. ONLY PEOPLE BORN IN AFRICA AND MEET THE APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS SHALL CONTEST FOR ALL THE
10. ELECTED OFFICES TO SERVE IN LEADERSHIP ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.
11. PAGE 299
12. AMENDED TEXT:
13. B. AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL
14. 1 NAME
15. THE NAME OF THIS INITIATIVE SHALL BE THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL OF THE AME CHURCH AMENABLE TO
16. THE CONNECTIONAL AMEC GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR DOCTRINE AND SOME PARTS OF THE DISCIPLINE ONLY
17. 2. Mission and Purpose
18. c. Unite all AME Churches in Africa and pursue new opportunities in areas
19. where there is no AMEC presence; such as the, Ethiopia, Chad, exploit
20. Church Growth opportunities in Ghana and Nigeria.
21. f. Secure for members in the emerging African and its Islands Communities for
22. opportunities for service in the ministry of governance.
23. h. Promote deeper understanding, collaboration and cohesion among Churches
24. in Africa and its surrounding Islands
25. * Please Note that the following items are not relevant to the AJC so please
26. Get rid of these items completely i, j, .
27. 3. Membership
28. The membership of the African Jurisdiction Council shall be:
29. a. All AJC elected and consecrated Bishops
30. b. All AJC elected Connectional and General officers; the Judicial Council
31. c. All the African Episcopal Districts Constituents
32. d. All members of the AJC General Board Members
33. e. All the AJC supervisors and presidents of episcopal auxiliaries and organizations serving in Africa and its surrounding Islands
34. Please Note: the rest from item f; the whole 4; 6, 7, 8; are no longer relevant to the AJC; 5 becomes; 9 becomes 5; 10 becomes 6;
35. and 11 becomes 7 as noted below.
36. 4. ELECTIONS / MEETINGS, ETC REFER TO PAGE 247 PART XIV
37. FOR NOW, PLEASE REFER TO PAGE 247 PART XIV TO BE RATIFIED AT
38. THE AJC ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE TO BE ORGANIZED
39. PRIOR TO THE CONNECTIONAL 51ST QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE
40. AMEC GENERAL CONFERENCE CURRENTLY POSTPONED TO THE YEAR
41. 2021 SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA USA
42. 5. AMENABILITY
43. THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL OF THE AME CHURCH
44. SHALL BE AMENABLE TO THE CONNECTIONAL
45. AMEC GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR DOCTRINE AND SOME PARTS OF
46. THE DISCIPLINE ONLY. HOWEVER, SHALL HAVE ITS OWN AUTONOMY
47. TO ORGANIZE ITS OWN GENERAL CONFERENCE IN CONFORMITY TO
48. THE CONNECTIONAL GENERAL CONFERENCE SET UP
49. 6. AMENDMENTS
50. THIS LEGISLATION CAN BE AMENDED BY THE AJC GENERAL
51. CONFERENCE AND RATIFIED AT THE CONNECTIONAL GENERAL
52. CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
53. 7. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE
54. THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST
55. EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND THE CURRENT EDITION OF ROBERTS RULES
56. OF ORDER PAGE 302 NEWLY REVISED, WHEN NOT IN CONFLICT WITH
57. THE DISCIPLINE, SHALL GOVERN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFRICAN
58. JURISDICTION COUNCIL.
59. 8. JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION PLEASE REFER TO PAGE 315 PART XVI
60. PAGE 315 PART XVI JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION SHALL SERVE AS THE
61. JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL
62. UNTIL IT IS RATIFIED AT THE ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE
63. OF THE AJC.
64. 9. THE AJC POTENTIAL EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS RE-DISTRICTING MAP
65. HERE IS THE SUGGESTED AJC EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS MAPPING TO BE
66. RATIFIED AT THE ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE PRIOR TO
67. THE CONNECTIONAL 51ST QUADRENNIAL SESSION OF THE AMEC
68. GENERAL CONFERENCE:
69. A. THE 14TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Burkina Faso, Cote DeVore, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, and Sierra Leone
70. B. THE 15TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Angola, Botswana, and Namibia
71. C. THE 17TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Zambia
72. D. THE 18TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Madagascar, Mozambique, and Swaziland
73. E. 19TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Lesotho and South Africa
74. F. 20TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT Malawi and Zimbabwe
75. G. 21ST EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Cameroon, Central, African Republic, Gabon, Congo Brazzaville, and Congo DRC
76. H. 22ND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uganda
77. I. 23RD EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Somalia
78. J. 24TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT - Benin, Chad, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo
79. K. THE ECUMENICAL ECONOMICAL EMPOWERMENT EPISCOPAL OFFICE TO OPERATE FROM THE AJC HQ
80. L. POTENTIAL AJC HQ NIGERIA DUE TO ITS MAJOR HARVEST IN TERMS OF CHURCH GROWTH WITH ITS MASSIVE
81. POPULATION OF MORE THAN 200 MILLION GODS PEOPLE
82. M. REGIONAL OFFICES IN ETHIOPIA, GHANA, CAMEROON, AND SOUTH AFRICA/ZAMBIA
83. 10. THE AJC GOVERNANCE MODEL AND CONNECTIONAL AMEC
84. GENERAL CONFERENCE ENGAGEMENT IN ALIGNMENT TO
85. PAGE 159 PART X ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF GENERAL
86. AND CONNECTIONAL DIVISIONS
87. 12. THE AJC COUNCIL OF BISHOPS
88. IN ORDER TO EXERCISE FAIR PLAY AND JUSTICE ONLY BISHOPS ELECTED BY
89. THE AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO SERVE
90. IN THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS
91. PAGE 302 PART XV SECTION II TO SECTION VIII
92. INTENT TEXT:
93. IN ORDER TO HAVE A TOTAL AFRICAN CONSTITUENT CONENSUS THESE SECTIONS BEGINNING WITH ESECTION II TO
94. SECTION VIII SHALL BE REVIEWED AND RATIFIED AT THE ORGANIZATION GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN
95. JURISDICTION COUNCIL TO BE CALLED AHEAD OF THE CONNECTIONAL GENERAL CONFERENCE BARRING NO
96. CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC
97. RATIONALE TEXT:
98. TO REFLECT THE AFRICAN PURSUIT OF CONSTITUENTS VOICE INCLUSION IN THE SHAPING THE VISION, MINISTRY,
99. AND MISSION OF THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL
100. CURRENT TEXT:
101. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPROPRIATE SECTIONS FROM PAGE 302 SECTION II TO PAGE 312 SECTION VIII
102. AMENDED TEXT:
103. LEAVE AS IS FOR NOW BUT SHALL BE RATIFIED BY THE AFRICAN CONSTITUENTS AS A VOICE OF INCLUSION IN THE
104. SHAPING OF THE VISION, MINISTRY, AND MISSION OF THE AFRICAN JURISDICTION COUNCIL AT THE ORGANIZATION
105. AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE
106. BUDGET:
107. ZERO BUDGET IMPACT TO THE GENERAL TREASURY AME CHURCH.

Bill Number: CC-10

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 299 SECTION 1B2: MISSION AND PURPOSE

Intent

CREATION OF THE MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE AJC TO ADOPT THE MISSION AND PURPOSE AS ENSHRINED IN THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rationale

TO ENHANCE THE AFRICA JURISDICTIONAL AUTHORITY AS A COUNCIL WHILE RETAINING THE CONNECTIONAL CHARACTER

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. THE AJC GC SHALL ADOPT THE MISSION AND

2. PURPOSE AS ENSHRINED IN THE DOCTRINE AND

3. DISCIPLINE OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL

4. CHURCH AND MAY AMEND THE SAME WITH

5. PROVISIONS TO ALLOW FOR EXCLUSIVE SELF

6. DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTERING OF THE

7. AFFAIRS OF AFRICAS OWN CHURCH BUSINESS TO

8. REFLECT THE ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE

9. AME CHURCH IN AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN

10. COUNTRIES

11. SUCH AMENDMENTS SHALL HOWEVER NOT

12. CONTRADICT THE SPIRIT OF THE CONNECTIONAL

13. CHURCH IN AS FAR AS SUCH CONNECTIONAL

14. PROVISIONS OF THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF

15. THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

16. SHALL NOT BE CONTRARY TO THE HOLY BIBLE

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Bill Number: CC-11

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 308: PART XV SECTION VII SUB SECTION D STRUCTURE CLAUSE 1 THE FREDERICK CALHOM JAMES
CENTRE OF AME SERVICE - Sub-section D STRUCTURE Clause 1 Executive Board sub clause a COMPOSITION

Intent

TO LEGISLATE FOR FULL PARTICIPATION OF AJC ON ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO AJC AT THE CONNECTIONAL
LEVEL

Rationale

TO ENSURE THAT ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO OR AFFECTING THE CHURCH IN AFRICA IN THE REALM OF THE
CONNECTION:

1. HAVE RELEVANT AFRICAN REPRESENTATION. THIS IS NECESSARY FOR AFRICA TO ENSURE THAT THE
CHURCH IN AFRICA PARTICIPATES IN DECISIONS MADE AS AFFECTING THE CONTINENT
2. SERVE THE PURPOSE OF RAISING THE AFRICAN CHURCH FROM THE BACKDROP OF DISENFRANCHISEMENT
AND DEPRIVATION OF THE PAST FAILURES TO ADEQUATELY DEVELOP THE SPIRITUAL, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL
BEING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AJC CONSTITUENCY

Current Text

1. AS IT IS WITH AN INCLUSION
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Amended Text

1. COMPOSITION is amended by the inclusion of the words,
2. and 2 members appointed by the AJC
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Bill Number: CC-12

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

PAGE 309: PART XV SECTION VII SUB SECTION D STRUCTURE CLAUSE 1 THE FREDERICK CALHOM JAMES
CENTRE OF AME SERVICE - Sub-section E MEMBERSHIP

Intent

TO SEEK REPRESENTATION ON THE FREDERICK CALHOM JAMES CENTRE OF AME SERVICE BOARD

Rationale

TO ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY AND PARTICIPATION IN MATTERS OF THE CONNECTION DIRECTLY AFFECTING
THE AJC CONSTITUENCY

Current Text

1. AS IT IS WITH AN INCLUSION
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Amended Text

1. SUB-SECTION E MEMBERSHIP IS AMENDED BY THE
2. INCLUSION OF THE WORDS, AND 2 MEMBERS
3. APPOINTED BY THE AJC
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Bill Number: JA-01

Title: Child and Youth Protection and Background Checks



Submitted by: Department of Christian Education

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

pg. 333

Intent

This proposed legislation seeks to require adult employees and volunteers beginning work with or already working with ministries with children and/or youth or with organizations or agencies associated with the church that serve children and/or youth to have periodic national criminal background checks and training related to child protection policies and procedures.

Rationale

The Book of Doctrine and Discipline speaks of criminal background checks and anti-sexual harassment training for those entering ministry and for clergy. It further speaks of preventing any and all sexual misconduct by clergy, staff, appointed or elected officers, or volunteers of the AME Church; but, it does not make explicit the requirement of adult employees and volunteers to have periodic national criminal background checks. Such an explicit requirement strengthens the church's safeguards for children and youth and offers protection to the church's ministry and service to and with young people.

Current Text

1. Pg. 333, Section X. Sexual Misconduct 3. Proactive
2. Measures to Combat Abuse
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Amended Text

1. (To be added as separate second paragraph of Section X,3,
2. following the a, b, c listing)
3. The church must be a safe place where faith can be
4. nurtured, free from abusive and predatory behavior. This is
5. particularly true for the sake of children and youth. As
6. proactive measures toward this goal, adult employees and
7. volunteers beginning their work with or already working with
8. ministries with children and/or youth or with organizations or
9. agencies associated with the church that serve children
10. and/or youth must have national criminal background
11. checks no less than every two years as well as participate
12. in a child abuse prevention and ministry protection training
13. also no less than every two years administered by the
14. Department of Christian Education. Responsibility of any
15. costs associated with the background check or training to
16. be covered should be negotiated and determined by the
17. adult staff or volunteer and the church
18. leader/ministry/organization/agency recruiting or having
19. oversight over the adult staff or volunteer. Results of said
20. background checks should be kept securely on file in the
21. headquarters of the episcopal district, in which the adult
22. staff or volunteer is serving. Verification of completion of the
23. before mentioned training will be maintained in a secure,
24. central database within the Department of Christian
25. Education, with periodic reports shared with the respective
26. episcopal districts.
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Submitted by: RAVI PERRY

Contact: ravi.perry@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Section XV: Marriage and Matrimonial Relations, Part B: Same-Sex Marriage, Page 360

Intent

INTENT:

Section XV, Part B is proposed to be deleted. Other Protestant Christian denominations of which we are closely affiliated have already embraced these actions (e.g., the Episcopal Church). Are their interpretations of Holy Scriptures wrong? Or is there something unique about the African interpretation of Holy Scriptures? The Church's deafening silence toward members of the LGBTQ community globally makes

Rationale

RATIONALE: I am proposing that the AME Church delete Section XV, Part B (2016 Discipline, page 360). By deleting the section, the AME would be signaling it permits what said section now bans. This will benefit the church. Deleting the section shields the church from the difficulties experienced in other Protestant denominations wherein they sought to add new text as it relates to the issue of whether or not to fully embrace and extend the rights of full members to LGBTQ+ identified persons. The AME church need not replace the section with any new text, but it may. By simply deleting the section, the church would be then permitting local churches and pastors welcome LGBTQ parishioners into full membership in God's house. Should the AME Church take this action, the global reaction will be favorable, and membership will increase. The AME Church was founded because of oppression. This history is unique in that the denomination's roots are closely tied to a commitment to the eradication of injustice in the name of God. This church, the first Black ecumenical organization in the United States, was the first in the Western Hemisphere to approve women to preach (Jarena Lee). This church revised its prior Disciplines to allow women into ministry and eventually to be eligible to become Bishops. This church, in spite of 1 Corinthians 14:34, rightly saw it to ordain women as preachers, ministers, pastors, Presiding Elders, and Bishops, not only allowing them to speak but to hold leadership posts. This was and is fair and just. Holy Scriptures do not explicitly support or reject this action with respect to gender and church leadership. Likewise, neither do the Holy Scriptures explicitly forbid same-sex attraction, companionship, love, and marriage - particularly, not as it is practiced in monogamous partnerships and is largely understood as today in the 21st century.

Marriage is a civil right shared between two human beings. The AME Church recognizes such in that it permits its clergy to marry couples, but it only extends that right to certain human beings. As a nonprofit tax-exempt organization, the church, by its participation in marriage ceremonies in the United States, already legitimizes the social contract of the state and its official role in validating marriages as a legally defined relationship between two people. We regularly celebrate anniversaries and we take time during worship service to do so. The anniversaries celebrated are dates in which marriage contracts between

Current Text

1. Section XV: Marriage and Matrimonial Relations, Part B:
2. Same-Sex Marriage, Page 360
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Amended Text

1. "Embracing All of God's People into Full Membership"
2. The AME Church believes God loves all and welcomes all.
3. Thereby, all persons are eligible for full membership into the
4. church. Local churches can choose whether or not to
5. openly welcome LGBTQ persons in terms of external
6. signage and outreach. All local churches must admit any
7. human being eligible and desiring of full membership to
8. have access to full membership in the AME church. Local
9. churches should hold church conferences on issues
10. affecting LGBTQ persons, ensuring a majority of active
11. members in the past six months have been invited to
12. participate and to vote on the matter(s). Should a local
13. church choose to openly welcome and embrace LGBTQ
14. persons, appropriate signage on the exterior of the church
15. or elsewhere in church publications is permitted. Should a
16. local church choose not to at that time, the local church, its
17. clergy or members, is yet encouraged to embrace all
18. persons as full members in Gods house.
19. The AME Church believes God wishes all humankind to
20. experience the joy of love and the love of God. Insofar as
21. two human persons are found fit to engage in the awesome
22. responsibility of a commitment to one another, the AME
23. Church welcomes such persons as full members. The AME
24. Church permits its clergy to marry said persons in public or
25. private ceremonies, in official and unofficial capacities as
26. AME clergy, and such ceremonies are permitted on church
27. property. The AME Church encourages its clergy of all
28. ranks to embrace love and the commitment shared between
29. two human beings. As such, clergy are permitted to preside
30. over, attend, coordinate, host, and sponsor any commitment
31. ceremonies wherein the clergy believes
32. the couple to be in good standing with the Church and
33. seeking a close relationship with God.
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Bill Number: CO-01

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Page 470-, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION

Intent

To correct the reference to Annual Conference in the Constitution and Bylaws of the CLO.

Rationale

Annual should be in front of Conference where applicable.

Current Text

1. Conference should be corrected to reflect Annual
2. Conference where applicable.
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Amended Text

1. Annual should be added in front of Conference where
2. applicable.
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Bill Number: CO-02

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 472, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE III DIVISIONS,

Intent

To have one Constitution which shall govern all levels of the Connectional Lay Organization.

