2019 Resolutions

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(* Bolded Resolutions are on a Consent Calendar)
Resolution #2019 - 01A

RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to the Discontinuance of the CC Hancock United Methodist Church
Submitted by the South District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference

WHEREAS, CC Hancock United Methodist Church, located in Delaware County, was founded in 1956 and has a long and proud history of ministering to the community in Springfield, PA.

WHEREAS, the church conference of CC Hancock, voted on March 10, 2019 to discontinue the church; and

WHEREAS, the District Superintendent has recommended the discontinuance of CC Hancock and transfer of membership to Lima UMC.

WHEREAS, the remaining congregation of CC Hancock and the Superintendent has recommended that the property be sold and conference Trustees distribute the proceeds following the recommendations continued herein;

WHEREAS, the remaining congregation request the Conference Board of Trustees to allocate 1/3 to the conference Trustees; up to 1/3 of the sale proceeds to the Chester: St. Daniel's New Church Start on the former Trinity Campus in Chester, PA; and up to 1/3 to the creation of Church Development under the direction of the EPA Cabinet.

WHEREAS, the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop; the district superintendents, and the district Board of Church Location and Building; and all property Disciplinary requirements have been complied with; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CC Hancock United Methodist Church be discontinued effective June 30, 2019

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Eastern PA Conference distribute the assets from the sale of property and other remaining assets held by CC Hancock United Methodist Church, following the above recommendations, as they deem appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that historical records be forwarded to the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Commission on Archives and History located at St. George's United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Person Responsible for Presenting the Resolution: Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm
Resolution #2019 - 01B

RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to the Discontinuance of Hazleton: Diamond United Methodist Church
Submitted by the North District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference

WHEREAS, Hazleton: Diamond United Methodist Church, established in 1905 in Hazelton, Pennsylvania has a long and proud history of serving the people of Hazleton; and

WHEREAS, Hazleton: Diamond United Methodist Church voted at their Annual Charge Conference on November 1, 2018 with the last service to be on Sunday, January 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Hazleton: Diamond United Methodist Church contacted the North District Office of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference to inform the District Superintendent of the congregation’s decision to close as of January 6, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Peggy Johnson and the Cabinet of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference have given their approval; and

WHEREAS, Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference Board of Trustees was granted full responsibility for the care and disposal of its assets,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Hazleton: Diamond United Methodist Church discontinue effective January 6, 2019 with thankful gratitude for 113 years of faithful service to the Hazleton area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any assets resulting from the sale of the property and other remaining assets held by Hazelton: Diamond United Methodist Church after all prior obligations have been met, will be distributed according to the following percentages; 25% to Pocono Plateau Camp and Retreat Center, 25% to Gretna Glen Camp and Retreat Center and 50% to North District Ministries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the historical records of Hazleton: Diamond United Methodist Church be forwarded to the archives of St. George’s United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Person Responsible for Presenting the Resolution: Rev. Steve Morton
RESOLUTION #2019 - 02
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution Relating to changing the name Mission ConneXion to Mission Link
Presented by the Eastern PA Conference Cabinet

WHEREAS, the churches of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference desire to be effective in our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our communities and world; and

WHEREAS, the communities in which we find ourselves desperately need the Good News of the love of Jesus Christ embodied in their midst; and

WHEREAS, we are stronger when we work together than we can be in isolation; and:

WHEREAS, the congregations of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference are aligned successfully in mission clusters of 4 to 15 churches in a plan for collaborative ministry and mission as spelled out in the document “Creating a Mission ConneXion 2013,”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference continue to provide for the alignment of all churches in mission clusters, but the new name of the mission clusters be changed from "Mission ConneXion" to "EPA Mission Link;"

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all documents and communications of the annual conference, and all churches and ministry entities within it, begin immediately using the new name of "EPA Mission Link."

Person Responsible for Presenting this Resolution: EPA Cabinet
RESOLUTION 2019 - 03
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to Conference Registration Fee for Retired Clergy
Presented by Executive Committee of the Retired Preachers Association

WHEREAS, many clergy persons in retirement do not serve a member church of the Eastern Pa Conference and thus have no church to sponsor their conference registration fee;

WHEREAS, many retired clergy persons are living on fixed incomes;

AND WHEREAS, the decisions of the annual conference are enriched by the presence of retired clergy persons and their years of experience;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that henceforth the annual conference will offer a Retired Clergyperson Registration rate for retired clergy not serving a local church or United Methodist agency;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the retired clergy registration fee shall not exceed the cost of meals for the event.

Person responsible for presenting this resolution: Bronwyn Yocum
RESOLUTION 2019 - 04
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution to Enable Automatic Enrollment in the UMPIP
Presented by The EPA Board of Health Benefits, Coleen Painter, President

WHEREAS, The Board of Pension and Health Benefits is concerned with the number of clergy who are not prepared for a comfortable retirement, and
WHEREAS, reports from Wespath confirm that we are often very late to enroll clergy at appointment changes or eligibility changes due to incomplete or unsubmitted forms, and
WHEREAS, we recognize the importance of saving for a secure retirement, and
WHEREAS, Wespath has created a process for conferences to approve the automatic enrollment of eligible clergy into the United Methodist Personal Investment Plan,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that effective January 1, 2020, all clergy appointed to a local church, charge, or conference elected entities who are not yet enrolled shall automatically be enrolled in the United Methodist Personal Investment Plan at a 1% contribution.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that after 1/1/2020 all clergy will automatically be enrolled at a 1.0% contribution rate when they become eligible to participate in the UMPIP.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that clergy will retain the right to opt out of the plan by completing and submitting a UMPIP contribution election form.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Coleen Painter
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Pertaining to the Adoption Agreement to the Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) for the Year 2020
Presented by Coleen Painter, President Board of Health Benefits

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Adoption Agreement for the Clergy Retirement Security Program shall be applicable to the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference and, unless another date is specified below, shall be effective as of January 1, 2020. The Clergy Retirement Security Program shall be the base retirement plan for the clergy persons under Episcopal appointment including deacons and members of other denominations serving at the conference, church, charge, conference responsible unit, conference controlled entity including clergy on medical leave receiving Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) disability benefits of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference in accordance to the plan adoption agreement beginning on January 1, 2020. Clergy persons on medical leave and not receiving Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) disability benefits are not eligible to participate in CRSP.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that on January 1, 2020 the ministerial pension rate for past service prior to January 1, 1982 shall be set at $502.00 and the personal contributor’s annuity derived from pre-1982 contributions shall apply toward the payment of the participants formula benefit;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the surviving spouse benefit shall be 70% of the participant’s formula benefit;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Pension and Health Benefits is authorized to make annual deposits at the end of each calendar year as required by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits for the purpose of funding for past service prior to January 1, 1982.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Coleen Painter
RESOLUTION 2019 – 06
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution Concerning Retiree Health Care
Presented by Coleen Painter, President Board of Health Benefits

WHEREAS the future unfunded liability for Post-Retirement Health insurance as recorded in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference (EPA) annual audit was $24 million as of December 31, 2012 and has decreased to just under 10 million on December 31, 2018 through the changes made over the past 5 years; and

WHEREAS we are charged by Wespath to submit annual plans for funding of this future liability for Post-Retirement health insurance; and

WHEREAS, 98% of our retirees were enrolled into the group plan offered which is the most costly plan for retirees and more insurance than the majority of retirees need; and

WHEREAS, we have continued to have customer service issues with our current provider over the last few years; and

WHEREAS, Wespath offers a service called Via Benefits which assists retirees in enrollment to the plan best suited for their needs, and would provide seamless transition from our HealthFlex for active clergy to the Retirement Insurance; and

WHEREAS a study by Wespath revealed that lowering our subsidy by 17% would allow 93% of our retirees to have the same or less out of pocket expenses, and would assist in lowering our future liability cost while "resetting" the subsidy start point; and

WHEREAS these outsourced options will provide retirees with expert one-on-one assistance provided through Wespath and more medical plan flexibility and options; and

WHEREAS The Group Insurance Committee has authorized investigation and due diligence on this option; and

WHEREAS most retirees would see a reduction in the cost of their health plan choice for 2020;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall enroll with Via Benefits effective January 1, 2020, with an Annual Election period in October and November of 2019;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference is authorized to contribute an annual subsidy, reduced by 15% over past years, per retiree, payable monthly, in the following amounts:

• $2,550 for each Pre-2003 Retiree with at least 20 years of enrollment in the EPA Plan.
• $1,870 for each Post-2003/Pre-2015 Retiree with 20 Years of enrollment in the EPA Plan
• $1,020 for each Post-1/1/2015 Retiree in the Pre-Funding Plan with contributions paid in full, with 20 years of service in The United Methodist Church, once they transfer their contribution balance to the conference.
• No contributions will be made for members over the age of 40 who elected not to participate in the prefunding plan, but they will be able to utilize the enrollment assistance of the Medical Exchange Program.
• $600 for each age 67 or above Post-1/1/2015 Retiree under the age of 40 as of 1/1/2015, with 20 years of service in the United Methodist Church.
• $335 for each Retiree age 65-67 with 20 years of service in the United Methodist Church.
• Members who retire with less than 20 years in in the United Methodist Church, but more than 10 years, will receive 5% less contribution for each year of service less than 20.
• No contribution will be made for members who have less than 10 years of service with The Eastern PA Conference, but they will be able to utilize the enrollment assistance of the AmWins group.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that future subsidy contributions will be recommended by the EPA Board of Pension and Health Benefits for approval by the annual conference,

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that for members to be eligible for a retiree health care subsidy, they must be enrolled in Medicare and have been a member of our conference the last ten years of their ministry.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that for members to be eligible for a retiree health care subsidy, they must be enrolled in a Via Benefits plan through Wespath.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the rules for spousal coverage do not change.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Coleen Painter
WHEREAS, the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church (the “Church”), of which this Conference is part, has in the past functioned and continues to function through ministers of the gospel (within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 107) who were or are duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed ministers of the Church (“Clergypersons”);

WHEREAS, the practice the Church and of this Conference was and is to provide active Clergypersons with a parsonage or a rental/housing allowance as part of their gross compensation;