Rationale

The Lay Organization is one organization with several levels. This will ensure that all levels of the Lay Organization are managed in the same manner. Any specific tradition or process may be identified in a Procedural Manual or Rules and Regulations for said level.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. Section 3 Each level of the Connectional Lay Organization
2. shall operate within the framework of the Executive Board
3. and Constitution and Bylaws as approved by the
4. Connectional Lay Organizational Biennial Convention and
5. ratified by the General Conference.
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Bill Number: CO-03

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Page 473, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP, Section 2.d.

Intent

To correct stylistic errors.

Rationale

(Correction of stylistic errors)

Article IV Membership, page 473

Two ages are displayed for the young adult representative. 18-30 and 18-35. The 18-30 should be deleted.

Current Text

1. d. Six (6) elected delegates from each Episcopal District
2. Lay Organization, of whom at least one (1) shall be a young
3. adult Representative, ages 18-30 18-35.

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Amended Text

1. d. Six (6) elected delegates from each Episcopal District
2. Lay Organization, of whom at least one (1) shall be a young
3. adult Representative, ages 18-35.

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Bill Number: CO-04

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 473, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIIP, Section 2.e.

Intent

To correct the omitted text which was previously approved by the Connectional Lay Organization.

Rationale

Previously approved amendments were not included in the 2016 Doctrine and Discipline. To correct such omitted text.

Current Text

1. Section 2.e. All Conference Lay Organization Presidents.
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Amended Text

1. Section 2.e All Conference Lay Organization Presidents;
2. and Directors of Lay Activities and Young Adult
3. Representatives (YAR)
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Bill Number: CO-05

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 473, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP, Section 2.b.

Intent

To eliminate confusion as to the voting status of any past president who has been awarded Emeritus status and to determine any financial responsibilities of the Lay Organization at all levels and to define the role and the role and qualifications of the office of President Emeritus defined in the By-laws.

Rationale

To really define this role so that every past president is not automatically considered President Emeritus. Also, to determine what financial obligation is connected to this position.

Current Text

1. Section 2. b. All persons holding the designation and/or
2. office of President Emeritus.
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Amended Text

1. No amended text - Delete Article IV, Section 2.b.
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Bill Number: CO-06

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 480, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE VI NOMINATION AND ELECTION
PROCEDURE, Section 3

Intent

To include the local, district of the Annual Conference (where applicable) and the Conference presidents signatures for candidates for Connectional office.

Rationale

To ensure persons running for Connectional office are active on all levels including Annual Conference, District of the Annual Conference and local church levels

Current Text

1. Section 3. All persons seeking an elected office must submit
2. a letter of Intent with qualifications signed by the Episcopal
3. District President to the Chairperson of the Nominating
4. Committee. The format for the letter of Intent will be
5. provided by the Nominating Committee and must be
6. returned Letter must be returned by certified mail, its
7. international equivalent and/or electronic communications
8. postmarked on or before January 15th of the election year.
9. This deadline date will constitute the close of all
10. nominations submitted to the Nominating Committee.
11. There shall be no nominations from the floor of the Biennial
12. Session.

Amended Text

1. Section 3. All persons seeking an elected office must submit
2. a Letter of Intent with qualifications signed by the Episcopal
3. District, Annual Conference, District of the Annual
4. Conference (where they exist) and local church Presidents
5. to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. The
6. format for the letter of Intent will be provided by the
7. Nominating Committee and must be returned Letter must be
8. returned by certified mail, its international equivalent and/or
9. electronic communications postmarked on or before
10. January 15th of the election year. This deadline date will
11. constitute the close of all nominations submitted to the
12. Nominating Committee. There shall be no nominations
13. from the floor of the Biennial Session.

Bill Number: CO-07

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Pages 485 to 488, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE VIII QUALIFICATIONS, Sections 2, 3, 4,5 ,6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,13,14, 15 and 16

Intent

To correct articles and section designations, punctuations and cross-references.

Rationale

Subsection 1 should always be followed by a Subsection 2, if there is no Subsection 2, the indicator of 1, is not necessary. If there is a Subsection a, then there needs to be a Subsection b.

Current Text

1. (Stylistic correction of current text by removing subsection
2. "a" in all the above mentioned sections.)
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Amended Text

1. (Correction of stylistic errors)
2. - Article VIII Qualifications, pages 485, 486, 487 and 488
3. Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16
4. have Subsection a without Subsection b.
5. Delete Subsection "a" in all the above.
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Bill Number: CO-08

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 488, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE IX EXECUTIVE BOARD, Section 2

Intent

To delete the requirement to have an Executive Board Meeting preceding the Biennial and another one at the seat of the Biennial.

Rationale

To streamline and better coordinate Executive Board Meetings. To have an Executive Board Meeting preceding the Biennial and another meeting at the seat of the Biennial is expensive and no longer relevant. Proper meeting preparation, strategic planning and utilizing the most advanced technology allow much better use of resources.

Current Text

1. Section 2. The Executive Board shall meet at least once,
2. but no more than twice, annually, at the time and place
3. designated by the President and members of the Executive
4. Board. The Board shall hold two (2) meetings, immediately
5. preceding and at the seat of the next Biennial Session.

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Amended Text

1. Section 2. The Executive Board shall meet at least once,
2. but no more than twice, annually, at the time and place
3. designated by the President and members of the Executive
4. Board.

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Bill Number: CO-09

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 488, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE IX EXECUTIVE BOARD, Section 1

Intent

To correct the omitted text which was previously approved by the Connectional Lay Organization.

Rationale

Previously approved amendments were not included in the 2016 Doctrine and Discipline. To correct such omitted text.

Current Text

1. Section 1. There shall be an Executive Board of the
2. Connectional Lay Organization, composed of the elected
3. officers of the organization, President Emeriti and
4. chairpersons of standing committees.

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Amended Text

1. Section 1. There shall be an Executive Board of the
2. Connectional Lay Organization, composed of the elected
3. officers of the organization, Episcopal District Presidents,
4. President Emeriti and chairpersons of standing committees.

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Bill Number: CO-10

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 490, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XII POWERS AND JURISDICTIONS,
Section 1

Intent

To correct articles and section designations, punctuations and cross-references.

Rationale

(Correction of stylistic errors)

- Article XII Powers and Jurisdictions, page 490

Has a Section 1, without a Section 2.

Delete Section 1 in the above.

Current Text

1. Section 1. The Connectional Lay Organization shall
2. exercise prudent and appropriate authority, power, and
3. supervision over all Episcopal District Lay Organizations
4. established under the provisions of this Constitution.

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Amended Text

1. The Connectional Lay Organization shall exercise prudent
2. and appropriate authority, power, and supervision over all
3. Episcopal District Lay Organizations established under the
4. provisions of this Constitution.

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Bill Number: CO-11

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 490, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE X MEETINGS, Section 4

Intent

To amend the dates of reporting elected Biennial delegates from April 1 and May 1 of the Biennial year to January 1 and February 1 respectively.

Rationale

The Connectional Lay Organization is moving to an on-line registration process. To facilitate this process, the election of delegates and reporting elected delegates should be finalized earlier in the year preceding the Biennial for more effective planning and implementation of the automated registration process.

Current Text

1. Section 4. All delegates to the Biennial session must be
2. elected at a regular or properly convened meeting. The
3. names and addresses of all delegates must be submitted to
4. the Connectional Financial Secretary on or before April 1 of
5. the Biennial year. These names shall be forwarded to the
6. Connectional Director of Lay Activities by the Financial
7. Secretary on or before May 1 of the Biennial year for the
8. express purpose of expediting pre-registration for
9. Educational sessions

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Amended Text

1. Section 4. All delegates to the Biennial session must be
2. elected at a regular or properly convened meeting. The
3. names and addresses of all delegates must be submitted to
4. the Connectional Financial Secretary on or before January
5. 1 of the Biennial year. These names shall be forwarded to
6. the Connectional Director of Lay Activities by the Financial
7. Secretary on or before February 1 of the Biennial year for
8. the express purpose of expediting pre-registration for
9. Educational sessions.

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Bill Number: CO-12

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 491, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XIV COMMITTEES, Section 2

Intent

To amend the standing committees to include the Budget and Finance, Social Action and Organization and Officers Effectiveness.

Rationale

It is necessary to add the aforementioned committees, as their functions broadly impact major objectives of the Connectional Lay Organization. The work of the Budget and Finance Committee is vital to the day to day operations of the Connectional Lay Organization. In addition to preparing the proposed two year budget, it is necessary to monitor the implementation of the budget on a monthly basis, in order to make sound recommendations to the Executive Board.

In our current world climate, Social Action has become a very large umbrella under which many of our objectives fall. Objectives include but are not limited to voter education and mobilization, Human rights, prison reform, financial literacy as well as economic and environmental justice.

The Organizational and Officers Effectiveness Committee will provide guidelines, implementation and corrective actions when deemed necessary. This committee is also responsible for developing, presenting and implementing the process and tools for the Officers evaluation.

Current Text

1. Section 2. Standing committees are appointed to implement
2. specific goals, objectives and programs that advance of and
3. are vital to the functioning of the Connectional Lay
4. Organization. Standing committees shall be the following:
5. Proposed Legislation, Constitution and By-Laws, and AMEV
6. Alert.

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Amended Text

1. Section 2. Standing committees are appointed to implement
2. specific goals, objectives and programs that advance of and
3. are vital to the functioning of the Connectional Lay
4. Organization. Standing committees shall be the following
5. Proposed Legislation, Constitution and By-Laws, AMEV-
6. Alert, Budget and Finance, Social Action and Organizational
7. and Officers Effectiveness.

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Bill Number: CO-12

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 492, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XIV COMMITTEES, Section 8

Intent

To amend the composition of the Budget and Finance Committee, adding the Financial Secretary.

Rationale

Currently the Treasurer is the only elected officer who serves on the committee. However, on page 476, Article V-Officers Duties and Responsibilities, Section 1. Subsection I.2. it is provided that the Financial Secretary will serve as a member of the Budget and Finance Committee. The Financial Secretary thus needs to be added under the composition of the Budget and Finance Committee as a member.

Current Text

1. Section 8. The Budget and Finance Committee composed
2. of the Treasurer and other members for a total of no more
3. than seven (7) members shall be appointed by the
4. President.

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Amended Text

1. Section 8. The Budget and Finance Committee composed
2. of the Treasurer, Financial secretary and other members for
3. a total of no more than seven (7) members shall be
4. appointed by the President.

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Bill Number: CO-12

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 493-494, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XV SUBORDINATE BODIES, Section 2

Intent

To list the frequencies of meetings for the Episcopal Districts, Annual Conferences, Districts of the Annual Conference Lay Organization (where they exist).

Rationale

Currently the Discipline lists the Station/charge or circuit Lay Organization as required meeting not less than eleven (11) times per year and the Connection Lay Organization to meet biennially.

The frequency of meetings for the Episcopal District, Annual Conference and Districts of the Annual Conferences is not listed.

Current Text

1. No current text. New text to be added to section 2
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Amended Text

1. Section 2. f. The Annual Conference Lay Organization shall
2. fix the time for regular meetings which should not be fewer
3. than four (4) times per year.
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Bill Number: CO-13

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 493, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XV SUBORDINATE BODIES, Section 1

Intent

To list the frequencies of meetings for the Episcopal Districts, Annual Conferences, Districts of the Annual Conference Lay Organization (where they exist).

Rationale

Currently the Discipline lists the Station/charge or circuit Lay Organization as required meeting not less than eleven (11) times per year and the Connection Lay Organization to meet biennially.

The frequency of meetings for the Episcopal District, Annual Conference and Districts of the Annual Conferences is not listed.

Current Text

1. No current text. New text to be added to section 1.
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Amended Text

1. Section 1. h. The Episcopal District Lay Organization shall
2. fix the time for regular meetings, which should be annually.
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Bill Number: CO-15

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 494, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XII SUBORDINATE BODIES, Section 3

Intent

To correct articles and section designations, punctuations and cross-references.

Rationale

Section 3. d. should be after 3.c. Currently there is an error as a. is after c.

Current Text

1. a. This organization is amenable to the Conference Lay
2. Organization and must report to the Conference Lay
3. Organization at least annually
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Amended Text

1. d. This organization is amenable to the Conference Lay
2. Organization and must report to the Conference Lay
3. Organization at least annually
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Bill Number: CO-17

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 494, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XV SUBORDINATE BODIES, Section 3

Intent

To list the frequencies of meetings for the Episcopal Districts, Annual Conferences, Districts of the Annual Conference Lay Organization (where they exist).

Rationale

Currently the Discipline lists the Station/charge or circuit Lay Organization as required meeting not less than eleven (11) times per year and the Connection Lay Organization to meet biennially.

The frequency of meetings for the Episcopal District, Annual Conference and Districts of the Annual Conferences is not listed.

Current Text

1. No current text. New text to be added to section 3
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Amended Text

1. Section 3. e. The District Lay Organization of the Annual
2. Conference (where it exists) shall fix the time for regular
3. meetings, which should not be fewer than eight (8) times
4. per year.
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Bill Number: CO-18

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 495, SECTION III. THE CONNECTIONAL LAY ORGANIZATION, ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS, Section 1

Intent

To correct articles and section designations, punctuations and cross-references.

Rationale

(Correction of stylistic errors)

Article XVI Amendments, page 495

Has a Section 1 without a Section 2.

Delete Section 2.

Current Text

1. Section 1. Amendment of Bylaws. Amendments to the
2. Constitution and By Laws of the Connectional Lay
3. Organization may be made by filing a copy of the proposed
4. amendment with the Connectional President and Secretary.
5. The Secretary shall send an official copy of the proposed
6. amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee at
7. least six months or (180) days prior to the meeting of the
8. Connectional Lay Organizations Biennial Session The
9. Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall send copies of
10. proposed amendments, by certified mail and/or electronic
11. communication to each of the Episcopal District Presidents.
12. Two-thirds vote of the members present and eligible to vote
13. at the Biennial Session shall be required to effect an
14. amendment. Amendments will take effect at the close of
15. the General Conference

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Amended Text

1. Amendment of Bylaws. Amendments to the Constitution
2. and By Laws of the Connectional Lay Organization may be
3. made by filing a copy of the proposed amendment with the
4. Connectional President and Secretary. The Secretary shall
5. send an official copy of the proposed amendment to the
6. Constitution and Bylaws Committee at least six months or
7. (180) days prior to the meeting of the Connectional Lay
8. Organizations Biennial Session The Constitution and
9. Bylaws Committee shall send copies of proposed
10. amendments, by certified mail and/or electronic
11. communication to each of the Episcopal District Presidents.
12. Two-thirds vote of the members present and eligible to vote
13. at the Biennial Session shall be required to effect an
14. amendment. Amendments will take effect at the close of
15. the General Conference

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Bill Number: CO-19

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 496, SECTION III. B. Bylaws of the Connectional Lay Organization

Intent

To eliminate confusion as to the voting status of any past president who has been awarded Emeritus status and to determine any financial responsibilities of the Lay Organization at all levels and to define the role and the role and qualifications of the office of President Emeritus defined in the By-laws.

Rationale

To really define the role of the President Emeritus so that every past president is not automatically considered President Emeritus. Also, to determine what financial obligation is connected to this position.

Current Text

1. No current text Add new text to the Bylaws of the CLO on
2. page 496. Add Section 10, Page 496,
- 3.
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Amended Text

1. Section 10. Emeritus Presidents are past presidents who
2. have served 8 years in office and an active member of the
3. Connectional Lay Organization. Upon being identified and
4. honored as an Emeritus President, all persons holding the
5. designation shall be a perpetual member of the Lay
6. Organization he/she has served honorably.
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Bill Number: CO-20

Title: Mr.



Submitted by: Abednego Makiti

Contact: abemakiti54@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 497, SECTION III. B. Bylaws of the Connectional Lay Organization

Intent

To clarify the tune of the Lay Hymn

Rationale

There are three (3) tunes listed in the AMEC Hymnal for Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah. It is therefore necessary to clarify which of the three (3) is the tune for the Lay Hymn.

Current Text

1. Tune: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
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Amended Text

1. Tune (Zion): Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
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Bill Number: CO-21

Title: Revised Constitution and Bylaws for the Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC)



Submitted by: Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC)

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Pages 503-519

Intent

To add the RAYAC Constitution and the Revised Bylaws to The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rationale

The Connectional RAYAC has engaged in a process to revise its Constitution and Bylaws.

The document as a whole found on pages 503-519

SECTION IV.
THE RICHARD ALLEN YOUNG ADULT COUNCIL
A. CONSTITUTION

Bill Number: CO-22

Title: Revised Constitution and Bylaws for the Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC)



Submitted by: Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC)

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

pg 503-518

Intent

The ratification of the revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC)

Rationale

The RAYAC has engaged in a revision process to modify several parts of its Constitution and Bylaws.

Current Text

1. The entirety of Section IV, pages 503-518

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Amended Text

1. SECTION IV
2. THE RICHARD ALLEN YOUNG ADULT COUNCIL.
3. A. COMMISSIONS
4. 1. PURPOSE
5. a. To assist in the spiritual, intellectual, and physical growth of young adults within the Church.
6. b. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among young adults.
7. c. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among young adults.
8. c. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among young adults.
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48. c. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among young adults.
49. c. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among young adults.

Bill Number:

Title: SONS OF ALLEN: THE CONNECTIONAL MENS MINISTRY



Submitted by: Monroe Miller

Contact: mmiller22@bellsouth.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

pp. 519 - 523

Intent

To codify the Sons of Allen Benediction as a part of the official liturgy of the Sons of Allen organization.

Rationale

The Sons of Allen is a Connectional Organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, answerable to the Commission of Christian Education of the AME Church. As such, the inclusion of an official benediction as part of the liturgy of this organization is right and proper. Written by Reverend Joseph Darby, the benediction has been in wide usage for a number of years. The purpose of this proposed legislation is to codify its usage as an official part of the Sons of Allen ministry and to have it included in The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in the section under the Sons of Allen.

Current Text

1. Currently, there is no text in The Doctrine and Discipline of
2. the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
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Amended Text

1. ARTICLE XV - SONS OF ALLEN BENEDICTION
2. May the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; the Father of
3. our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and the God of our
4. founder, Richard Allen, bless, strengthen and empower us
5. to serve the present age as Christian men empowered by
6. the Holy Spirit. Amen.
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Bill Number: CO-23

Title: Music and Christian Arts Ministry Constitution and By-Laws, 2020-2024



Submitted by: Music and Christian Arts Ministry (MCAM)

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist
Episcopal Church 2016, Pages 523- 540, Section ALL

Intent

To submit Constitution and Bylaws for the
ensuing Quadrennium, 2020-2024, ratified by MCAM Executive Board, March 23, 2020.

Rationale

To submit Constitution and Bylaws for action
of the 2020 General Conference

Current Text

1. Whole of the Constitution and Bylaws as appears in The
2. Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal
3. Church, 2016.

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Amended Text

[Faint, illegible text visible in the Amended Text column]

Bill Number: CO-24

Title: AME/WIM Objectives



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 540-541, Section VIII: Article II Section 2.

Intent

To clarify AME/WIM Objective

Rationale

To more accurately state objectives

Current Text

1. The purpose of AME/WIM is to meet and further the
2. following objectives:
3. a. To recognize and support women in ministry as an
4. essential part of the leadership of the AME Church.
5. b. To raise the consciousness of the AME Church on issues
6. important to women.
7. c. To address and eradicate sexism in the AME Church.
8. d. To work to expand leadership opportunities for women in
9. ministry in leadership in the AME Church.
10. e. To support women in the pastoral ministry.
11. f. To support women in specialized ministries including but
12. not limited to: chaplaincy, writing, teaching, counseling,
13. research, prison, youth, geriatric, singles, street, health
14. care, family/life relations, music, homeless, HIV/AIDS and
15. religious education ministries.
16. g. To encourage academic training for the ministry.
17. h. To sponsor a Connectional conference at least once
18. during each Quadrennium.
19. i. To support and provide assistance and outreach to
20. women in ministry in the Fourteenth through Twentieth
21. Episcopal Districts.
22. j. To compile a complete and accurate record of all women in
23. ministry in the AME church.
24. k. to foster and develop relationships with people and
25. entities that will assist in furthering the objectives described
26. herein.

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Amended Text

1. Objectives. The purpose of AME/WIM is to meet and further
2. the following objectives:
3. a. To recognize and support women in ministry as an
4. essential part of the leadership of the AME Church.
5. b. To raise the consciousness of the AME Church on issues
6. important to women.
7. c. To address and eradicate sexism in the AME Church.
8. d. To advocate for and work to expand leadership
9. opportunities for women in ministry at every level of the
10. AME Church.
11. e. To support women in the pastoral ministry and
12. specialized ministries that support the AME Churches
13. mission to minister to the social spiritual development of all
14. people.
15. f. To encourage and support academic training for the
16. ministry.
17. g. To sponsor a Connectional conference at least once
18. during each Quadrennium.
19. h. To support and provide assistance and outreach to
20. women in ministry in the Fourteenth through Twentieth
21. Episcopal Districts.
22. i. To compile a complete and accurate record of all women in
23. ministry in the AME church.
24. j. To foster and develop relationships with people and
25. entities that will assist in furthering the objectives described

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Bill Number: CO-25

Title: AME WIM Membership



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 542, Section VIII: Article III Section 2

Intent

To Modify Membership Levels

Rationale

To allow greater participation at all levels

Current Text

1. Membership. The categories of membership shall be:
2. a. Full Membership: for women ordained to the itinerant
3. ministry. They shall be eligible to vote and to hold most
4. offices. [See eligibility chart]
5. b. Local Membership: for women ordained to the local
6. ministry, licensed evangelists, and licensed exhorters. They
7. shall be eligible to vote and to hold some offices. [See
8. eligibility chart]
9. c. Advisory Membership: for superannuates who have
10. retired from active service in the itinerant or local ministry.
11. They shall be eligible to vote but not to hold office.
12. d. Student/Licentiate Membership: for women enrolled in an
13. institution of higher education on a full time basis and/or
14. women licensed to preach and preparing for ordination.
15. Licentiatees are not entitled to vote or hold office unless
16. within a Campus Ministry. [See Election Eligibility Chart].
17. Ordained Clergy are eligible to vote.
18. e. Associate Membership: for male clergy and laity who are
19. supportive of AME/WIM. They shall not be eligible to vote or
20. to hold office.
21. f. All persons seeking membership must be in good and
22. regular standing in their local churches and Annual
23. Conferences as defined by The Doctrine and Discipline of
24. the AME Church. Good and regular standing for women in
25. ministry shall include the payment of dues on the
26. Connectional, District and Annual Conference levels
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Amended Text

1. Membership. The categories of membership shall be:
2. a. Full Membership: for women ordained to the itinerant
3. ministry. They shall be eligible to vote and to hold most
4. offices. [See eligibility chart]
5. b. Local Membership: for women ordained to the local
6. ministry, licensed evangelists, and licensed exhorters. They
7. shall be eligible to vote and to hold some offices. [See
8. eligibility chart]
9. c. Advisory Membership: for superannuates who have
10. retired from active service in the itinerant ministry or
11. evangelists and local ministers over 75. They shall be
12. eligible to vote but not to hold office.
13. d. Student/Licentiate Membership: for women enrolled in an
14. institution of higher education on a full-time basis and/or
15. women licensed to preach and preparing for ordination.
16. Licentiatees are not entitled to vote or hold office unless
17. within a Campus Ministry. [See Election Eligibility Chart].
18. Ordained Clergy are eligible to vote.
19. e. Associate Membership: for male clergy and laity who are
20. supportive of AME/WIM. They shall not be eligible to vote or
21. to hold office.
22. f. All persons seeking membership must be in good and
23. regular standing in their local churches and Annual
24. Conferences as defined by The Doctrine and Discipline of
25. the AME Church. Good and regular standing for women in
26. ministry shall include the payment of dues on the
27. Connectional, Episcopal District and Annual Conference
28. levels
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Bill Number: CO-26

Title: AME/WIM Dues



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 542, Section VIII, Article III Section 2

Intent

To adjust dues to meet current needs of WIM

Rationale

Dues have not increased but expenses have

Current Text

1. Dues. Connectional dues for Districts One through Thirteen
2. shall be:
3. Full Membership = \$25.00
4. Local Membership = \$15.00
5. Advisory Membership = \$10.00
6. Student/Licentiate Membership = \$10.00
7. Associate Membership = \$20.00
8. Dues and the names of members shall be sent to the
9. Connectional Financial Secretary and copies of the names
10. shall be sent to the Connectional President, Third Vice
11. President and General Secretary.
12. AME/WIM in Districts Fourteen through Twenty shall
13. establish a comparable and affordable amount for the five
14. membership categories. Full records of dues received and
15. membership shall be reported to the Connectional
16. President, Third Vice President, and Secretary, but the dues
17. shall be made payable to and retained by the AME/WIM
18. District collecting the same and used for operational
19. expenses of AME/WIM.
20. Dues shall be paid annually to the Connectional Executive
21. Board, the Episcopal District, the Annual Conference and, if
22. applicable, to the presiding elder district conference branch
23. of the annual conference. Connectional dues must be
24. received by the Treasurer no later than May 31st. Each
25. Episcopal District shall select an annual date on which dues
26. are paid on the Connectional and the Episcopal District
27. level. The time for payment of dues to the Annual
28. Conference and the Presiding Elder Districts shall be
29. determined by the respective conferences. Upon payment
30. of dues, each member will receive a membership card.
31. Payment of dues will entitle members to the Connectional
32. newsletter.
33. The amount of annual membership dues at the Episcopal
34. District, Annual Conference, Presiding Elder District, and
35. Campus Ministry levels shall be determined by the
36. respective Executive Boards and the general membership
37. but in no case shall the amount exceed the connectional
38. level.

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Amended Text

1. Dues. Connectional dues for Districts One through Thirteen
2. shall be:
3. 1. Full Membership = \$30.00
4. 2. Local Membership = \$20.00
5. 3. Advisory Membership = \$15.00
6. 4. Student/Licentiate Membership = \$15.00
7. 5. Associate Membership = \$20.00
8. Connectional dues and the names of members shall be sent
9. to the Connectional Financial Secretary and copies of the
10. names shall be sent to the Connectional Third Vice
11. President.
12. The Episcopal District AME/WIM Executive Boards in
13. Districts Fourteen through Twenty shall establish in writing a
14. comparable and affordable dues amount for each of the five
15. membership categories. Full records of amount of dues
16. received and membership names shall be reported to the
17. Connectional Third Vice President, Treasurer and Financial
18. Secretary. All Connectional Dues received for Districts
19. Fourteen through Twenty, shall remain in the Episcopal
20. District treasurer to assist with the work and expenses of
21. AME/WIM in that Episcopal District.
22. Dues shall be paid annually to the Treasurers on the
23. Connectional Level, the Episcopal District level, the Annual
24. Conference level and, if applicable, to the Presiding Elder
25. district conference level. Each episcopal district shall
26. connectional dues at the fall episcopal district meeting.
27. Connectional dues must be received by the Connectional
28. Treasurer no later than May 31st. The time for payment of
29. dues to the Annual Conference and the Presiding Elder
30. Districts shall be determined by the respective conferences.
31. The amount of annual membership dues at the Episcopal
32. District, Annual Conference, Presiding Elder District, and
33. Campus Ministry levels shall be determined by the
34. respective Executive Boards and the general membership
35. but in no case shall the amount exceed the connectional
36. level.

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Bill Number: CO-27

Title: AME WIM Executive Board Composition



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 544, Section VIII, Article VI Section 1

Intent

To create the position of Statistician

Rationale

To accurately record progress, statistical data is necessary

Current Text

1. Section 1. Powers and Numbers. AME/WIM shall be
2. managed by an Executive Board. Members of the
3. Connectional Executive Board shall consist of: President,
4. First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice
5. President, General Secretary, Financial Secretary,
6. Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Herstoryographer,
7. Worship Director, and a Central/Southern Africa
8. Coordinator. These officers shall perform the duties
9. prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary
10. authority adopted by AME/WIM.

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Amended Text

1. Section 1. Composition of Connectional AME/WIM
2. Executive Board. AME/WIM shall be managed by an
3. Executive Board. Members of the Connectional Executive
4. Board shall consist of: President, First Vice President,
5. Second Vice President, Third Vice President, General
6. Secretary, Financial Secretary, Corresponding Secretary,
7. Treasurer, Statistician, Herstoryographer, Worship Director,
8. and a Central/Southern Africa Coordinator. These officers
9. shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by
10. the parliamentary authority adopted by AME/WIM.

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Bill Number: CO-29

Title: AME WIM Executive Board Nominations



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 546, Section VIII, Article VI Section 12

Intent

To broaden eligibility to serve on the nomination committee

Rationale

To provide more persons an opportunity to serve

Current Text

1. Section 12. Nominations: The nomination of officers shall be
2. governed by the ad hoc Nominating Committee appointed
3. by the Executive Board. The Nominating Committee shall
4. be appointed no later than the seat of the Bishops Council
5. one year prior to the General Conference.
6. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three to five
7. persons. At least two persons shall be the Consultants to
8. the Executive Board. The other persons shall be full
9. members of AME/WIM in good and regular standing.
10. Members of the nominating committee shall be ineligible for
11. nomination by the committee for any position to be filled on
12. the Executive Board.
13. Recommendations and nominations for office to the
14. Executive Board must be submitted no later than February
15. 11th during the year of the General Conference.
16. Recommendations and nominations will not be accepted at
17. the seat of the General Conference. Persons nominated to
18. run for Executive Board office must be present at the time
19. and place of the election meeting in order to be elected.
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Amended Text

1. Section 12. Nominations: The nomination of officers shall be
2. governed by the ad hoc Nominating Committee appointed
3. by the Executive Board. The Nominating Committee shall
4. be appointed no later than the seat of the Bishops Council
5. one year prior to the General Conference.
6. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three to five
7. persons. At least two persons shall be the Consultants to
8. the Executive Board. The other persons shall be full
9. members or advisory members of AME/WIM in good and
10. regular standing. Members of the nominating committee
11. shall be ineligible for nomination by the committee for any
12. position to be filled on the Executive Board.
13. Recommendations and nominations for office to the
14. Executive Board must be submitted no later than February
15. 11th during the year of the General Conference.
16. Recommendations and nominations will not be accepted at
17. the seat of the General Conference. Persons nominated to
18. run for Executive Board office must be present at the time
19. and place of the election meeting in order to be elected.
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Bill Number: CO-28

Title: Connectional AME WIM Annual Meetings



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 546, Section VIII, Article VI Section 10

Intent

To amend annual meeting time

Rationale

To provide more flexibility for scheduling of annual meeting

Current Text

1. Section 10. Meetings. The election meeting of AME/WIM
2. shall be held Quadrennially at the seat of the General
3. Conference. The annual meeting of AME/WIM shall be held
4. during each summer session of the Bishops Council and
5. General Board Meeting.

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Amended Text

1. Section 10. Meetings. The election meeting of AME/WIM
2. shall be held Quadrennially at the seat of the General
3. Conference. The annual meeting of AME/WIM shall be held
4. during the Bishops Council meeting.

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Bill Number: CO-30

Title: AME/WIM Executive Board Responsibilities and Duties



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 547-548, Section VIII, Article VI Section 16, 18-19, 21-23

Intent

To modify and add duties and responsibilities by amending the referenced sections. Sections not referenced remain the same.

Rationale

Duties of specific positions are modified to reflect current need and roles of positions.

Current Text

1. Section 16. Third Vice President: Powers and Duties. The Third Vice
2. President shall preside in the absence of the President, First Vice
3. President and Second Vice President. She shall be responsible for
4. membership recruitment and retention. She will maintain an accurate
5. directory of all members of AME/WIM. She will serve as a
6. Membership resource for the Episcopal District Presidents. She shall
7. chair the Membership Committee and report quarterly to the President
8. and Executive Board. Section 18. Communication Secretary: Powers
9. and Duties. She shall be responsible for all correspondence including
10. social media. She shall send out to the membership a notice of each
11. meeting. She shall conduct the general correspondence of the
12. organization including distribution of the newsletter, maintenance of
13. the website and all other electronic distributions. She shall assist the
14. Third Vice President in gathering names and current contact
15. information of women in ministry for inclusion in the Connectional
16. directory.
17. Section 19. Financial Secretary: Powers and Duties. The Financial
18. Secretary shall be responsible for the maintenance of account
19. records. She shall maintain a list of all dues-paying members. She
20. shall record all monies (income and expenditures) for the quadrennial
21. and report the same to the Executive Board. She and the treasurer
22. shall be accurate in the record of all monies received and spent, and
23. shall ensure compliance with our written financial policies. She shall
24. provide a monthly financial report to the President and Executive
25. Board.
26. None
27. Section 21. Herstoryographer: Powers and Duties. Shall prepare a
28. narrative account of the WIM activities during her term of office,
29. which, when approved by the general membership, will become a
30. permanent part of the herstory record of WIM. She shall research,
31. gather, record and make available herstory and other information
32. on AME/WIM and on women in ministry. The Herstoryographer shall
33. coordinate with the Herstoryographers on the Episcopal District,
34. Annual Conference and Presiding Elder District levels to provide a
35. comprehensive library on women in ministry and the status and role of
36. women in ministry in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Before
37. the 30th day of September following the General Conference she
38. shall be responsible for the transfer of records to the President and
39. Executive Board, and the Director of Research and Scholarship for
40. the A.M.E. Church.
41. Section 22. Director of Liturgy & Worship: Powers and Duties. The
42. Director of Liturgy & Worship shall be familiar with the concept of
43. intentional and innovative worship experiences, and spiritual
44. formation, and shall encourage all women in ministry to use gender-
45. inclusive language. She shall work with the First Vice President in the
46. worship component of all programming of all gatherings, conferences,
47. and workshops convened on the Connectional level. She shall chair
48. the Worship Committee and shall share her gifts with the Worship
49. Leaders in the Episcopal Districts.
50. Section 23. Central/South African Coordinator: Powers and Duties.
51. The Central/Southern Africa Coordinator shall serve as a liaison with
52. and resource for the Episcopal District Presidents in the Fifteenth,
53. Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth Episcopal
54. Districts and shall serve as a resource to the Global Assistance
55. Committee. The Central/Southern Africa Coordinator shall be a
56. member of one of the Episcopal districts in Central and Southern
57. Africa.
58.