WHEREAS, pensions or other amounts paid to retired and disabled Clergypersons are considered to be deferred compensation and are paid to retired and disabled Clergypersons in consideration of previous active service;

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Conference (or its predecessors) as the appropriate organization to designate a rental/housing allowance for retired and disabled Clergypersons who are or were members of this Conference.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that an amount equal to 100% of the pension or disability payments received from plans authorized under The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (“the Discipline”), which includes all such payments from Wespath during the year 2020 by each retired or disabled Clergyperson who is or was a member of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designed as a rental/housing allowance for each such Clergyperson; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the pension and disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance applies will be any pension or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized under the Discipline, including such payments from Wespath and from a commercial annuity company that provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a Wespath plan, annuity, or fund authorized under the Discipline, that result from any service a Clergyperson rendered to this Conference or that a retired or disabled Clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the Clergyperson to perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such retired or disabled Clergyperson’s pension or disability as part of his or her gross compensation.

NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a Clergyperson’s gross income in any year for federal income tax purposes is limited under Internal
Revenue Code section 107(2) and regulations there under to the least of: (1) the amount of the rental/housing allowance designated by the Clergyperson’s employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (2) the amount actually expended by the Clergyperson to rent or provide a home in such year; or (3) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year.

**Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution**: Coleen Painter
RESOLUTION 2019 - 08
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution to disband the Joint Committee on Incapacity and reform as The Joint
Caring Committee
Presented by The EPA Board of Benefits and The Board of Ordained Ministry

WHEREAS, the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996)
that provides data privacy and security provisions for safeguarding medical information
has eliminated the authority of our joint committee to approve medical leave on based
medical conditions, and

WHEREAS, the language in the 2016 Discipline, paragraph 652 has been modified to
allow annual conferences a choice in the need for this committee, and

WHEREAS, the Cabinet, the Board of Ordained Ministry, and the Board of Pension and
Health Benefits all have a process in place to determine the need for a medical leave
appointment with or without the Comprehensive Protection Plan, and

WHEREAS, The Board of Ordained Ministry and The Board of Pension and Health
Benefits must continue to formally approve both a Medical Leave and a return from
Medical Leave, and

WHEREAS, Wespath outsources this medical authority to Liberty Mutual once
eligibility is established, and

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:
A.) The Eastern PA Conference shall disband the Joint Committee on Incapacity as of
July 1, 2019, and
B.) Shall form a new Joint Caring Committee to provide support, advocacy, and contact
to our members on Medical Leave.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Coleen Painter
RESOLUTION # 2019 – 09
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team
Presented by the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team

WHEREAS, the 1996 Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference “Plan toward the Elimination of Racism Within the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference” establishes, as an Accountability Group for the plan, “A cross-cultural team of 12 persons” who will “evaluate the process at every step, … reporting their finding to the Conference Transformation Team and to the Commission on Religion and Race; and

WHEREAS, that team is known as the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team,

WHEREAS, staffing and organizational patterns have shifted; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Religion and Race, whose responsibilities complement those of the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Team, now reports to the Executive Director of Connectional Ministries;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team now report its findings to the Executive Director of Connectional Ministries.

Persons responsible for presenting the resolution: Mert Shane and David Brown (Elder), Co-Conveners, Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team
RESOLUTION 2019 - 10
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution relating to the “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors” motto of the United Methodist Church.

WHEREAS, the doctrinal standards of the United Methodist Church are based on the Bible, as listed in Part II of the Book of Discipline (1) John Wesley’s Explanatory Notes Upon the New Testament (2) the Standard Sermons of John Wesley; (3) the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Church and (4) the Confession of Faith of the Evangelical United Brethren; and

WHEREAS; Wesley wanted his notes to emphasize the biblical message in a way that inspired and challenged readers and believed that God speaks through the scriptural text to move the reader to love and serve God and neighbor, and

WHEREAS, the writings of the founder of Methodism, John Wesley, are saturated with biblical ideas and quotations, and his commitment to teaching the Bible at every opportunity, and

WHEREAS, the current motto of the United Methodist Church is incomplete for the Christian apart from Holy Scriptures; i.e., to have an “open heart” (John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10) to have “open minds” (Romans 12:1-2), and “Open Doors”, (Rev. 3:20), and

WHEREAS, Article IV of the Evangelical United Brethren Confession of Faith is printed in and part of the Book of Discipline reads; “We believe the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, reveals the Word of God so far as it is necessary for our salvation. It is to be received through the Holy Spirit as the true rule and guide for faith and practice. Whatever is not revealed in or established by the Holy Scriptures is not to be made an article of faith nor is it to be taught as essential to salvation.”, and

WHEREAS the Book of Discipline states our calling is “to spread scriptural holiness over these lands” (para 63) and,

WHEREAS, the current motto omits the most important element of Wesley’s quadrilateral of (1) Scripture, (2) tradition, (3) reason, and (4) experience; for United Methodists, Scripture (Open Bibles) is the primary source and standard for Christian doctrine, while tradition (Open Hearts) is the witness of development and growth of the faith through the past centuries, reason (Open Minds) the individual Christian brings to bear on the Christian faith discerning and cogent thought, and experience is the individual's understanding and appropriating of the faith in the light of his or her own life.(Open Doors), scripture is listed first for a reason and the filter through which tradition, reason, and experience must pass to be Christian.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference, prior to the closing of this Annual Conference, expand and adopt for its own motto “Open Bibles, Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference submit to the 2020 General Conference a resolution that calls for the motto of the United Methodist Church “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”, to be expanded to read “Open Bibles, Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”.

Persons Responsible for Presenting this Resolution:
Rev. Jimmy Montgomery and Cochranville United Methodist Church
RESOLUTION # 2019 - 11
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to Introductory and Advanced Training for Dismantling Racism
Presented by the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team

WHEREAS, the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference has had a stated commitment since 1996 to work toward dismantling racism within the Annual Conference, its churches, and the communities it and its churches serve; and

WHEREAS, training for dismantling racism has been essential for carrying out this commitment, transforming the lives and ministries of both clergy and laity who have experienced it; and

WHEREAS, effective training and work toward dismantling racism requires that training be kept vital, up to date, and comprehensive, including an emphasis on active follow-up using what people have learned; and

WHEREAS, the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team, acting in accord with the 1996 “Plan toward the Elimination of Racism within the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference,” has developed effective resources and experience for conducting training for dismantling racism; and

WHEREAS, experience has led to recognition of the depth of the transformational journey for individuals and institutions learning about and acting toward dismantling racism, leading to the need for ongoing training for dismantling racism; and

WHEREAS, the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team has worked together with the Commission on Religion and Race to provide one-day workshops supplementing the “Changing Racism” workshops; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Religion and Race has taken on dismantling racism responsibilities that preclude their further involvement in such workshops; and

WHEREAS, the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team has worked with the Visions, Inc. facilitators to increase the dismantling racism impact of the introductory workshop;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team be charged with primary responsibility for and oversight of all training for dismantling racism provided by/through the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference, including working with outside trainers such as Visions, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability team be charged with developing and arranging for presentation of three to five one-day “advanced” workshops per year on various aspects of understanding and dismantling racism, to be held in locations throughout the Annual Conference bounds; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Annual Conference encourage the Board of Ordained Ministries to establish a requirement for advanced training for dismantling racism similar to the requirement for advanced sexual ethics training.

Person responsible for presenting this resolution:
RESOLUTION 2019 - 12
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution relating to Advance Special Applications
Presented by Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Secretary of Global Ministries (CSGM)

WHEREAS, the Conference Advance Special is a program of ministry which can seek funds from a local church that keeps its financial commitments to the Conference and General Church in full in the previous year's budget and has a desire to extend its support of the mission of the church through designated giving; and

WHEREAS, a list of Conference Advance Specials would resource local churches, either in need of support for their programs and ministries, or local churches eager to extend their support of the mission of the church; and

WHEREAS, practicality indicates a change in the time period covered by a list of conference advance specials to as soon as possible after they are approved;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following programs and ministries of the annual conference having completed the appropriate applications, be designated as a list of Conference Advance Specials for the year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Barbara Drake, Conference Secretary of Global Ministries.

ANAWIM COMMUNITY PROJECT OF CASA DEL PUEBLO .......................$10,000
Applicant: Rev. Lilian S. Cotto
Director: Juan Suarez
215-254-0225 lucreciacotto3@gmail.com

Casa del Pueblo is the Latino ministry of Lehman Memorial UMC in Hatboro. ANAWIM, meaning “the blessed poor of Yahweh”, the poor who depend on the Lord for deliverance, is the outreach program and first phase of a Community Center, which was started in 2016. Serving neighbors from Hatboro, Willow Grove, Horsham, Warminster, and Warrington, the ministry provides food, clothing, housing referrals, medical and dental referrals and transportation to appointments. ANAWIM seeks to develop disciples of Christ by exposing participants to music that glorifies God and witnesses to the Christian message. It celebrates diversity by attracting Latino families from different countries and providing them with instrumental music classes, liturgical and folkloric dance classes. The ministry is committed to love and justice by providing immigration referrals, legal and family counseling, GED classes in Spanish, translation services, and ESL classes. Participants are exposed to Latino role models in a positive atmosphere of care, respect, and affirmation.
ANCHORAGE BREAKFAST PROGRAM ....................................................... $10,000
Applicant: Rev. Joseph F. DiPaolo
Director: Patty Eastep
717-682-9976 director@anchoragebreakfast.org
This 501c3 organization provides a free breakfast at First UMC, Lancaster for people who are economically challenged. Meals are served from Monday through Friday between 8:30 and 9:45 am. Anchorage serves a hot breakfast to 150-200 guests each morning, and does not close for inclement weather or holidays. In 2018, 40,074 meals were served by 150 volunteers, divided into daily teams who prepare the food and staff the cafeteria line. Social Service agencies are invited to be present as a resource. Volunteer “listeners” circulate among the guests to encourage and assist them. Funds from Advance Special giving will be used this year for an additional freezer and the daily food expenses.