Amended Text

1. Section 16. Third Vice President: Powers and Duties. Third Vice
2. President shall preside in the absence of the President, First Vice
3. President and Second Vice President. She shall be responsible for
4. membership recruitment and retention. She will maintain an accurate
5. directory of all members of AME/WIM. She will serve as a Membership
6. resource. She shall chair the Membership Committee and report quarterly
7. to the President and Executive Board.
8. Section 18. Communication Secretary: Powers and Duties. She shall be
9. responsible for all correspondence including social media. She shall send
10. out to the membership a notice of each meeting. She shall conduct the
11. general correspondence of the organization including distribution of the
12. newsletter, maintenance of the website and all other electronic
13. distributions.
14. Section 19. Financial Secretary: Powers and Duties. The Financial
15. Secretary shall be responsible for the maintenance of account records.
16. She shall maintain a list of all dues-paying members. She shall record all
17. monies (income and expenditures) for the quadrennial and report the
18. same to the Executive Board. She and the treasurer shall be accurate in
19. the record of all monies received and spent and shall ensure compliance
20. with our written financial policies. She shall provide a monthly financial
21. report to the President and Executive Board; and she must provide
22. quarterly written acknowledgement to each. Episcopal District President,
23. Third Vice Presidents, Financial Secretary and Treasurer
24. Section 21. Statistician: Powers and Duties. Shall design surveys,
25. census, reporting forms and polls to collect information and summarize
26. useful data regarding women in ministry in the AME Church. She shall
27. report such data to the Commission on Women In Ministry and
28. Connectional Executive Board. She shall work with the Connectional CIO,
29. Connectional AME/WIM Third Vice President, Connectional Financial
30. Secretary and AME/WIM Episcopal District officers.
31. Section 22. Herstoryographer: Powers and Duties. Shall prepare a
32. narrative account of the WIM activities during her term of office, which,
33. when approved by the general membership, will become a permanent
34. part of the herstory record of WIM. She shall research, gather, record
35. and make available herstory and other information on AME/WIM and on
36. women in ministry. The Herstoryographer shall coordinate with the
37. Herstoryographers on the Episcopal District, Annual Conference and
38. Presiding Elder District levels to provide a comprehensive library on
39. women in ministry and the status and role of women in ministry in the
40. African Methodist Episcopal Church. Before the 30th day of September
41. following the General Conference, she shall be responsible for the
42. transfer of all original copies of records to the President and Executive
43. Board.
44. Section 23. Director of Liturgy & Worship: Powers and Duties. The
45. Director of Liturgy & Worship shall be familiar with the concept of
46. intentional and innovative worship experiences, and spiritual formation,
47. and shall encourage the church to use gender-inclusive language. She
48. shall work with the First Vice President in the worship component of all
49. programming of all gatherings, conferences, and workshops convened on
50. the Connectional level. She shall chair the Worship Committee and shall
51. share her gifts with the Worship Leaders in the Episcopal Districts. Shall
52. connect with Episcopal District Director of Liturgy & Worship
53. Section 24. Central/South African Coordinator: Powers and Duties. The
54. Central/Southern Africa Coordinator shall serve as a liaison with the
55. Connectional President and resource for the Episcopal District Presidents
56. in the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth
57. Episcopal Districts and shall serve as a resource to the Global Assistance
58. Committee. The Central/Southern Africa Coordinator shall be a member
59. of one of the Episcopal districts in Central and Southern Africa.
60. Responsible resource for global quadrennial conference
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Bill Number: CO-31

Title: AME WIM Standing Committees



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 550, Section VIII, Article VIII Section 3

Intent

To remove standing committee designations to allow the creation of standing committees as needed.

Rationale

To give the Executive Board the liberty to create or eliminate committees as needed.

<i>Current Text</i>	<i>Amended Text</i>
1. Section 3. Standing Committees. The standing committees	1. None. Delete section
2. and their responsibilities shall be as follows:	2.
3. a. The Budget and Finance Committee shall study the	3.
4. financial needs of AME/WIM and recommend ways and	4.
5. means of generating income.	5.
6. b. The Membership Committee shall suggest strategies for	6.
7. identifying the needs of women in ministry, enhancing	7.
8. services to the membership and increasing participation in	8.
9. AME/WIM, and prior to the quadrennial election meeting	9.
10. shall assist with preparation of a list to establish the	10.
11. credentials of members for voting and nomination for office.	11.
12. c. The Program Committee shall work with planning	12.
13. Connectional services, meetings, conferences and other	13.
14. events.	14.
15. d. The Bylaws and Legislation Committee shall receive,	15.
16. study, analyze and interpret proposed amendments to the	16.
17. Bylaws and legislation affecting women in ministry.	17.
18. e. The Publications Committee shall work with the	18.
19. publication of a quarterly newsletter, preparing of	19.
20. educational and informational publications, and assisting	20.
21. with preparing information to be published in The Christian	21.
22. Recorder and other publications.	22.
23. f. The Public Relations Committee shall work to promote	23.
24. and disseminate information on the presence and	24.
25. contribution of AME/WIM and women in ministry in the	25.
26. A.M.E. Church.	26.
27. g. The Worship Committee shall work with the planning of	27.
28. services and with developing resources on worship and	28.
29. liturgy to be made available to the Episcopal District	29.
30. organizations.	30.
31. h. The Strategic Planning Committee shall work to identify	31.
32. and develop strategies to strengthen AME/WIMs	32.
33. organizational growth and to enhance the presence of	33.
34. women in ministry in the A.M.E. Church.	34.
35. i. The Global Assistance Committee shall work to identify	35.
36. and generate funding and other resources to assist women	36.
37. in ministry in the Fourteenth through Twentieth Episcopal	37.
38. Districts.	38.
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Bill Number: CO-32

Title: AME WIM Episcopal District Statistician Powers and Duties



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 553, Section VIII, Article III Section 8

Intent

To create position and establish duties of Episcopal District statistician

Rationale

To define progress a statistician is needed

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. Section 8. Statistician. Power and Duties. Shall distribute
2. and receive surveys, census, reporting forms and polls for
3. the purpose of collecting information and summarizing
4. useful data regarding women in ministry in the AME Church.
5. She shall report such data to the Episcopal District,
6. Connectional Executive Board. She shall work with
7. members of her Episcopal District and the Annual
8. Conference Statistician.

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Bill Number: CO-33

Title: AME WIM Annual Conference Herstoriographer



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 558, Section VIII, Article XIV Section 8

Intent

To clarify duties of Annual Conference Herstoriographer

Rationale

To assure Annual Conference WIM History is preserved.

Current Text

1. Section 8. Herstoryographer. The Herstoryographer will
2. collect information on AME/WIM in the Episcopal District
3. and compile a data bank and be a resource for the District.
4. The Herstoryographer shall coordinate with
5. Herstoryographers on all Connectional levels and provide a
6. comprehensive library on women in ministry and the status
7. and role of women in ministry in her Episcopal District. The
8. Herstoryographer should make a presentation to the
9. Episcopal District AME/WIM at an Episcopal District
10. Meeting at least once a quadrennial on her findings.

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Amended Text

1. Section 8. Herstoryographer. The Herstoryographer will
2. collect information on AME/WIM in the Annual Conference
3. level and compile a data bank of events during her time in
4. office inclusive of the Annual Conference roll and
5. demographics (i.e. number female Presiding Elders,
6. preachers, and conference appointments.) She shall be a
7. resource for the Annual Conference. The Herstoryographer
8. shall coordinate with Herstoryographers on all levels and
9. provide a comprehensive library on women in ministry and
10. the status and role of women in ministry in her Annual
11. Conference. The Herstoryographer should make a
12. presentation to the Women in Ministry of her Conference at
13. the Annual Conference at least once a quadrennial on her
14. findings.

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Bill Number: CO-34

Title: Connectional AME WIM Eligibility Chart



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 562

Intent

To update Eligibility Chart to reflect amendments

Rationale

To reflect eligibility and term limit changes in chart

Current Text

1. Unable to submit chart, providing text only. Will submit chart
2. when requested.
3. Office/Term Length/Term Limits/ Eligibility
4. Connectional/4 years/2 (8 years)/
5. Itinerant Elder
6. Good standing two (2) consecutive years before election
7. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
8. Present at time and place of election
9. Elected by general membership at properly noticed meeting
10. Episcopal District/4 years/2 (8 years)/
11. Itinerant Elder
12. Good standing two (2) consecutive years before election
13. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
14. Elected by general membership at properly noticed meeting
15. Annual Conference/1 year/none/
16. Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator must be Itinerant Elder
17. Other officers must be ordained (Local or Itinerant)
18. Good standing for at least one (1) year before nomination
19. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
20. Elected by general membership at properly noticed meeting
21. Present at time and place of elections
22. Presiding Elder District/1 Year/none/
23. Coordinator, Itinerant Elder when available
24. Good standing for at least one (1) year before nomination
25. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
26. Elected by general membership at properly noticed meeting
27. Present at time and place of elections
28. Campus Ministry/1 Year/1 Year/
29. Must be a member of AMEWIM
30. Must be accountable to Presiding Elder District Coordinator
31. of if none then the Annual Conference Coordinator.
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Amended Text

1. Unable to submit chart, providing text only. Will submit chart
2. when requested.
3. Office/Term Length/Term Limits/Eligibility Requirements
4. Connectional/4 years/2 (8 years)
5. Itinerant Elder
6. Good standing two (2) consecutive years before election
7. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
8. Present at time and place of election
9. Elected by general membership at properly noticed meeting
10. Episcopal District /4 years/2 (8 years)
11. President and 1st Vice President must be Itinerant Elder, all
12. other offices must be Itinerant Elder or Itinerant Deacon
13. Good standing two (2) consecutive years before election
14. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
15. Present at time and place of election
16. Elected by general membership at properly noticed meeting
17. Annual Conference/2 year/4 terms (8 years)
18. Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator must be Itinerant
19. Elder or Itinerant Deacon
20. Other officers must be ordained (Itinerant Elder, Itinerant
21. Deacon or Local Elder)
22. Good standing for at least one (1) year before nomination
23. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
24. Present at time and place of elections
25. Elected by general membership at properly noticed meeting
26. Presiding Elder District/1 Year/ 4 terms (4 years)
27. Coordinator must be an Itinerant Elder when available;
28. otherwise a Full or Local member of AME/WIM
29. Accountable to the Conference Coordinator
30. Good standing for at least one (1) year before nomination.
31. Comply with Nomination Committee Criteria
32. Present at time and place of elections
33. Elected by general membership at properly noticed
34. meeting.
35. Campus Ministry/1 Year/1 Year
36. Must be a full, local or student/licentiate member of
37. AME/WIM in good standing
38. Accountable to the Conference Coordinator that the campus
39. is located within
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Bill Number:

Title: Commission on Health: Ministry to those who are differently challenged.



Submitted by: Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH

Contact: chcamec@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Connectional Organizations: International Health Commission, page 574

Intent

to correct terminology

Rationale

to correct the term differently challenged to differently abled

Current Text

1. Section 6: Ministry to those who are differently challenged.
2. Provide information on making our churches and worship
3. welcoming and accessible for all people including those
4. who are differently challenged. Provide resources that will
5. support churches in their effort to include persons who are
6. differentially challenged. Provide information on emergency
7. evacuation and ensuring all persons can safely exit the
8. building.

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Amended Text

1. Section 6: Ministry to those who are differently abled.
2. Provide information on making our churches and worship
3. welcoming and accessible for all people including those
4. who are differently abled. Provide resources that will
5. support churches in their effort to include persons who are
6. differentially abled. Provide information on emergency
7. evacuation and ensuring all persons can safely exit the
8. building.

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Bill Number: CO-35

Title: AAMES Bylaws Revision (1 of 4): Adding Associate Director of Girl Scouts and Associate Director of Boy Scouts



Submitted by: Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts (AAMES)

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016 Part Article IV Officers Section 1 , page 578

Intent

The purpose of this requested revision is to add Associate Director of Girl Scouts and Associate Director of Boy Scouts as Officers of the Association.

Rationale

To add the Associate Director of Girl Scouts and Associate Director of Boy Scouts to the Officers of the Association to serve in the absence of the Directors.

Current Text

1. Article IV, Section 1 , pg. 578
2. The officers of the Association shall be a Connectional
3. Director of Boy Scouts; a Connectional Director of Girl
4. Scouts; a Secretary ; an Assistant Secretary; a Treasurer; a
5. Financial Secretary; a Chaplain; a Historiographer; and a
6. Parliamentarian. The officers shall perform the duties
7. prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary
8. authority adopted by the Association.

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Amended Text

1. The officers of the Association shall be a Connectional
2. Director of Boy Scouts; AN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF
3. BOY SCOUTS, a Connectional Director of Girl Scouts; AN
4. ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF GIRL SCOUTS; a Secretary;
5. an Assistant Secretary; a Treasurer; a Financial Secretary;
6. a Chaplain; a Historiographer; and a Parliamentarian. The
7. officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws
8. and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the
9. Association. (Adopted by AAMES December 11, 2019)

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Bill Number: CO-38

Title: AAMES Bylaws Revision (4 of 4): Duties of the Associate Director of Girl Scouts and Associate Director of Boy Scouts



Submitted by: Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016 Part Article V Duties of Officers Section 1 ,
page 579

Intent

The purpose of this revision is to add the Duties of the Associate Director of Boy Scouts and Associate Director of Girl Scouts.

Rationale

To add the Duties of Associate Director of Boy Scouts and Associate Director of Girl Scouts

Current Text

1. The Connectional Director of Boy Scouts and the
2. Connectional Director of Girl Scouts shall preside at all
3. meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board.
4. The Connectional Directors shall be ex officio members of
5. all committees. They shall plan, evaluate, and promote the
6. program under the direction of the Executive Secretary.

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Amended Text

1. The Connectional Director of Boy Scouts and the
2. Connectional Director of Girl Scouts shall preside at all
3. meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board.
4. The Associate Directors shall serve in the absence of the
5. presiding Connectional Directors. The Directors shall be ex
6. officio members of all committees. They shall plan,
7. evaluate, and promote the program under the direction of
8. the Executive Secretary.
9. (Adopted by AAMES on December 18, 2019)

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Bill Number: CO-37

Title: AAMES Bylaws Revision (3 of 4): Adding Past Connectional Girl Scout Directors and Connectional Boy Scout Directors to the AAMES Executive Board



Submitted by: Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016 Part Article VII - Section 1. , Page 580

Intent

The purpose of this revision is to allow AAMES past connectional directors to be members of the executive board.

Rationale

As practiced by many other organizations, ministries, and executives offices of the AME Church, the inclusion of these past leaders will allow AAMES to maintain institutional knowledge within the ministry and will be a potentially valuable resource to the executive board. These past directors could be called on to handle special projects by the executive board or advise new directors from time to time.

Current Text

1. Page 580
2. Article VIIThe Executive Board, Section 1. The Executive
3. Secretary, the Connectional Director of Boy Scouts, The
4. Connectional Director of Girl Scouts, and the Elected
5. Officers of the Association shall constitute the Executive
6. Board.
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Amended Text

1. Page 580
2. Article VII-The Executive Board, Section 1. The Executive
3. Secretary, the Connectional Director of Boy Scouts, The
4. Connectional Director of Girl Scouts, the Elected Officers of
5. the Association and Past Connectional Directors of Boy
6. Scouts and Girl Scouts shall constitute the Executive Board.
7. (Adopted by AAMES on December 11, 2019)
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Bill Number: CO-36

Title: AAMES Bylaws Revision (2 of 4): a Quadrennial Camporee



Submitted by: Association of African Methodist Episcopal Scouts

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016 Part Article VI - Meetings Page 580

Intent

The purpose of this revision is to add the AAMES Quadrennial Camporee to The Doctrine and Discipline.

Rationale

To make the Quadrennial Camporee an official AAMES gathering recognized by the church.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. Article VI--Meetings, Section 3. AAMES shall have a
2. Quadrennial Camporee. The Camporee shall take place
3. prior to the start of the General Conference, unless
4. amended or changed by the AAMES Executive Board.

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Bill Number: CO-40

Title: Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators Revised Bylaws



Submitted by: Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2016. pages 588-591

Intent

The revision of the Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators Bylaws

Rationale

The inclusion of the revised CFCE Bylaws for inclusion in the 2020 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The CFCE approved these changes on November 4, 2019.

Current Text

1. The whole of the Bylaws found on pages 588-591

Amended Text

1. Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators
2. Bylaws
3. Preamble
4. Persons are called, converted, and committed to the educational ministry of the church under the mandate given by Jesus when He commanded his disciples, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations. Educators involved in missions education, discipleship training, Bible training, and other instructional programs join together to share ideas, insights, and information, develop appropriate resources, and learn new strategies. The vision of the founders is embraced by reclaiming the importance of the teaching ministry and encouraging congregations to become and remain centers of learning.
5. ARTICLE I - NAME
6. The name of the organization shall be the Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators of the Christian Education Department of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
7. ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES
8. The Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators will provide a forum for the presentation of ideas; exploration of Church education trends; improvement of curriculum; and support for Connectional Christian Education Department projects and programs.
9. ARTICLE III - MEMBERS
10. Section 1. Membership
11. Membership in this connectional organization is open to all church educators who have been appointed to serve in the teaching ministry by bishops, presiding elders, and pastors and those who have been elected to positions or have an interest in the teaching ministry at the local church, annual conference, episcopal district, and connectional levels.
12. Section 2. Dues
13. Members are asked to pay dues of fifty dollars (\$50.00) annually at the Annual Ministries in Christian Education (MCE) meeting. Dues include a subscription to the Journal of Christian Education and other FCE projects.
14. ARTICLE IV OFFICERS
15. Section 1. Officers - The officers shall be the Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Financial Secretary, Chaplain, and Parliamentarian.
16. Section 2. The Chair and the Vice Chair shall be appointed by the Executive Director of the Christian Education Department at the Connectional Christian Education Congress. All other officers shall be elected by the membership.
17. Section 3. The duties of officers shall be:
18. A. Chair
19. 1. The Chair of the Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators (CFCE) shall preside over the Executive Board and all meetings of the CFCE body;
20. 2. The Chair is an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee;
21. 3. The Chair shall appoint chairpersons of all committees as may be necessary to conduct (business) and develop the Fellowship;
22. 4. The Chair shall coordinate workshops for the Ministries in Christian Education (MCE) meetings and the Quadrennial Christian Education Congress in collaboration with the Executive Director and the Continuing Education Committee;
23. 5. The Chair shall submit written reports to the Executive Director for the General Board, General Conference, and the Annual MCE/CFCE meetings; and
24. 6. The Chair shall be recognized as a Connectional Officer.
25. B. Vice Chair
26. 1. The Vice Chair shall serve in the absence of the Chair;
27. 2. The Vice Chair shall assist in coordinating all activities of CFCE;
28. 3. The Vice Chair serves as Coordinator for all Standing Committees; and
29. 4. The Vice Chair shall be responsible for the submission of article(s) to be published in each edition of the Journal of Christian Education.
30. 5. The Vice Chair shall be responsible for maintaining the membership rolls of current and participating members.
31. C. Recording Secretary
32. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all meetings and serve as the custodian of all records and information.
33. D. Corresponding Secretary
34. The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for communications sent to the membership listing time, place, and agenda for all meetings and other correspondence.
35. E. Financial Secretary
36. 1. The Financial Secretary shall receive, record, and report all funds and forward to the Executive Director of the Christian Education Department; and
37. 2. The Financial Secretary shall chair the Budget and Finance Committee.
38. F. Chaplain
39. The Chaplain shall be responsible for the spiritual discipline of the CFCE and plan worship/devotional experiences at meetings.
40. G. Parliamentarian
41. 1. The Parliamentarian shall advise the Presiding Officer concerning questions of parliamentary procedures and advise the membership, board of directors, and executive committee concerning the rules governing the transaction of business of the CFCE;
42. 2. The Parliamentarian shall follow the bylaws of this organization, the Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, latest edition at all meetings;
43. 3. The Parliamentarian shall serve as a member of the bylaws committee; and
44. 4. The Parliamentarian shall be seated next to the presiding officer.
45. ARTICLE V TERM OF OFFICE
46. Section 1. All elected officers shall serve for one Quadrennium - four (4) years. Persons elected to office will be limited to no more than two consecutive terms of office.
47. Section 2. Elections shall be held at the Connectional Christian Education Congress. All elections shall be by ballot.
48. Section 3. In case of a vacancy, the Chair in collaboration with the Executive Director shall appoint a person to serve until the next annual meeting of the FCE. At that time the vacant position will be filled by a special election for that purpose.
49. ARTICLE VI -MEETINGS
50. Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Connectional Fellowship of Christian Educators will be held at the Ministries in Christian Education (MCE) meeting and at the Connectional Christian Education Congress.
51. Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the Chair of the Connectional Fellowship of Christian Educators, the Executive Board, or upon written request of a quorum from the membership. A minimum of thirty (30) days notification shall be given, except in cases of emergency. One third of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum.
52. Section 3. The Connectional FCE Membership, Executive Board, Executive Committee, standing committees, and special committees may meet by telephone, web conference, or any electronic communications media, if a physical meeting is not feasible or possible, so long as all members may simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting and as technology or cost allows.
53. ARTICLE VII EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
54. The Executive Committee shall be constituted as follows: all elected and appointed Connectional FCE officers, all CFCE subcommittee chairpersons, and former CFCE chairs as consultants, if needed. The Executive Director shall be an ex-officio member. The Executive Committee shall meet once a quarter and have the authority to conduct business of the CFCE between regular meetings.
55. ARTICLE VIII EXECUTIVE BOARD
56. The Executive Board shall be constituted as follows; all elected and appointed Connectional FCE officers, all Episcopal District Christian Education Directors, all CFCE subcommittee chairpersons, and former CFCE Chairs as consultants. The Executive Director shall be an ex-officio member. The Executive Board shall meet once a quarter and have the authority to conduct business of the CFCE between regular meetings.
57. ARTICLE XI CFCE COMMITTEES
58. Committees shall be established to carry out the work of the body. The following are Standing Committees:
59. 1. Membership
60. 2. Curriculum Development and Assessment
61. 3. Continuing Education (Workshops)
62. 4. Communications (Newsletter, Column in Journal)
63. 5. Bylaws Review
64. 6. Budget/Finance
65. All committee appointments must be approved by the Executive Director.
66. ARTICLE X FELLOWSHIPS
67. Fellowships at the episcopal district, conference level, presiding elder districts, and local church may be formed at the call of the episcopal district Christian Education Director (CED). Reports, following the by-laws established at the connectional level, should be submitted to the episcopal district Christian Education Director on an annual basis.
68. ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS
69. These bylaws may be amended at the Connectional Christian Education Congress during the Connectional Fellowship of Church Educators (CFCE) meeting. The proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Executive Director, Chair, and Secretary at least ninety (90) days before the Congress. The Executive Director will submit the amendments to the Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee shall consider all proposed amendments. The proposed amendments shall be submitted to the membership at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Congress. The amendments are adopted by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting.
70. ARTICLE XII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY
71. The rules contained in the current addition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, latest edition, shall govern the proceedings of the organization in all cases of which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the CFCE Bylaws, and the Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
72. July 1998; adopted at General Conference 2000
73. Revised November 4, 2019

Bill Number: CO-39

Title: Revised Constitution and Bylaws for the Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC)



Submitted by: Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC)

Contact: gpierce@ameced.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

pg 591-597

Intent

The ratification of the revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC)

Rationale

The CDMC has engaged in a revision process to modify several parts of its Constitution and Bylaws.

Current Text

1. The entirety of Section XIII, pages 591-597

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Amended Text

1. ARTICLE I - Name
2. The name of the organization shall be the Christian Debutante-Master Commission of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
3. ARTICLE II - Purpose
4. The purpose of the Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC) is to provide guidance and information as to relevant study of fieldwork activities, program suggestions, liturgical requirements and all other details. It shall also study the supplies needed for the preparation and presentation of a unified, coordinated program on the Connectional, Episcopal District, Annual Conference, Presiding Elder District, and Local Church.
5. ARTICLE III - Structure
6. The Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC) shall function under the Department of Christian Education.
7. ARTICLE IV Goals and Objectives
8. 1. To promote growth and development by conducting workshops, training programs on all levels for youth and adults.
9. 2. To acquaint young people with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His ministry.
10. 3. To provide wholesome recreation and fellowship for youth and adults in the Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC).
11. 4. To interact with other youth organizations such as YPD and RAYAC.
12. 5. To hold culminating religious ceremonies for the Debutantes and Masters on all levels.
13. 6. To organize a Christian Debutante-Master Commission in all A.M.E. Churches throughout the connectional church.
14. 7. To recruit and train leaders to serve in the Christian Debutante-Master Commission.
15. ARTICLE V Membership
16. Membership in the Christian Debutante-Master Commission (CDMC) is open to all members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church who are interested in the continued Christian education and spiritual development of young people.
17. Annual membership dues shall be set by the Executive Board and approved by the membership. Dues shall be paid during the annual Ministries in Christian Education (MCE) meeting or at the call of the administrator
18. ARTICLE VI Officers
19. Section 1. The appointed and elected officers of the CDMC shall be:
20. A. Administrator/Commissioner
21. B. 1st Vice President/Commissioner
22. C. 2nd Vice President/Commissioner
23. D. Recording Secretary
24. E. Assistant Recording Secretary
25. F. Corresponding Secretary
26. G. Treasurer
27. H. Historiographer
28. I. Worship Leader
29. J. Parliamentarian
30. K. Social Media Coordinator
31. Section 2. Only persons who have held/nom hold office on the Episcopal District or Annual Conference level are eligible to hold office on the Connectional level.
32. ARTICLE VII Election of Officers
33. Section 1. The officers listed in Article VI shall be elected by plurality.
34. Section 2. Connectional Officers shall be elected to a four (4) year term at the Connectional Christian Education Congress.
35. Section 3. The election shall be conducted by the Chairman of the Commission on Christian Education or a designee.
36. Section 4. The duties of the officers shall be such as ordinarily pertain to their respective offices.
37. Section 5. No person may hold the same position for more than two (2) consecutive quadrennials.
38. Section 6. In case of a vacancy, the Administrator/Commissioner in collaboration with the Christian Education Director shall appoint a person to serve until the next annual meeting of the MCE.
39. Section 7. The officers shall be elected to a four (4) year term during the year of the Connectional Christian Education Congress beginning in 2014.
40. Section 8. The election shall be conducted by the Executive Director of Christian Education or his/her designee.
41. ARTICLE VIII Meetings
42. The Connectional CDMC shall meet annually during the MCE meeting to prepare its goals and objectives for the year and to present them to the Department of Christian Education and at the General Board Meeting.
43. ARTICLE IX Duties of Officers
44. A. Administrator/Commissioner shall assume responsibilities for the overall CDMC Program. The Administrator/Commissioner shall coordinate workshops for the Annual MCE meetings, Annual CDMC Institute, and the Christian Education Congress in collaboration with the Executive Director of Christian Education. The Administrator/Commissioner shall submit written reports to the General Board, General Conference, Annual MCE and CDMC Institute meetings. The Administrator/Commissioner shall preside over the Executive Board, all meetings of the CDMC.
45. B. 1st Vice President/Commissioner shall assume the complete duties of the Administrator/Commissioner during the absence or when it has been determined by the Executive Board that the Administrator/Commissioner can no longer perform the duties.
46. C. 2nd Vice President/Commissioner shall in the absence of the Administrator and 1st Vice Commissioner, preside at all the meetings and assume all duties of the office of Administrator/Commissioner.
47. D. Recording Secretary shall be responsible for the recording of attendance and accurate minutes of all business transacted during meeting and shall read the minutes of any previous meetings, when called upon to do so by the Administrator/Commissioner. The Recording Secretary shall prepare the minutes of meetings and serve as custodian of all records and information.
48. E. Assistant Recording Secretary shall assist the Recording Secretary in keeping accurate records and, in the absence of the Secretary, shall perform the duties of the Recording Secretary.
49. F. Corresponding Secretary shall review all correspondence, report pertinent information to the Executive Board, and reply to correspondence as directed by the Administrator/Commissioner.
50. G. Treasurer shall receive all monies and disburse same upon authorization of the Administrator/Commissioner, as approved by the body. The Treasurer shall keep accurate records and give an itemized report at each Executive Board meeting, Christian Education Congress, MCE meeting and whenever called upon to do so by the administrator.
51. H. Historiographer shall keep a written and pictorial record of the participants, activities and achievements of the organization and make it available upon request.
52. I. Worship Leader shall make adequate preparation for each Devotional Service and compile a memorial manual. The Worship Leader shall provide spiritual leadership to the organization.
53. J. Parliamentarian shall advise, when necessary, during all meetings concerning questions of parliamentary procedures. The Parliamentarian shall follow The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised.
54. K. Social Media Coordinator(SMC)-shall oversee the official connectional CDMC website. The Social Media Coordinator shall manage the official Connectional Facebook, Instagram, Twitter pages and email account. The SMC will also assist with online press at all levels.
55. Article X Committees
56. Section 1. Standing Committees
57. A. Constitution and By-Law Committee
58. B. Membership & Recruitment Committee
59. C. Handbook Committee
60. D. Curriculum Development Committee
61. E. Statistical Committee
62. F. Scholarship Committee
63. G. Outreach Committee
64. H. Dedication & Program Planning Committee
65. Section 2. Special Committees
66. A. Advisory Board
67. B. Budget & Finance Committee
68. C. Credentials & Nomination Committee
69. ARTICLE XI Duties of Committees
70. Section 1. Standing Committees
71. A. Constitution & By-Law Committee shall revise, study and analyze all proposed constitutional changes and amendments. The proposed Constitution & By-Laws shall be forwarded to the Executive Director of Christian Education before approval.
72. B. Membership & Recruitment Committee shall recruit members; compile a director/roster of the membership by Episcopal District including home address, home phone number, cell number and email address.
73. C. Handbook Committee shall study and analyze the CDMC Handbook and make necessary revisions. The proposed handbook revisions shall be forwarded to the Executive Director of Christian Education before final copy is printed.
74. D. Curriculum Development Committee shall develop and review the CDMC Curriculum and resource guides to continue to provide Christian Education and spiritual development of young people and adults. The proposed curriculum revisions shall be forwarded to the Executive Director of Christian Education before final copy is printed.
75. E. Statistical Committee shall maintain a written record of participants by Episcopal District.
76. F. Scholarship Committee shall evaluate eligible students based on academic record, financial need, reference letters, qualities of leadership and extracurricular activities and accomplishments and promote the Annual Red & White Day to raise funds for the recipients of the Scholarship.
77. G. Outreach Committee shall provide spiritual leadership to the CDMC. The committee shall acquaint young people with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and His ministry and stress the importance of fulfilling the mission of the African Methodist Episcopal Church through various activities for youth and adults.
78. H. Dedication & Program Planning Committee shall be responsible for planning and implementing the total program of the activities and Dedication Ceremony.
79. Section 2. Special Committees
80. A. Advisory Board shall survey the strengths and weaknesses of the CDMC program and make recommendations for improvement. This committee shall be composed of not fewer than 18 nor more than 36 persons to include past CDMC Administrators
81. B. Budget & Finance Committee shall study the complete financial picture of the CDMC. In consultation with Administrator/Commissioner, Director of Christian Education, and Committee Chairpersons. She/he shall assess the financial needs of the CDMC and submit the same to the General Board and General Conference for approval.
82. C. Credentials & Nomination Committee shall receive and verify all credentials for elected officers before placing an individuals name on the voting ballot. Credentials must be received before the close of the MCE meeting. Elections will be held during the Connectional Christian Education Congress.
83. ARTICLE XII Amendments
84. This constitution may be amended by the General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
85. ARTICLE XIII Executive Board
86. The Executive Board shall consist of the following CDMC Officers: Administrator/Commissioner, 1st Vice Commissioner, 2nd Vice Commissioner, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Historiographer, Worship Leader, Parliamentarian, Social Media Coordinator, Episcopal District Commissioners, and Standing and Special Committee members. The Executive Board shall be responsible for:
87. a. The affairs of the CDMC of the African Methodist Episcopal Church;
88. b. The Quadrennial meeting (held at the seat of the general conference)of the organization;
89. c. The Annual meeting/CDMC Institute;
90. d. The Connectional Dedication Ceremony program; and
91. e. The filling of vacancies in any office.
92. ARTICLE XIV Finances
93. All administrative and operational expenses plus promotional funds for CDMC shall be funded by annual dues from members of CDMC, or other income. All profit from membership patrons shall be used for the Connectional CDMC Ceremony and other ongoing programs of CDMC expand the budget for youth advancement, enrichment and social service programs, for African Methodist Episcopal Church involvement in community and national outreach projects as decided upon by the General Board, Council of Bishops or the General Conference.
94. ARTICLE XV By-Laws
95. The CDMC of the African Methodist Episcopal Church may adopt by-laws consist with the constitution. The by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the CDMC of the African Methodist Episcopal Church by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting thereof, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given at a previous regular meeting or in writing.
96. ARTICLE XVI
97. The Presiding Bishop of each Episcopal District shall appoint a District Commissioner of the CDMC of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The District Commissioner shall work with the Bishop and Conference Commissioners to establish an Episcopal District program and in identifying special projects. Each Annual Conference shall have a Conference Commissioner appointed by the Presiding Bishop. Presiding Elders shall appoint a Commissioner in their District who will supervise the work of the CDMC; and local Pastors shall appoint a Commissioner who will supervise the work of the CDMC.