BREAD OF CHRIST FEEDING MINISTRY OF FIRST UMC, BANGOR........$15,000
This ministry uses the church kitchen to feed people through a variety of programs. A community lunch is served on the 4th Sunday of every month, providing a free, hot, nutritious meal for about 100 people each month. Pasties, a local Welsh tradition, are made by church members and sold on the 2nd Saturday, eight times per year, to raise funds for the ministry and to give to the needy. Breakfast with Santa is a free breakfast buffet that serves 100 children and their families, while sharing the gospel of Christ through word and action. Ride for Relief is an annual motorcycle charity ride benefitting UMCOR, while providing a hot breakfast and hot lunch to riders. Back-to-School welcomed over 400 people last summer to receive backpacks with school supplies, haircuts, and manicures, while snacks prepared in the kitchen were distributed. New in 2019 will be the Summer Lunch Program in partnership with the Slate Belt YMCA. It will provide free lunches to children and their families every day during the summer. Funding is needed to update the kitchen with efficient appliances, including a commercial oven/stove, refrigerator, chest freezer, and dishwasher.

COKESBURY SUMMER READING AND LUNCH PROGRAM .......................$3,000
Applicant: Sandra M. Cislo
307 Market Street, Marcus Hook, PA 19061
610-416-5112. 610-485-6162, smcislo@yahoo.com
This is a ministry of Cokesbury UMC, which provides a 4 week, free summer reading program and healthy lunch for 60-75 children, grades K-4, who live in high poverty areas of Marcus Hook, Trainer, and Lower Chichester. Recognizing that education can be the key to unlocking the chains of poverty, this ministry encourages children to read over the summer in order to avoid the educational setback associated with summer break. Because school lunch is often the only nutritionally sound meal that children in poverty receive, and because it is not available in summer, a healthy lunch is provided along with education by certified teachers and trained instructional assistants.
4th GENERATION CHILDREN’S MINISTRY
Applicant: Rev. W. Matthew Whayland
1709 Center St., Lebanon, PA 17042
St. John’s UMC 717-273-4011 wmmwhayland3@gmail.com
This ministry is an outreach to children of the Pleasant Hill section of Lebanon, by members of St. John’s UMC, who staff the weekly evening program of scripture stories, songs, crafts, and a hot meal from September to June, and summer activities from June to August, including a backyard carnival, campmeeting, Vacation Bible School, and day trips.

HOPE CHRISTIAN COUNSELING
Applicant: Rev. Susan L. Worrell
Mail: P.O. Box 91, Unionville, PA 19375. Location: UMC of West Chester, 129 High St. West Chester, PA. 610-436-9298. 484-883-7628. hopechristiancounseling1@gmail.com
This non-profit 501c3 ministry offers Christian based professional counseling, spiritual direction, retreat and workshop facilitation and training for individuals and groups by qualified, certified, or licensed professionals and/or ordained clergy who have expertise in areas including but not limited to addictive/compulsive behaviors, mental health concerns, grief, loss, life transitions, relationship issues, visitation ministry, and small group ministry. Service is available to all regardless of ability to pay a full fee.

LIGHT OF MARNIE
Applicants: Jennifer and John Lafferty
315 Municipal Drive, Thorndale, PA 19372
John: 610-470-1369 JohnL@lightofmarnie.org.
Jennifer: 610-766-0944 JenL@lightofmarnie.org
SHALOCA Christian Academy is the perfect example of our Global Ministries “ABUNDANT HEALTH”, Our Promise to Children Initiative. It is an elementary school with classes from Preschool to 8th grade, in Lower Johnsonville, Liberia, West Africa. The school has provided education for children for 11 years, and presently has 173 students, who receive basic and Christian education. In the past year there has been building expansion and other improvements including bathrooms. Work is underway with the government to bring clean piped water to the school. Rev. James Coleman, an ordained Wesleyan pastor, founded the school when he was serving in Liberia. He has completed his M.Div. at Drew Seminary and hopes to be ordained in the United Methodist Church. Light of Marnie is supported by Thorndale UMC.

LUMINA
Applicant: Correen M. Russo
20 E. Clay Street, Lancaster, PA 17602, 717-394-8412 (office), 717-808-8633 (cell), correen.lumina@gmail.com
LUMINA serves nearly 1,000 economically disadvantaged individuals in Lancaster annually using volunteers from 75 churches in West District. The program has 4 focus areas:

- Children’s Ministries: weekly Kids’ Night discipleship programs, summer day camp, field trips, scholarships for residence camps.
- Clothing Bank: professional clothes for men and women returning to work after job loss, domestic abuse, illness, recovery from addiction, or incarceration.
- Nutrition education and cooking classes for children and adults.
- Affordable housing for low income families through rehab of blighted city properties in partnership with Manifest.

NANTMEAL UMC NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY .................................................. $2,000

Applicant: Rev. Dennis Keen
359 Nantmeal Road, Glenmore, PA 19343
610-948-3787. 484-942-7935    Dennislindakeen@gmail.com

For three years, Nantmeal UMC has been supplying the children of Dupree Elementary School on the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation in Dupree, South Dakota, with clothing, personal hygiene products, and school supplies. Dupree is a town of abject poverty with prevalent problems of drug abuse, alcoholism, and suicide. It is located in Ziebach County, one of the poorest counties in the country. In 2018, the Commission on Native American Ministries (CONAM) donated $1,000 which enabled Rev. Keen to visit Dupree and see the living conditions of the children and their need for winter coats, hats, gloves, and boots, plus backpacks, books, pencils, and crayons. By donating these items, the congregation is making a difference in the lives of the children, and hopefully will be able to help break the cycle of poverty.