Bill Number: WL-02

Title: Removal of Male-Centric Language in the Lay Hymn



Submitted by: Bill Dickens

Contact: dickensb@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 713, 2016 Book of Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Intent

To make the signature hymn of the Connectional Lay Organization gender neutral.

Rationale

The 2012 General Conference voted to exclude gender specific references in future editions of the Book of Doctrine and Discipline. The 2016 edition of the Book of Doctrine and Discipline retains male-centric language in the Laymen's Song. The Connectional Lay Organization is comprised of men and women. The reference to "man" and "men" in the hymn should be stricken in compliance with the 2012 mandate for the promotion of gender equality throughout the Lay Organization.

Current Text

1. Page 713 of the Book of Doctrine and Discipline reads in
2. the song title: "The Laymen's Song".
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Amended Text

1. The amended song title would read: "The Lay Song". All
2. subsequent references to "man" or "men" would be
3. replaced with "laity". This would require musical editing of
4. the hymn to reflect new wording.
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Bill Number: APP-05

Title: Commission on Health: Quarterly Conference Health Ministry reporting



Submitted by: Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH

Contact: chcamec@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Certificates: Disciplinary Questions by the Presiding Elder for the Quarterly Conference, page 800 to follow question 25

Intent

To add the questions to the Quarterly Conference report form that will provide 1) documentation of local Commission on Health activity; 2) the questions that will document the mandatory HIV/AIDS training for clergy and lay leaders; and 3) documentation of disaster preparedness activities and active shooter training.

Rationale

To provide documentation of the Commission on Health reporting on a quarterly basis. This documentation will provide preparation for the required Annual conference reporting as well as provide a documentation trail that can be used for potential funding opportunities. Many insurance companies are now requiring documentation of active shooter training and procedures.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. 26. Commission on Health

2. a. Does your church have an active Health Ministry?

3. Yes___ No___ In development___

4. Provide info on event(s):

5. b. Did your church engage in ministry or awareness events

6. towards eliminating or addressing congregation or

7. community needs associated with the HIV/AIDS pandemic?

8. Yes ___ No___

9. Provide info on event(s):

10. c. Last date of completion of a 'What effective religious

11. leaders should know about HIV/AIDS' mandatory training

12. Names and dates for Clergy _____

13. Names and dates for Officers _____

14. d. Has your church completed active shooter training? Yes

15. ___ Date ___ No___

16. e. Has your church conducted disaster preparedness

17. activities? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, describe (include evacuation

18. drills, CPR/AED training, gathering of recommended

19. supplies, training, etc.)

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Bill Number: APP-06

Title: Commission on Health: Annual Conference Health Ministry reporting



Submitted by: Rev. Miriam J. Burnett, MD, MPH

Contact: chcamec@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Certificates, page 804

Intent

1) to add the questions to the Annual Conference report form that were passed during the 50th Session of the General Conference, July 2016 and 2) to provide the questions that will document the mandatory HIV/AIDS training for clergy and lay leaders

Rationale

the legislation was already passed but not included in the 2016 AME Discipline with further clarification of documentation

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. 17. Commission on Health
2. a. Does your charge/church have an active Health Ministry?
3. Yes___ No___ In progress___
4. b. Did your charge/church engage in ministry or awareness
5. events towards eliminating or addressing congregation or
6. community needs associated with the HIV/AIDS pandemic?
7. Yes ___ No___
8. Optional to provide info on event(s):
9. c. Last date of completion of a 'What effective religious
10. leaders should know about HIV/AIDS' mandatory training
11. Names and dates for Clergy _____
12. Names and dates for Officers _____
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Bill Number: APP-03

Title: Detailed Glossary Admendments



Submitted by: JACQUELYN DUPONT-WALKER

Contact: JDUPONTW@AOL.COM

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

2016 Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, page 811 - 824 - The Glossary of African Methodist Episcopal Acronyms, Terms and Phrases

Intent

The following information is submitted in response concerns of the Connectional Prayer Ministry. It will document the new official name, edit other text to add that name, and create a bibliography. It also adds the named projects and initiatives of the prayer ministry.

Rationale

The Glossary of African Methodist Episcopal Acronyms, Terms, Phrases and bibliography should be amended, and edited to insure relevant, contemporary and accurate terminology. The naming of the prayer ministry after the late Bishop Sarah Frances Davis should also be noted in the Discipline.

Current Text

1. Glossary extends from page 811 to page 826

Amended Text

1. Add to Acronyms
2. 1) Page 811/ACRONYM/BSFDCK and I- /This is the acronym for, Bishop Sarah Francis
3. Davis Covenant Keepers and Intercessors, legislated and established on July 2016 in
4. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the AME Church General Conference 50th Quadrennial
5. Session.
6. Add to Definitions
7. 2) Page 814/BSFDCK and I/Glossary (Definition): The Bishop Sarah Francis Davis
8. Covenant Keepers and Intercessors is a conglomeration of clergy and laity working
9. together with the goals to fast, pray and intercede for the African Methodist Episcopal
10. Connectional Church, our Bishops, Episcopal Supervisors, all Connectional and General
11. Officers and their Families, all Presiding Elders and their Families, all Clergy and their
12. Families, all Laity and their Families, all our Youth and Young Adults. Conduct spiritual
13. mapping, domestic and international prayer intercession for matters across the world.
14. Responsible for the Connectional Day of Prayer for the AME Connectional Church every
15. April 13th of each year, as well as the Midnight Prayer which is held the first Monday at
16. Midnight eastern standard time every month and the General Conference Prayer Chapels
17. and early morning Prayer Labs.
18. 3) Page 816/Connectional Day of Prayer/Glossary (Definition): An approved and
19. established date of April 13th of each year for a uniformed day of fervent prayer that
20. includes all the AME Church Episcopal Districts One through Twenty-one. This day of
21. uniformed prayer is facilitated by the Director of the Bishop Sarah Francis Davis Covenant
22. Keepers and Intercessors.
23. 4) Page 816/Covenant Keepers-/Glossary (Definition): To come; a coming together; a
24. meeting or agreement of minds. In theology, the covenant keepers of works, is that implied
25. is the commands, prohibitions, and promises of God; the promise of God to man, that
26. mans perfect obedience should entitle him to happiness. This do, and live; that do, and
27. die.
28. 5) Page 818/Domestic-/Glossary (Definition): Existing or occurring inside a particular
29. country; for example, the United States of America is domestic; not foreign or international.
30. 6) Page 818/Evangelist-/Glossary (Definition): One who publishes glad tidings; a
31. messenger, or speaker of good news. According to Ephesians 4:11-12; THE THIRD
32. CALLED FOR THE PERFECTING OF THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY
33. FOR THE EDIFYING OF THE BODY OF CHRIST. These persons were sent not to settle
34. in a particular place, but to travel among the churches, and finish what the Apostles had
35. begun. An example was Philip the deacon, Mark, Silas, according to Acts 21:8.
36. 7) Page 819/Intercessor(s)-/Glossary (Definition): A person, or persons who intervenes on
37. behalf of another, especially in prayer. The person or persons who appeal to God. For
38. example, there are nine basic types of prayers; Communion, Supplication, Intercession,
39. Spiritual Warfare, Agreement, Watch, Thanksgiving, Forgiveness and Repentance. Christs
40. prayer for His followers, John 17:6-26.
41. 8) Page 819/International-/Glossary (Definition): Existing, occurring or carried on between
42. two or more nations. Opposite of domestic. Pertaining to representation for different
43. countries. Generally observing concerns that are beyond our national boundaries. For
44. example, our domestic episcopal districts are Districts One through Thirteen; and our
45. international episcopal districts are Districts Fourteen through Twenty.
46. 9) Page 823/Prayer Labs-/Glossary (Definition): A contemporary reset of a biblical
47. sermonette or brief presentation that is presented to a body of listeners or participants who
48. are encouraged to ask questions, give comments or to witness and faith share after the
49. sermonette or brief presentation has been delivered. The sermonette provider or presenter
50. is expected to respond or answer the questions and comments or address them to the
51. best of their ability.
52. 10) Page 824/Spiritual Mapping-/Glossary (Definition): A new approach to evangelizing
53. ones community. This concept researches the historical and current conditions pertaining
54. to a community, city, township, state or province of a domestic or international
55. geographical area or nation; for the purpose of prayer, fasting and evangelism. There are
56. various processes in the research, patterns, activity and historical time-lines to complete a
57. spiritual mapping project. It concludes with a thorough investigation of the spiritual
58. conditions of a region, or nation, domestic or international. This mapping is used to
59. understand the area or region to better motivate and faith share.
60. Add to the Bibliography
61. Lucado, Max. No Wonder They Call Him The Savior. Questar Publishers, Multnomah
62. Books, copyright 1986 by Max Lucado.
63. Lucado, Max. Walking With The Savior. All color topical inserts were compiled from
64. Walking With The Savior. Published by Tyndale House Publishers, copyright 1993 by Max
65. Lucado.
66. The Holy Bible. New International Version Study Bible. Grand Rapids, Michigan; 1984.
67. Books and Chapters: Ephesians 4:11-12; Acts 21:8; John 17:6-26.
68. Zondervan, King James Version Study Bible. Grand Rapids, Michigan, Zondervan, 2002.
69. NOTE: This legislation has NO FISCAL IMPACT.
70. Submitted by the Connectional Prayer Ministry and the 5th District Legislative Task Force
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Bill Number: APP-02

Title: Accessions



Submitted by: Joelynn Stokes 2nd VP Connectional AME WIM

Contact: jtstokes@jtstokesandassoc.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 812, Section: Glossary

Intent

To be consistent with Quarterly Conference Disciplinary questions

Rationale

The Quarterly Conference Disciplinary Questions recognizes distinguishes between new members and full members. The current definition excludes new members in the accession count.

Current Text

1. Accessions. The act of a person who unites with a
2. congregation after meeting all requirements for full
3. membership.
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Amended Text

1. Accession: A person who unites with a local congregation.
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Bill Number: APP-04

Title: The Ecumenical Officer of the AME Church_2



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. V. Gordon Glenn III

Contact: rev_glenn@yahoo.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Glossary, p. 818

Intent

To make a new General Officer, Executive Director of Ecumenical Affairs, and define the duties thereof.

Rationale

This office should be more fully defined so that the work of ecumenism can be more fully utilized by our Church.

Current Text

1. A bishop given a special assignment instead of an
2. episcopal district to represent the AME Church in
3. ecumenical affairs, supervise urban ministry, endorse AME
4. chaplains and the like.

Amended Text

1. The Executive Director of Ecumenical Affairs will oversee
2. the Ecumenical Office of the AME Church as defined below.
3. The Executive Director of Ecumenical Affairs shall
4. undertake study and reflect with others on the nature of the
5. unity to which Christians are called in the light of Gods
6. purpose for the world and the Church.
7. The Executive Director of Ecumenical Affairs shall be a
8. theological resource and enabler, expanding and extending
9. the vision of Christian unity and sharing in the task of
10. making the vision a reality.
11. Within the AME Connection:
12. The Executive Director of Ecumenical Affairs shall, so far as
13. possible, draw attention to the ecumenical dimension in
14. every aspect of life of the Connectional Church
15. 1. By being in attendance at required Connectional
16. meetings
17. 2. By advising the Bishop's Council and their staff on
18. matters where there is ecumenical participation and
19. potential.
20. 3. By contributing to the work of the General Board, Bishops
21. Council and other Connectional boards and committees so
22. that they may build links with equivalent structures in
23. partner churches throughout the Christian diaspora and,
24. whenever possible, develop mutually beneficial strategies.
25. 4. By maintaining creative dialogue and developing joint
26. activities with training and resource personnel, including
27. those responsible for ministerial training and for mission
28. development across the Connectional Church.
29. Outside the AME Connection:
30. The Executive Director of Ecumenical Affairs shall help to
31. make the Connectional Church aware of international
32. developments of ecumenical significance which involve or
33. affect the AME Church
34. 1. By representing the AME Church on the World Council of
35. Churches, National Council of Churches and other global
36. and national ecumenical boards, councils and bodies.
37. 2. By contributing in any appropriate way to the World
38. Council of Churches, National Council of Churches and
39. other global and national ecumenical boards, councils and
40. bodies.
41. 3. By providing the AME Church with the content and local
42. implications of global and national dialogues and
43. agreements.
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Bill Number: WL-01

Title: Mandatory Inclusion of the Connectional Budget in the Printed Discipline



Submitted by: Rev. Dr. V. Gordon Glenn III, Rev. Bridget Mitchell, Rev. Rachel Williams-Glenn, Esther Gillmore, Katherine McCraney, and Susan Smith, 5th Episcopal District, Midwest Conference

Contact: rev_glenn@yahoo.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

None. In the 2012 Doctrine Discipline the Connectional Budget (2013-2016) followed "The Appendix" (p. 691-699) and before the "Glossary."

Intent

To correct an omission from the 2016 Doctrine and Discipline. The Connectional Budget which guides spending and projects income for the ensuing Quadrennial shall be printed in the Doctrine and Discipline as a mandatory section and not as a separate document.

Rationale

For transparency, the Connectional Budget should be in the printed Doctrine and Discipline, not in a separate document.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. The Connectional Budget (2021-2024) should follow the
2. "Bibliography" and precede the "Glossary."
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Bill Number: CO-41

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

NEW PART XVI

Intent

DEVELOP A FINANCING STRATEGY FOR THE:-

1. FUNDING OF AJC ESTABLISHMENT
2. FUNDING OF AJC 1st GC
3. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF AJC TO THE CONNECTIONAL GC

Rationale

THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AMICABLE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN AJC AND THE CONNECTIONAL GC BY WAY OF A RECIPROCAL FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIP TO THE EXTENT THAT

1. THE CONNECTIONAL GC PROVIDES AN INITIAL BUDGETARY ALLOCATION TO THE AJC TO AID THE LATTER IN THE INITIAL EXPENSES OF SETTING UP THE AJC AND FUNDING OF THE 1st AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE.
2. THE AJC GC COMMIT ITSELF TO BE A REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE CONNECTIONAL GC SO AS TO LAY A FOUNDATION OF RECIPROCITY IN TERMS OF CONNECTIONAL GC COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR CHURCHES IN DEVELOPING NATIONS

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. IN ORDER TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION OF
2. THE AJC, THERE SHALL BE PROVIDED A BUDGETARY
3. ALLOCATION BY THE CONNECTIONAL GENERAL
4. CONFERENCE TO SUBSIDIZE THE ANTICIPATED HIGH
5. INITIAL COSTS IN THE SHORT RUN SPECIFICALLY THE
6. SETTING UP OF THE AJC AND FUNDING OF THE 1st
7. AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE.
8. THIS IS ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE AJC GC
9. SHALL BE CONTRIBUTING TO THE CONNECTIONAL GC
10. SO AS TO LAY A FOUNDATION FOR RECIPROCITY IN
11. TERMS RECEIVING PERIODIC DEVELOPMENT FUND
12. ALREADY EARMARKED BY THE CONNECTIONAL GC
13. FOR CHURCHES IN DEVELOPING NATIONS UNDER
14. THE GDC AND THROUGH EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS.
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Bill Number: CO-42

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

NEW PART XVI

Intent

PROVIDE LEGISLATION FOR THE ELECTION OF SUITABLE PERSONS TO THE OFFICE OF AJC BISHOP

Rationale

ENSURING QUALITY LEADERSHIP BOTH SPIRITUALLY, MENTALLY, SOCIALLY AND ACADEMICALLY WITH ABILITY TO MIX EASILY WITH PERSONS OF ALL RACIAL, NATIONALITY, ETHNIC, AGE, GENDER AND SOCIAL STATUS.

Current Text

1. NEW

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Amended Text

1. CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE OF BISHOP SHALL BE

2. 1. NATIONALS OF AFRICA,

3. 2. MINIMUM AGE OF 40 AND NOT EXCEEDING 72

4. YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF SEEKING OFFICE.

5. 3. HAVE ATTENDED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

6. SCHOOL

7. 4. MUST HAVE ATTAINED A MINIMUM ACADEMIC

8. QUALIFICATION OF A DEGREE IN ANY DISCIPLINE;

9. 5. MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF A DIPLOMA IN

10. THEOLOGY FROM AN UNQUESTIONABLE INSTITUTION

11. OF LEARNING;

12. 6. HAS SERVED AS PASTOR FOR NOT LESS THAN

13. TWO QUADRENNIAL TERMS;

14. 7. IS IN GOOD STANDING.