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL MINISTRIES ................................................................. $10,000

Applicant: Rev. Sara Davis-Shappell
P.O. Box 724 Southeastern PA 10399, 610-873-3988, 610-873-8328, 610-613-6253
SpiritualRM@aol.com

This ministry celebrates over 25 years as a growing and integral part of EPC, providing retreats, spiritual direction, seminars, prayer circles, and preaching. Financial donations are used for scholarships to companion churches, groups, and individuals desiring to deepen their relationship with God in Jesus Christ and overcome racism, poverty, and injustice which are destructive to relationships with God, others, and self. Members of the conference clergy and laity make up the board of directors.

Note: Church treasurers are advised to remit contributions through the monthly remittance. Funds will then be forwarded to the approved Conference Advance Special.
RESOLUTION 2019 - 13
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to Affirming that the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference is a “One Church Plan” Conference
Presented by Rev. James F. McIntire and Rev. Lydia E. Muñoz

WHEREAS, the 2019 General Conference Special Session was not in consensus regarding adoption of a plan to unify the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Bishops and leaders from across the denomination have issued statements which continue to lead the UMC forward toward a more unified body; and

WHEREAS, it has been estimated that 65% of delegates from the United States voting at the 2019 Special Session voted in support of the “One Church Plan” endorsed by our Council of Bishops; and

WHEREAS, the question of the constitutionality of the adopted plan is before the Judicial Council and questions regarding the validity of certain delegate credentials as well as concerns regarding the exchange of money and gifts for votes are being investigated; and

WHEREAS, the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference in accordance with our United Methodist Social Principles is firm in acknowledging “that sexuality is God’s good gift to all persons,” that “all persons, regardless of age, gender, marital status, or sexual orientation, are entitled to have their human and civil rights ensured and to be protected against violence,” and that we “implore families and churches not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends;” and

WHEREAS, congregations, individuals, laity and clergy of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference are in full and faithful ministry in diverse ways with people of varying expressions of sexual orientation and gender identity, including LGBTQIA+ persons; and

WHEREAS, we as United Methodist followers of Jesus are committed to not excluding anyone from access to God’s grace and to fully providing the most faithful ministries to, for and with all of God’s children; and

WHEREAS, our baptismal covenant calls us to “accept the freedom and power God gives [us] to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that until or when the denomination resolves the divisiveness evident in the 2019 Special Session, the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference considers itself a “One Church” Conference in spirit, committed to continued support of ministry to, for and with all persons regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
Persons responsible for presenting this resolution: James F. McIntire and Rev. Lydia E. Muñoz
RESOLUTION 2019 - 14
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to government and corporate interests violating Native American land rights
Presented by the EPA Conference Committee on Native American Ministries

Whereas, the UMC, as the body of Christ, is committed to the Biblical mandate to “do justly and love mercy” and to the Book of Discipline’s affirmation of the sacred worth of all persons,

WHEREAS, the greatest challenge facing Native Americans today is invisibility, as identified in the recent report Reclaiming Native Truth, researched by First Nations Development Institute and Echo Hawk Consulting;

WHEREAS, Standing Rock is no longer front page news BUT violations of laws protecting the air, water and soil continue in many places;

WHEREAS, the government supports multinational corporations to enrich themselves instead of putting the best interests of the citizens first;

WHEREAS, pipelines and mining are damaging the environment with unreported spills and methane flaring, and are creating sinkholes and damaging roads, affecting the health and safety of the communities;

WHEREAS, the trust status of Indian lands makes them most susceptible to having their land seized via executive order and without consultation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, as the Committee on Native American Ministries, strongly request that the EPA Conference as the body of Christ use its voice and influence to support organizations in the UMC such as Native American Comprehensive Plan (NACP) as well as the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI);

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we strongly request that EPA conference also use its voice and influence to persuade congressional legislators to honor the land rights spelled out in multiple treaties between NA tribes and the U. S. government;

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that, being called to be faithful to the Biblical mandate to advocate for those whose voice is not heard in the halls of power, we ask that a copy of this resolution signed by the Bishop, the Director of Connectional Ministries and the co-chairs of the Committee on Native American Ministries, be sent to the White House, the Majority and Minority Leaders of both the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives, and the Representatives of the districts within the boundaries of EPA Conference.

Person responsible for presenting this resolution: Verna Colliver
RESOLUTION # 2019 - 15
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to the Introductory Workshops of Healing the Wounds of Racism
Presented by the Healing the Wounds of Racism Core Accountability Team

WHEREAS, Visions, Inc. was hired by the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference to provide introductory educational services in the area of racism; and

WHEREAS, Healing the Wounds of Racism workshop was required by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the name that Visions, Inc. has used the title of the workshops "Changing Racism"; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the name of the introductory workshops be changed from "Changing Racism" to "Dismantling Racism" to more accurately reflect the focus of the workshops and in keeping with the mission of the Conference.