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Bill Number: CO-43

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

New

Intent

LEGISLATION TO MANDATE THE AJC TO CARRY OUT THE RE-DISTRICTING OF THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS AND ELECTION OF AJC GC BISHOPS AND GENERAL OFFICERS

Rationale

1. TO STOP THE IMPOSITION OF BISHOPS ON THE CONTINENT WHOSE SUBJECTS HAVE BEEN DEMOGRAPHICALLY AND FINANCIALLY DISENFRANCHISED FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS OF ELECTING THEIR LEADERS
2. THE CONTEXTUALISATION OF LEADERSHIP AND SOLUTIONS FOR EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE AJC CONSTITUENCY
3. TO FACILITATE THE SETTING UP OF A FORMIDABLE PLATFORM FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CHURCH IN AFRICA

Current Text

1. NEW

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Amended Text

1. THE AJC GC IS HEREBY MANDATED AS FOLLOWS :-

2. TO WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS OF THE 51st GC 2020,

3. CARRY OUT A RE-DISTRICTING EXERCISE OF THE

4. EPISCOPAL DISTRICTS IN AFRICA;

5. ELECT BISHOPS AND GENERAL OFFICERS FOR THE

6. AJC-GC

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Bill Number: CO-44

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

NEW

Intent

LEGISLATION TO MANDATE THE AJC TO HOLD THE AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS AFTER THE 51st CONNECTIONAL GC 2020.

Rationale

THE AJC-GC SHALL SERVE THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR THE LEGISLATING, EXECUTING AND INTERPRETATION OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GC FOR SELF DETERMINATION AND FOR THE CREATION OF MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS AND SYSTEMS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHURCH IN AFRICA TO REFLECT THE ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. THE 51st GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE AME

2. CHURCH HEREBY CREATES THE AFRICA

3. JURISDICTION COUNCIL GENERAL CONFERENCE

4. (AJC-GC) AND

5. MANDATES THE SAME TO PROVIDE DIRECTION FOR

6. THE LEGISLATING, EXECUTING AND INTERPRETATION

7. OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GC FOR

8. SELF DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF

9. AFRICAS OWN BUSINESS TO REFLECT THE

10. ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN

11. AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

12. WHILE REMAINING PART OF THE CONNECTIONAL

13. CHURCH.

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Bill Number: CO-45

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

NEW

Intent

LEGISLATION TO MANDATE THE AJC TO HOLD THE AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS AFTER THE 51st CONNECTIONAL GC 2020.

Rationale

THE AJC-GC SHALL SERVE THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR THE LEGISLATING, EXECUTING AND INTERPRETATION OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GC FOR SELF DETERMINATION AND FOR THE CREATION OF MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS AND SYSTEMS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHURCH IN AFRICA TO REFLECT THE ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Current Text

1. NONE

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Amended Text

1. THE 51st GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE AME

2. CHURCH HEREBY CREATES THE AFRICA

3. JURISDICTION COUNCIL GENERAL CONFERENCE

4. (AJC-GC) AND

5. MANDATES THE SAME TO PROVIDE DIRECTION FOR

6. THE LEGISLATING, EXECUTING AND INTERPRETATION

7. OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GC FOR

8. SELF DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF

9. AFRICAS OWN BUSINESS TO REFLECT THE

10. ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN

11. AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

12. WHILE REMAINING PART OF THE CONNECTIONAL

13. CHURCH.

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Bill Number: CO-46

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

NEW

Intent

LEGISLATION FOR THE CREATION OF THE AJC GENERAL CONFERENCE

Rationale

THE AJC-GC SHALL SERVE THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR THE LEGISLATING, EXECUTING AND INTERPRETATION OF THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE AJC-GC FOR SELF DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTERING OF AFRICA'S OWN CHURCH BUSINESS TO REFLECT THE ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. THE 51st GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE AME

2. CHURCH HEREBY

3. 1. CREATES THE AFRICA JURISDICTION COUNCIL

4. GENERAL CONFERENCE (AJC-GC) FOR PURPOSES OF

5. PROVIDING DIRECTION FOR THE LEGISLATING,

6. EXECUTING AND INTERPRETATION OF THE GOALS

7. AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GC FOR SELF

8. DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTERING OF AFRICAS

9. OWN CHURCH BUSINESS TO REFLECT THE

10. ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN

11. AFRICA.

12. 2. CREATED AJC GENERAL BOARD COMMISSION OF

13. THE AFRICAN JURISDICTIONS

14. 3. THE AJC COUNCIL SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE

15. GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND SHALL BE

16. GOVERNED BY THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF

17. THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

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Bill Number: CO-47

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

N/A

Intent

LEGISLATION TO INCLUDE A NEW PART XV1 FOR THE ENACTMENT OF THE AFRICA JURISDICTION COUNCIL -AJC
AS AN ORGAN OF THE CONNECTION

Rationale

1. TO HAVE SELF DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF AFRICAS OWN BUSINESS AS ALLUDED TO ON PAGE 298 PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE 2016 BOOK OF THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF THE AME CHURCH
2. TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT OF HEIGHTENED DEVELOPMENT USING HOME GROWN SOLUTIONS AND LEADERSHIP FOR THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA BY LOCALISING LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF AJC AFFAIRS IN THE BROADER CONTEXT OF THE AME DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE AS IS AMENDED HERETO

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. PART XVI THE AFRICA JURISDICTION COUNCIL (AJC)

2. FOR SELF DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTERING OF

3. AFRICAS OWN CHURCH BUSINESS TO REFLECT THE

4. ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN

5. AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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Bill Number: CO-48

Title: Reverend



Submitted by: franklin membe

Contact: franklinmembe@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

N/A

Intent

LEGISLATION TO INCLUDE A NEW PART XV1 FOR THE ENACTMENT OF THE AFRICA JURISDICTION COUNCIL -AJC
AS AN ORGAN OF THE CONNECTION

Rationale

1. TO HAVE SELF DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF AFRICAS OWN BUSINESS AS ALLUDED TO ON PAGE 298 PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE 2016 BOOK OF THE DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE OF THE AME CHURCH
2. TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT OF HEIGHTENED DEVELOPMENT USING HOME GROWN SOLUTIONS AND LEADERSHIP FOR THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA BY LOCALISING LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF AJC AFFAIRS IN THE BROADER CONTEXT OF THE AME DOCTRINE AND DISCIPLINE AS IS AMENDED HERETO

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. PART XVI THE AFRICA JURISDICTION COUNCIL (AJC)

2. FOR SELF DETERMINATION AND ADMINISTERING OF

3. AFRICAS OWN CHURCH BUSINESS TO REFLECT THE

4. ASPIRATIONS AND WISHES OF THE AME CHURCH IN

5. AFRICA EXCLUSIVELY FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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Bill Number: APP-07

Title: Transparency of the Connectional Budget for the African Methodist Episcopal Church



Submitted by: Bill Dickens

Contact: dickensb@comcast.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

There is no page reference in the 2016 Book of Doctrine and Discipline for this proposed legislation.

Intent

To restore the Church Finance Section to the 2020 Book of Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rationale

The 2016 Book of Doctrine and Discipline does not include a Church Finance Section as done in prior editions. The decision to delete the Church Finance Section from the 2016 Discipline out of concerns about legal risk promotes a burden of non-access to basic Connectional financial data. There is no evidence provided that inclusion of the Finance Section will result in litigation. Furthermore, charging members \$5.00 to purchase the financial booklet is inefficient and insulting. Why should a member have to pay to gain access to the financial status and budget projections for the General church? The decision to remove the Financial Section was not approved at the 2016 General Conference. The Compilation Committee had no authority apart from the General Conference to make such a fiat decision.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. There is no no amended text other than restoring Section IX

2. Church Financial Section back to the 2020 Book of Doctrine

3. and Discipline. This proposed legislation has no financial

4. impact on the General Church Budget.

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Bill Number:

Title: Officer Retirement Age



Submitted by: Lillie Hill

Contact: Lil.hill@verizon.net

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

None

Intent

The appointment or election of members as officers must not exceed seventy-five years of age by his or her Annual Conference. It shall be mandatory that all officers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church who will become 75 years of age, either prior to or within a year following the adjournment of a General Conference be ineligible for re-election or appointment to office. The aforementioned officers may assist in their local church and in other capacities throughout the Connection as requested by the bishop, presiding elders, pastors and presiding officers of ministries [i.e. advise, train and

Rationale

The basis for this recommendation is two-fold and will justify the need for such a change. The additional legislation will require a mandatory age cap for elected officials just as with clergy. It makes sense for clergy and non-clergy to be measured equally in terms of age eligibility as it relates to fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of the church. Secondly, and most importantly; the proposed legislation would provide an opportunity for young adults to move copiously into leadership positions. The proposed legislation may have an adverse effect on seniors currently holding office and approaching seventy-five years of age (or may have passed that age), in which a grandfather clause would bridge the gap for the year or two needed for transition to complete their term.

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Amended Text

1. An elected officer or employed laity must retire by seventy-
2. five (75) years of age.
3. An elected officer or employed laity is not to be appointed
4. after age seventy-five (75).
5. The appointment or employment must be relieved by
6. Annual Conference
7. Prior to attaining age seventy-six (76)
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Bill Number: JA-02

Title: Time of Meetings



Submitted by: Judicial Council

Contact: JCAMESecretary@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

363

Intent

To permit the Judicial Council to hold face to face meetings and to deliberate matters before the Council at times which may include connectional meetings of the AME Church, commensurate with its volume and complexity of cases

Rationale

Limiting Judicial Council face to face meetings to two times a year and the requirement that the meetings occur at non-connectional meetings of the AME Church is arbitrary, weakens the work of the Judicial Council and creates inefficiencies. At the heart of the work of the Judicial Council is the deliberative process. This process involves members of the Council discussing, debating and trying to correctly apply (sometimes ambiguous) law to matters of various levels of complexity. While the vast majority of these sessions occur via telephone, there is no substitute for face-to-face discussions. Hence, members should not be restricted from deliberating when they are attending a connectional meeting of the AME church, should the work of the Judicial Council so require.

Current Text

1. ..It shall also meet at such times and places as it may deem
2. necessary, but not more than twice a year in addition to the
3. meeting at the General ConferenceThe Judicial Council
4. shall not meet at a time and place designated for a meeting
5. of the Council of Bishops or of any other connectional
6. meeting of the AME Church, except the General
7. Conference

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Amended Text

1. Delete: but not more than twice a year in addition to the
2. General Conference and delete: The Judicial Council shall
3. not meet at a time and place designated for a meeting of
4. the Council of Bishops or of any other connectional meeting
5. of the AME Church, except the General Conference. the
6. new text reads It shall also meet at such times and places
7. as it many deem necessary.

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Bill Number: JA-03

Title: Voting Rights



Submitted by: Judicial Council

Contact: JCAMESecretary@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

NOT IN CURRENT DISCIPLINE

Intent

To allow the nine members of the Judicial Council, an entity required by the Doctrine and Discipline to be a part of the structure of AME Church to be permitted to vote as do the entities which constitute the executive and legislative branches, except on proposed legislation for reason that it might be required to later interpret or apply that legislation.

Rationale

Persons who serve the church in the highest judicial capacity should have the right to vote, as do members of the executive and legislative branches of the church.

Current Text

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Amended Text

1. Members of the Judicial Council shall have the right to vote
2. on all matters before the General Conference, except
3. proposed legislation.
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Bill Number: JA-04

Title: General Conference Composition



Submitted by: Judicial Council

Contact: JCAMESecretary@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

247

Intent

For the General Conference composition to include the Judicial Council, so as to reflect the Doctrine and Disciplines requirement that the AME Church structure include its highest judicial body and to reflect the role of the Judicial Council, who are elected by and amenable to the General Conference.

Rationale

The Judicial Council constitutes the highest judicial body of the AME Church. Like bishops and general officers, its members are elected by the General Conference, are accountable to the General Conference and must provide a report to the General Conference on the work of the Council for the preceding four years. The Judicial Council also hears cases during the General Conference. As such, the language regarding General Conference composition should include this important branch of the church's structure.

Current Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops, general officers elected by the General Conference
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Amended Text

1. The composition of the General Conference shall be the
2. bishops, general officers and members of the Judicial
3. Council elected by the General Conference
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Bill Number:

Title: Sultant de oral gnalogie



Submitted by: Ntumba Kadima Richard

Contact: Kadriche@live.fr

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Je travaille pour le sous-traitant de Family search internationale en Afrique centrale

Intent

Rejoindre votre organisation pour comparer les informations de gnalogie que nous possdons par apport a vos liens avec vos anctres de l'Afrique

Rationale

Francophone

Current Text

1. de Family search internationale en Afrique centrale
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Amended Text

1. Technologie et gnalogie
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Bill Number:

Title: Constitution and Bylaws of the Womens Missionary Society



Submitted by: Harriet Brown Birk, Esquire on behalf of Dr. Deborah Taylor King

Contact: hbirk125@aol.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part XVII, Connectional Organizations - Section I .pp. 369 46

Intent

To implement the amendments approved by delegates at the 2019 Quadrennial Convention of the WMS.

Rationale

To ensure that the approved legislation is included in the 2020-2024 Doctrine and Discipline and the Constitution and Bylaws of the WMS.

Current Text

1. Attachment 2 Charts of the 2019 Amendments
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Amended Text

1. Attachment 1 - Final Version of 2019 Amendments
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Bill Number: CM-05

Title: Local Church Organization



Submitted by: Sandrial Gray Mason, ANGC West District Lay President

Contact: sgraymason@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Business Page 99(d) and Commission on Stewardship and Finance Page 103 (5)

Intent

To ensure our local church mortgage and insurance is paid every month. To keep our churches from foreclosure, hold our local churches and pastors accountable, and prevent the Episcopal District from financial obligations.

Rationale

The mortgage and insurance should have priority over any budget items. When our churches face possible foreclosure, an episcopal district is forced to take on the debt. In addition, those churches that are in good and regular standing are asked to pay additional funds.

Current Text

1. Page 99 (d)
2. It shall see, at its sessions, that the pastor receives his or
3. her support, and it shall devise ways and means to pay him
4. or her and the presiding elder all that is due to them.
5. Page 103 Commission on Stewardship and Finance Section
6. 3.5
7. Funds received shall be disbursed as the Official Board
8. directs, subject to the approval of the pastor. The income
9. received each month shall have been shared proportionally
10. among the budgeted items after the pastors salary and that
11. of the entire church staff shall be given priority.
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Amended Text

1. Page 99(d)
2. It shall see, at its sessions that the pastor receives his or
3. her support, and it shall devise ways and means to pay him
4. or her and the presiding elder all that is due them after
5. priority given to the church mortgage and insurance.
6. Page 103 Commission on Stewardship and Finance Section
7. 3.5
8. Funds received shall be disbursed as the Official Board
9. directs, subject to the approval of the pastor. The income
10. received each month shall have been shared
11. proportionately among the budgeted items with priority
12. given to the church mortgage and insurance if applicable,
13. the pastors salary and that of the entire church staff.
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Bill Number: MIN-21

Title: Pastoral Support Part VIII, Ministerial Classifications; Section II Ministerial/Pastoral Support; C. Classification of Itinerant Elders



Submitted by: Rev. Daniel Thomas, Augusta Conference Chair

Contact: dwthomasjr1@hotmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 139

Intent

The intent of this proposed legislation is to update and standardize the means by which travel expenses are computed for ministers under Part VIII, C, Note

Rationale

The current wording indicates that pastors are to be paid only 35 cents per mile one way. According to the IRS standard mileage rate for 2019 is 58 cents per mile. In order to keep pace with increasing gas costs, we recommend using the IRS standard rate for the appropriate year to calculate pastoral reimbursement.

Current Text

1. NOTE: In the case of circuits and Presiding Elders Districts,
2. the travel expenses of the minister, unless otherwise
3. provided for, shall be computed on the basis of thirty-five
4. (35) cents per mile one way, and these expenses shall be
5. an allowable deduction from the ministers income from the
6. pastoral charge.

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Amended Text

1. NOTE: In the case of circuits and Presiding Elders Districts,
2. the travel expenses of the minister, unless otherwise
3. provided for, shall be computed based on the current IRS
4. standard mileage rate(s) per mile one way for the
5. appropriate year. These expenses shall be an allowable
6. deduction from the ministers income from the pastoral
7. charge.

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Bill Number: Proposed

Title: Pastoral Support Part VIII, Ministerial Classifications; Section II Ministerial/Pastoral Support; D. Classifications of Churches for Pastoral Compensation



Submitted by: Rev. Daniel Thomas, Augusta Conference Chair

Contact: dwthomasjr1@hotmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 140

Intent

The intent of this change is to standardize the language between Part VIII, Section II D Note and Part VIII, Section III B2

Rationale

Part VIII, Section II D Note provides for a parsonage or living allowance for the pastor. This change will allow both sections to provide a living allowance in lieu of a parsonage.

Current Text

1. NOTE: Charges requiring full-time pastoral services shall be
2. urged to provide a parsonage (or living quarters) for the
3. pastor where the church is located. The bishop and Annual
4. Conference shall require the observance of this provision
5. wherever and whenever possible.

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Amended Text

1. NOTE: Charges requiring full-time pastoral service shall be
2. urged to provide a parsonage (or living quarters or living
3. allowance) where the church is located. The bishop and
4. Annual Conference shall require the observance of this
5. provision wherever and whenever possible.

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Bill Number: CC-15

Title: Annual Conference Composition



Submitted by: Atlanta North Georgia Conference Legislative Team: Rev. Dr. Susan Buckson, Committee Chair, et al.

Contact: pastor.allentempleameatlanta@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 266-267

Intent

To include all elected and or appointed conference leaders among the listing of the Annual Conference composition.