Persons responsible for presenting this resolution: David W. Brown (elder) and Mertice Shane
RESOLUTION 2019 - 16
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution Regarding Equitable Compensation Recommendation for 2020
Presented by Commission on Equitable Compensation

WHEREAS, it is a mandate of the Commission on Equitable Compensation to support clergy serving as pastors in the charges of the Annual Conference by recommending conference standards for pastoral support (¶625.2(a), 2016 Discipline), and

WHEREAS, the Commission is charged with annually recommending to the Annual Conference a schedule of minimum base compensation for all full-time pastors or those clergy members of the annual conference appointed less than full-time to a local church, subject to such rules and regulations as the conference may adopt (¶625.3, 2016 Discipline), and

WHEREAS, the Commission seeks to address the concerns of clergy compensation and recognize the economic difficulties encountered by churches,

WHEREAS, the Commission seeks also to address the financial needs of clergy, we evaluate the realities of the current financial environment, including the COLA (Cost of living adjustment) established by the Social Security Administration,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Annual Conference establish the minimum starting salaries reflecting a 2.8% increase for 2020. The schedule for persons under appointment in the local church for 2020 shall be as follows:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church establishes the minimum base salary for persons under appointment in the local church for the year 2020 as follows:

a) Elders and Deacons in Full Connection ...........................................................$43,967
b) Commissioned toward Deacons and Elders under full-time post-seminary appointments........................................................................................................ $41,673
c) Associate Members...........................................................................................$40,799
d) Full-Time Local Pastors ................................................................................... $38,619

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to arrive at the minimum cash salary for each pastor, the required service year increments will be added to the appropriate base listed above in the amount of 1% of the pastor’s base salary for each year of service under appointment, whether part time or full time, for a maximum of 20 years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each church or charge, in recommending increases, consider increases above the minimum cash salary, and that Pastor/Staff-Parish Relations Committees particularly take note of such areas as education, experience, skills, commitment, amount paid by clergy to Social Security as self-employed persons, family needs, and payment of health insurance; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any amount provided as a housing allowance is not to be considered part of the minimum cash salary as set forth in this resolution (¶252.4(e), 2016 Discipline); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if a church or charge cannot meet the standard of support for a full-time pastor, the Cabinet will be notified as soon as possible and appropriate action taken by the Cabinet (¶624.1, 2016 Discipline).

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Lou Hornberger
RESOLUTION 2019 - 17
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating to Rights of Local Licensed Pastors and Commissioned Provisional
Elders to Nominate, Elect and be Elected as Delegates to General and
Jurisdictional Conferences and to Vote on Constitutional Amendments
Presented by Rev. Jason Perkowski and Rev. Kevin Kresge

WHEREAS, the tradition and history of The United Methodist Church has been to
function as a representative democracy where all of the members of the church (laity
and clergy) have been able to have a voice in electing delegates to represent them at
Annual, General and Jurisdictional Conferences and on Boards and Agencies at those
levels;

WHEREAS, the practice has been to elect an equal number of laity and clergy to serve
as delegates at Annual, General and Jurisdictional Conference—with laity electing laity
and clergy electing clergy;

WHEREAS, the current Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church prevents
certain classes of clergy from being able to elect delegates or to be elected as
delegates;

WHEREAS, the current Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church prevents
certain classes of clergy from being able to vote on amendments to the Constitution of
the United Methodist Church by which their rights and responsibilities as appointed
clergy are managed;

WHEREAS, those disenfranchised classes currently include Licensed Local Pastors
until they have completed the Course of Study and/or Seminary; Provisional Deacons,
Provisional Elders and Student Pastors until they have completed Seminary; and

WHEREAS, this means that the talents, ideas, and votes of those entire classes of
individuals is lost in the church for a significant number of years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the
United Methodist Church affirms that the following changes ought to be made to the
United Methodist Constitution and Book of Discipline and urges delegates at the 2020
General Conference to approve these changes:

SUBSTITUTING the following paragraph in place of the existing 2016 Book of Discipline
Paragraph 35. The Constitution. Section VI. Annual Conferences. Article IV.: “The
clergy delegates to the General Conference and to the jurisdictional or central
conference shall be elected from and elected by all current clergy members of the
annual conference or provisional annual conference, including Elders in Full
Connection, Deacons in Full Connection, Associate Members, Provisional Elders and
Deacons, Licensed Local Pastors, Student Pastors (in their home conference), Retired
Clergy, as well as all other Clergy under appointment at the time of elections.”
Pending full approval and ratification of the Constitutional Amendment above, the following amendments (and any other necessary to reconcile with these changes) will immediately go into effect in the Book Of Discipline to align its language to match that of the amended constitution:

**AMEND** Paragraph 316.6 under Chapter 2. Section IV. License for Pastoral Ministry. Responsibilities and Duties of Those Licensed for Pastoral Ministry: “The membership of local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment is in the annual conference where they shall have the right to vote on all matters except constitutional amendments, election of delegates to General, Jurisdictional, or central conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. Local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment shall be eligible for election as delegates to the General, central, or jurisdictional conferences. Local pastors who have completed Course of Study or a Master of Divinity degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment before the election may vote to elect clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional or central conferences and may vote on constitutional amendments.”

**AMEND** Paragraph 321.1 under Chapter 2. Section V. Associate Membership: “1. Associate members shall have a right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except including the following: (a) constitutional amendments; (b) all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. 2. Associate members may serve on any board, commission, or committee of an annual conference. They shall not be eligible to elect and to be elected as delegates to the General or jurisdictional or central conferences.”

**AMEND** Paragraph 327.2 under Chapter 2. Section VI. Provisional Membership: “2. Provisional members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except the following: a) constitutional amendments; b) all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. Provisional clergy who have completed all of their educational requirements may vote to elect clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional or central conferences. 3. Provisional members may serve on any board, commission, or committee of the annual conference except the Board of Ordained Ministry (635.1). They shall not be eligible for election as delegates to the General, central, or jurisdictional conferences.”

**AMEND** Paragraph 602.1. A., B., C., & D. under Chapter 4. The Conferences. Section IX. The Annual Conference: Composition and Character “1.a) Clergy members in full connection shall have the right to vote on all matters in the annual conference except in the election of lay delegates to the General and jurisdictional or central conferences and shall have sole responsibility for all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. b) Provisional clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General and jurisdictional or central conferences and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. Provisional clergy members who have completed all of their educational requirements may vote to elect clergy


deleagtes to General and jurisdictional or central conferences. c) Associate clergy
members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except
including constitutional amendments, and matters of ordination, character, and
conference relations of clergy. When associate members are members of the
conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they have the right to vote at clergy session on
matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy (635.1) Affiliate
clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters
except the constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General,
jurisdictional or central conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and
conference relations of clergy. d) Full-time and part-time local pastors shall have the
right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments,
election of clergy delegates to the General and jurisdictional or central conferences, and
matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy. When local pastors
are members of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry, they have the right to vote
at clergy session on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy
(635.1) Local pastors who have completed course of study or an M. Div. degree and
have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment before the election
may vote to elect and may be elected as clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional
or central conferences.

Person responsible for presenting this resolution: Rev. Jason Perkowski
RESOLUTION #2019 - 18L
RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Resolution Relating to the Formula for Pro Rata Share of Pension Obligation for Disaffiliating Churches
Presented by The EPA Board of Benefits, Coleen Painter, President

WHEREAS, In February 2019, the General Conference adopted petition 90016 from Wespath, which added a new ¶1504, sub paragraph 23, AND

WHEREAS, The General Conference also added ¶2553 to The Book of Discipline. This new paragraph allows a local church to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church “over issues related to human sexuality” until 2023. Among other things, it requires a local church’s disaffiliation be “memorialized in a binding Disaffiliation Agreement,” which must be consistent with certain provisions set forth within the paragraph. And,

WHEREAS, this new paragraph states that the local church or charge seeking to change its relationship with the United Methodist Church shall contribute withdrawal liability in an amount equal to its pro rata share of any aggregate unfunded pension obligations to the annual conference. And,

WHEREAS, The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall determine the aggregate funding obligations of the annual conference using market factors similar to a commercial annuity provider, from which the annual conference will determine the local church’s share. And,

WHEREAS, Wespath continues to provide the most current pension obligation for The Eastern PA Conference for the Pre-1982 Plan, the Ministerial Pension Plan, and the Defined Benefit portion of the Clergy Retirement Security Plan, AND

WHEREAS, the Eastern PA Conference Board of Benefits has met to evaluate the most equitable methodology for determining the pro rata share for each church, AND

WHEREAS, the calculations for the remittance fund charged to each church is based upon a three-year average of the church’s Grand Total Paid and factors in any special appeals approved by CCFA and Cabinet,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in such cases as a church has been approved for disaffiliation from the Eastern PA Conference, the pro rata portion of the pension liability will be based upon the church’s percentage of the Conference remittance figures for the year of disaffiliation.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if a church chooses to disaffiliate in accordance with ¶2553 of the Book of Discipline, such withdrawal liability must be paid in full prior to disaffiliation.
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such funds paid to The Annual Conference shall be deposited into the restricted funds of the Board of Benefits to be used solely for payment of future pension obligations.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Coleen Painter
RESOLUTION 2019 - 19L

RESOLUTION to the 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION
Relating Regarding Resolution 2015-17 and New Discipline Paragraph 2553
Presented by the Conference Board of Trustees

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Conference passed Resolution No. 2015-17, which provides for certain conditions which would apply to any church of the Conference wishing to withdraw from our denomination; and

WHEREAS, in February 2019, the General Conference amended the Book of Discipline to include a new ¶ 2553, which provides a limited path for local churches to disaffiliate from the denomination for reasons of conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provisions of the Book of Discipline with regard to issues of human sexuality; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2015-17 and the new Book of Discipline ¶ 2553 were not designed to coordinate with one another and may either conflict or cause unanticipated implementation problems, when read together.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that any church that seeks disaffiliation in accordance with the new Book of Discipline ¶ 2553 shall not be subject to Resolution 2015-17.

Person Responsible for Presenting Resolution: Bill Thresher