Rationale

All Conference Coordinators, elected or appointed, are not listed within the text and as such are excluded from the composition noted in this section.

Current Text

1. The Annual Conference shall be composed of all traveling
2. elders and deacons, all local elders and deacons, and all
3. licentiates; the presidents of the Conference Lay
4. Organization and Missionary Society, and the Conference
5. directors of Christian Education, Music, and YPD, together
6. with (1) elected lay member and at least one (1) elected
7. layperson between the ages of eighteen to thirty-five (18-
8. 35), when possible, from each charge within its bounds.

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Amended Text

1. The Annual Conference shall be composed of all traveling
2. elders and deacons, all local elders and deacons, and all
3. licentiates; the presidents of the Conference Lay
4. Organization and Missionary Society, and the Conference
5. directors of the Christian Education, Music, Women in
6. Ministry, Sons of Allen, and YPD, together with one (1)
7. elected lay member and at least one (1) elected layperson
8. between the ages of eighteen of thirty-five (18-35), when
9. possible, from each charge within its bounds.

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Bill Number: CC-16

Title: The District Conference Composition



Submitted by: Atlanta North Georgia Conference Legislative Team: Rev. Dr. Susan Buckson, Committee Chair, et al.

Contact: pastor.allentempleameatlanta@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Page 288

Intent

To clarify traveling ministers and preachers and to include all clergy who make up the composition of the District Conference.

Rationale

The current language ambiguously identifies ministers and does not include licentiates who are members of the District Conference once admitted. Furthermore, the reference to preachers does not actually reflect the nomenclature ascribed to ministerial orders.

Current Text

1. The District Conference shall be composed of all traveling
2. ministers, local preachers, evangelists, one (1) steward
3. from each quarterly conference, presidents of the local
4. Womens Ministry Society and Lay Organization, and a
5. young adult age eighteen to thirty-five (18-35) from each
6. church, circuit, or station. The steward shall be elected by
7. ballot at the first (1st) quarterly conference after the annual
8. conference session. The secretary of the Quarterly
9. Conference shall count the ballots, and the chairperson
10. shall declare the result.

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Amended Text

1. The District Conference shall be all itinerant elders and
2. deacons, all local elders and deacons, all licentiates, and
3. evangelists; one (1) steward from each quarterly
4. conference, presidents of the local Womens Missionary
5. Society and Lay Organization, and a young adult age
6. eighteen to thirty-five (18-35) from each church, circuit, or
7. station. The steward shall be elected by ballot at the first
8. (1st) quarterly conference after the annual conference
9. session. The secretary of the Quarterly Conference shall
10. count the ballots, and the chairperson shall declare the
11. result.

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Bill Number: CC-17

Title: Connectional Institutions Archaic Reference(s)



Submitted by: Atlanta North Georgia Conference Legislative Team: Rev. Dr. Susan Buckson, Committee Chair, et al.

Contact: pastor.allentempleameatlanta@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part XIV. Conferences. Section I. The General Conference. A. Composition, Page 247; Kindle Locations 5633-5634

Intent

To remove archaic reference(s)

Rationale

Douglas Hospital is no longer in existence

Current Text

1. annual conferences; the administrators of all Connectional
2. institutions (i.e. Douglas Hospital); the president of the
3. Connectional Presiding Elders Council, and elected clergy
4. and lay delegates from each annual conference.

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Amended Text

1. annual conferences; the administrators of all Connectional
2. Institutions (i.e. The Bishop Sarah Frances Davis
3. Connectional Womens Missionary Society Outpatient
4. Health Clinic); the president of the Connectional Presiding
5. Elders Council, and elected clergy and lay delegate from
6. each annual conference.

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Bill Number: CC-18

Title: Definition of Mission Church



Submitted by: Atlanta North Georgia Conference Legislative Team: Rev. Dr. Susan Buckson, Committee Chair, et al.

Contact: pastor.allentempleameatlanta@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

Part XIV, Section III G. 2c Pg. 291 Mission Churches

Intent

Define a mission church

Rationale

Definition of a mission church will help to resolve issues identifying mission churches.

Current Text

1. None
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Amended Text

1. Would be placed at the beginning of 2c. Mission Churches,
2. on page 291
3. A mission church is a congregation which does not have
4. enough members to have three stewards, three trustees,
5. stewardesses, or other officers. Mission churches should be
6. identified as such by the annual conference.
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Bill Number: CO-41

Title: Connectional Societies and Organizations



Submitted by: Atlanta North Georgia Conference Legislative Team: Rev. Dr. Susan Buckson, Committee Chair, et al.

Contact: pastor.allentempleameatlanta@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

None

Intent

To establish as a Connectional Organization, a proven fellowship of women who live and serve in Africa, to bring that organization into compliance with the structure and governance of the African Methodist church, and to attach said organization to the Commission on Social action.

Rationale

Among the organizations on the African Continent that provide fellowship opportunities for Christian women, is the Charlotte Maxeke Ladies Fellowship. Although the Book of Discipline of the AME Church has made provision for an organization creating a fellowship of women known as, Womens Missionary Society on page 296-352, the AME Church female members of the 15th, 17th, 18th, and 19th Episcopal Districts have for a number of years been operating a similar organization. It is a ministry of women, aimed at conducting studies and recommend resolutions relating to the Christian social concerns which affect the members and neighbors of the church. It also aims to evangelize women for Christian fellowship, outreach and social action. Many of the other denominations in Southern Africa have their own versions of the organization. This legislation enables the episcopal Districts, Annual Conferences, and Presiding Elder Districts and local congregations to regulate, utilize and expect accountability at each level of governance in the denomination. The Bull also provides for its use outside of the African Continent wherever the African Methodist Episcopal Church has presence through the larger program of Church Growth and Evangelism.

Current Text

1. None

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Amended Text

1. New Text:
2. VISION, MISSION, AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CMLF
3. CMLF will recruit Christian women to be advocates for the
4. relevant global religious issues and will also provide support for
5. women.
6. CMLF will give each member an equal opportunity to optimally
7. utilize their god given qualities/skills to contribute to the church
8. and to the welfare of their congregation members, families,
9. neighbors, and communities.
10. Support and implement the programmes of the church.
11. Promote a positive team spirit and sisterhood within the church.
12. Do out-reach programmers such as spiritual revivals, seminars
13. and workshops.
14. Maintain and sustain the organization by working together as
15. members of the CMLF in the best interest of the church and its
16. communities.
17. Recognize, acknowledge, and support all ladies and women in
18. the church.
19. Create skills, development and training programmes to all
20. CMLF members by:
21. Providing education, training, and guidance in all areas of
22. church life; and promoting activities that develop unity,
23. togetherness and strength for all ladies.
24. OFFICERS
25. The elected Officers of the Connectional CMLF and its
26. Divisions shall be:
27. President
28. First Deputy President
29. Second Deputy President
30. Treasurer
31. Financial Secretary
32. Secretary
33. Assistant Secretary
34. Parliamentarian
35. Chaplain
36. Historiographer
37. Director of CMLF Activities
38. Public Relations Officer
39. IDENTITY
40. The colours of the CMLF shall be Black and White
41. Need to consider seasons
42. CMLF members shall wear the following gear:
43. In all Districts identify a childrens home for adoption through
44. Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the said
45. NGO/NPO for support with any means being required.
46. Commit our own professionals to draw a programme towards
47. empowerment of women and youth in our different Districts
48. addressing emotional and social needs. And should be an
49. ongoing program.
50. Build a relationship with the correctional center for rejected
51. children to reintegrate them in the community and unify them
52. with their families.

Bill Number: CP-3

Title: General Church Property



Submitted by: Terrence Evans

Contact: evans.terrence@gmail.com

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

72

Intent

1A: To set a reasonable time frame for communication of intent to mortgage or encumber the local church, by said local church, to the Annual Conference Board of Trustees.

1B: To correct a grammatical error.

Rationale

1A: Providing a reasonable time frame for the Board of Trustees and Incorporators of the local church to express intent to the mortgage or encumber the local church will aid with effective communication with the Annual Conference Board of Trustees. By reporting the intent to mortgage or encumber the local church, the Board of Trustees and Incorporators of the local church provides time for the Annual Conference Trustees to meet and review plans, documents, and financial obligations prior to approval and presentation to the organized Annual Conference.

1B: To correct a grammatical error at the end of the final sentence.

Current Text

1. Section C: Mortgaging Property
2. The Board of Trustees and Incorporators of the local
3. church, elected, and organized as prescribed in The
4. Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal
5. Church, shall have the power to mortgage or encumber the
6. property of the local church or corporation, PROVIDED
7. such action has been authorized by majority vote of the
8. membership present in a duly called Church Conference for
9. this specific purpose. It shall be required that NOTICE of
10. such meeting must be given fourteen (14) days previously,
11. including two (2) Sundays, and such action must be
12. approved by Resolution in a regular session of the Quarterly
13. Conference. When a local church complies with the
14. requirements set forth in this section, consent for the same
15. is not necessary to be obtained from the African Methodist
16. Episcopal Church Incorporated.
17. Wherever these laws conflict with the laws of the legal
18. jurisdiction (local, state/comparable division or national) in
19. which the property is located, the pastor and the Trustees
20. shall proceed in a manner to conform with these laws).

Amended Text

1. Section C: Mortgaging Property
2. The Board of Trustees and Incorporators of the local
3. church, elected, and organized as prescribed in The
4. Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal
5. Church, shall have the power to mortgage or encumber the
6. property of the local church or corporation, PROVIDED
7. such action has been authorized by a majority vote of the
8. membership present in a duly called Church Conference for
9. this specific purpose. It shall be required that NOTICE of
10. such meetings must be given fourteen (14) days previously,
11. including two (2) Sundays, and such action must be
12. approved by Resolution in a regular session of the Quarterly
13. Conference. The Board of Trustees and Incorporators of the
14. local church shall inform the Annual Conference Board of
15. Trustees of the intent to mortgage or encumber the property
16. of the local church within twenty-one (21) days of the
17. resolution approved by the Quarterly Conference. When a
18. local church complies with the requirements set forth in this
19. section, consent for the 11. same is not necessary to be
20. obtained from the African Methodist Episcopal Church,
21. Incorporated.
22. Wherever these laws conflict with the laws of the legal
23. jurisdiction (local, state, comparable division or national) in
24. which the property is located, the pastor and the Trustees
25. shall proceed in a manner to conform with these laws.
26. (Remove parentheses at the end of the final sentence)

Bill Number: CLO-6

Title: Extension of Episcopal Committee Authority



Submitted by:

Contact:

Page Reference in Current AME Discipline

The Book of Discipline the African Methodist Episcopal Church 2016, Part XI, Section II, F, 169 Part XI Section III. D 171, E. 172, F. 172 Part VIII, Section I, pages 216-17; Part XI, Section V page 286

Intent

To authorize the Episcopal Committee to function in the interim of the General Conference

Rationale

Extending the authority of the Episcopal Committee beyond the General Conference when there is a vacancy establishes a process of fulfilling the vacancy in an equitable and democratic manner that is in line with the spirit of the General Conference.

Financial Implications: Potential impact for this 24 member Episcopal Committee's Executive Committee shall be only in the rare circumstances should a vacancy occur in the supervision of an Episcopal District.; and no more than the cost of the Council of Bishops when meeting for said purpose.

Current Text

1. Part XI, Section II, F,169 — Based on Age
- 2.
3. 2. The Episcopal Committee, or the Council of Bishops,
4. shall not assign any bishop who has reached the age of
5. retirement to preside over or to supervise the work in any
6. episcopal district.
- 7.
8. Part XI Section III. D 171 - Authority
- 9.
10. 2. Should a vacancy occur in the supervision of an
11. Episcopal District by suspension, resignation, death or
12. otherwise, the Council of Bishops is authorized to assign
13. one of its number to the said district. No assignment shall
14. be made, however, until the members of the said episcopal
15. district shall have the opportunity to make a request to the
16. Council of Bishops regarding the assignment,
- 17.
18. Part XI Section III. E 172 - Restrictions
- 19.
20. 4. The Council of Bishops shall not change the Episcopal
21. Committee's assignments of Bishops, except as herein
22. provided in The Book of Discipline of the A&ican Methodist
23. Episcopal Church.
- 24.
25. Part XI Section III, F, — Duties and Responsibilities
- 26.
27. 3. The Council of Bishops shall hear complaints and
28. petitions against any one of its members, and shall have the
29. authority, by a two-thirds (2/ 3) vote of the Council of
30. Bishops, to remove or transfer a bishop from a district, or
31. give such directions as their judgment deems best for the
32. good of the Church.
- 33.
34. Part XIV, G, 1, Page 255 — Assignment of Bishops
- 35.
36. h. No Current Text
- 37.
38. Part XIV, I, Conferences, Post-General Conference
39. Committees/Commissions
- 40.
41. No Text
- 42.
43. Part XVI, V, D,3b Page 322 — Trial Committee
- 44.
45. 3. b. Removal from the said episcopal district and
46. reassignment by the Council of Bishops
- 47.
- 48.
- 49.

Amended Text

1. Part XI, Section II, F,169 — Based on Age
- 2.
3. 2. The Episcopal Committee shall not thereafter assign any bishop who has reached the
4. age of retirement to preside over or to supervise the work in any Episcopal district, for the
5. purposes of assignment, the Office of Ecumenical and Urban Affairs is considered an
6. Episcopal District.
- 7.
8. Part XI Section III. D 171 - Authority
- 9.
10. 2. Should a vacancy occur in the supervision of an Episcopal District by suspension,
11. resignation, death, or otherwise, then the Episcopal Committee's 24-member Executive
12. Committee [Chairperson, 1 Vice-Chairperson, Lay Vice Chairperson &, Youth Vice-
13. Chairperson; and one member of the Episcopal Committee from each Episcopal District,
14. one (1) minister from the even-numbered districts and one (1) layperson from the odd-
15. numbered districts, with the procedure alternating at each General Conference] is
16. authorized to reconvene to assign a Bishop to the Episcopal District affected and make
17. necessary reassignments of Bishops for the good of ' the AME Church within thirty (30)
18. calendar days of notification of said vacancy by the Council of Bishops. No assignment
19. shall be made, however, until the members of the affected Episcopal District shall have the
20. opportunity to make a request to the Episcopal Committee's Executive Committee
21. regarding the assignment. The Episcopal Committee's Executive Committee will begin its
22. work at the close of the 2020 General Conference.
- 23.
24. Part XI Section IH. E 172 — Restrictions
- 25.
26. 4. The Council of Bishops shall not change the Episcopal Committee's assignments of
27. Bishops
- 28.
29. Part XI Section III, F. — Duties and Responsibilities
- 30.
31. 3. The Council of Bishops shall hear complaints and petitions against any one of its
32. members and shall have the authority, by a two-thirds (2/ 3) vote of the Council of Bishops,
33. to remove or transfer a bishop from a district, or give such directions as their judgment
34. deems best for the good of the Church.
- 35.
36. 4. The Episcopal Committee's Executive Committee is authorized to assign a bishop to
37. said vacant Episcopal District within thirty (30) calendar days of notification by the Council
38. of Bishops.
- 39.
40. Page 255 Part XIV, G, 1, h. Page 255 Assignment of Bishops
- 41.
42. h. In the interim of the General Conference, the Episcopal Committee's 24-member
43. Executive Committee [Chairperson, 1 Vice-Chairperson, Lay Vice-Chairperson k Youth
44. Vice-Chairperson; and one member of the Episcopal Committee from each Episcopal
45. District, one (1) minister from the even-numbered districts and one (1) layperson from the
46. odd-numbered districts, with the procedure alternating at each General Conference] shall
47. constitute the continuing committee charged with the responsibilities of making Episcopal
48. assignments as required due to the death or incapacity of an active bishop(s). Expenses
49. for the 24 member Episcopal Committee's Executive Committee shall be provisioned by
50. the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the AME Church from the General Budget
51. Fund in accordance with existing policies and procedures. The Episcopal Committee's 24-
52. member Executive Committee will begin its work at the close of the 2020 General
53. Conference.
- 54.
55. 3. Episcopal Committee's 24-member Executive Committee
- 56.
57. In the interim of the General Conferences, the Episcopal Committee's 24-member
58. Executive Committee [Chairperson, 1 Vice-Chairperson, Lay Vice Chairperson 4 Youth
59. Vice-Chairperson; and one member of the Episcopal Committee from each Episcopal
60. District, one (1) minister from the even-numbered districts and one (1) layperson from the
61. odd-numbered districts, with the procedure alternating at each General Conference] shall
62. constitute the continuing committee charged with the responsibilities of making Episcopal
63. assignments as required due to the death or incapacity of an active bishop(s). The
64. Episcopal Committee's Executive Committee will begin its work at the close of the 2020
65. General Conference.
- 66.
67. Part XVI, V, D,3b Page 322
- 68.
69. 3.b. Removal from the said episcopal district by the Council of Bishops.
- 70.
71. 3.c. The Episcopal Committee's Executive Committee will make the reassignment.
- 72.
- 73.
- 74.