

VII. Resolutions & Petitions

RESOLUTIONS ON MERGERS

1. Resolution on Merger of the St. Andrews with Brick by Brick Ministries and Lexington Korean United Methodist Churches

Whereas, the St. Andrews with Brick by Brick Ministries UMC in Nicholasville, Kentucky has in recent years struggled to maintain its attendance and strength to carry on its ministries; and

Whereas, Lexington Korean UMC in Lexington, Kentucky, has been investigating a means to expand its ministries through obtaining a permanent site; and

Whereas, at duly constituted conferences the St. Andrews with Brick by Brick Ministries UMC voted on March 25, 2007, to merge with the Lexington Korean UMC, and the Lexington Korean UMC voted on April 1, 2007, to merge with the St. Andrews with Brick by Brick Ministries UMC; and

Whereas, the District Superintendent has approved of the merger, and

Whereas, the resident Bishop and District Superintendents of the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church have approved the action proposed in this resolution;

Therefore be it resolved that in accordance with the 2004 Book of Discipline and the merger agreement of said churches that the Lexington Korean and the St. Andrews with Brick by Brick Ministries Churches be declared merged; and

Be it further resolved that the name of the newly merged church is Lexington United Methodist Church: Serving All Nations, and all assets and real property of the former churches become the assets and real property of the Lexington United Methodist Church.

Be it further resolved that the members of the both churches will become members of the Lexington UMC: Serving All Nations.

If a member chooses to join another church, letters of transfer will be provided from the Lexington UMC: Serving All Nations.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

2. Resolution on the Merger of Parkwood and Parkview United Methodist Churches

Whereas, Parkwood United Methodist Church and Parkview United Methodist Church, both located in Louisville, Kentucky, have for a significant period of time been involved in shared ministries;

And whereas, Parkwood and Parkview have held discussions about the benefits of merging into a new congregation in order to create a healthier and more meaningful ministry;

And, whereas, both congregations, voting in separate church conferences on Sunday, May 6, 2007, have

approved the merger of the two congregations;

And whereas the district superintendent of the Louisville District has approved the merger;

And whereas, the Resident Bishop and District Superintendents have approved the merger;

And whereas, the provisions of Paragraph 2545 of the 2004 *Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church have been met;

Therefore be it resolved that the 2007 session of the Kentucky Annual Conference, meeting June 10-14, 2007 in Louisville, Kentucky, approve the merger of Parkwood and Parkview United Methodist Churches.

Be it further resolved that the first service of worship for the new merged congregation will be Sunday, June 24, 2007 and members of the new merged congregation will be given permission to vote on a name for the congregation by August, 2007; and

Be it further resolved that all membership rolls, historical documents, all assets, and all liabilities of Parkwood United Methodist Church and Parkview United Methodist Church shall become the property of the new merged congregation.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

RESOLUTIONS ON DISCONTINUANCE

1. Resolution for the Discontinuance of Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church

Whereas, the people and pastors of Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church have, for many years, served faithfully and well the community in and near Owingsville, Kentucky in Bath County;

And whereas, the community in which the church is located has experienced a dramatic population shift in recent years, leaving the church with declining membership and resources;

And, whereas as of January 1, 2006, there was only one remaining active member of the church;

And, whereas, no regular worship services have been conducted at Mt. Pleasant since January of 2006;

And, whereas the remaining active member of the church has subsequently transferred her membership to the Bethel United Methodist Church;

Be it resolved that the Kentucky Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church honors the faithful witness of the Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church;

And be it further resolved that the Kentucky Annual Conference held at Louisville, Ky., June 10-14, 2007 declares that the Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Bath County be discontinued as a United Methodist

Church, and;

Be it further resolved that the remaining members of the church have the privilege of moving their membership to the church of their choice, with the membership roll being deposited with the District Superintendent of the Ashland District;

And be it further resolved that all property of the Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, be cared for by the Conference Trustees in keeping with the 2004 Book of Discipline.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

2. Resolution for the Discontinuance of Rolling Springs United Methodist Church

Whereas, the Rolling Springs United Methodist Church in Warren County in the Bowling Green District has declined in membership, and

Whereas, the remaining members have voted to discontinue the Rolling Springs United Methodist Church at a Charge Conference on October 22, 2006,

Be it resolved that the 2007 Kentucky Annual Conference held at Louisville, Kentucky, June 10-14, 2007 declare that the Rolling Springs United Methodist Church be discontinued as a United Methodist Church and that said property be sold with the consent and direction of the Kentucky Annual Conference Trustees, and

Be it further resolved that the remaining members of said church have the privilege of moving their membership to the church of their choice, with the membership role begin deposited with the District Superintendent.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

3. Resolution for the Discontinuance of Rock Creek United Methodist Church

Whereas, the Rock Creek United Methodist Church located in the Elizabethtown District no longer has the active support to sustain itself as an active congregation of the United Methodist Church;

Whereas, the remaining members have voted to discontinue as a United Methodist Church;

Whereas, the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding bishop and the district superintendents;

And whereas, the District Superintendent recommends that the remaining membership of the local church be transferred to the Clarkson United Methodist Church with the understanding that all church members have the option of transferring their membership elsewhere;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Rock Creek United Methodist Church is declared discontinued and that the property be properly appropriated with the consent and direction of the Elizabethtown District Building and Church Location Committee.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

4. Resolution for the Discontinuation of the Emberry United Methodist Church

Whereas, the Emberry United Methodist Church in Hopkins County in the Madisonville District has declined in the membership, and

Whereas, the remaining members have voted to discontinue the Emberry United Methodist Church at a Charge Conference on November 12, 2006

Be it resolved that the 2007 Kentucky Annual Conference held at Louisville, Kentucky, June 10-14, 2007 declare that the Emberry UMC in Hopkins County be discontinued as a United Methodist Church, and

Be it further resolved that the remaining members of said church have the privilege of moving their membership to the church of their choice, with the membership roll being deposited with the District Superintendent.

A Service of Discontinuance will be held to celebrate the history and ministry of Emberry United Methodist Church.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

5. Resolution for the Discontinuance of the Livingston Chapel United Methodist Church

Whereas the Livingston Chapel United Methodist Church in Livingston County in the Madisonville District has declined in membership, and

Whereas, the remaining members have voted to discontinue the Livingston Chapel United Methodist Church as of June 10, 2007

Be it resolved that the 2007 Kentucky Annual Conference held at Louisville, KY, June 10-14, 2007 declare that the Livingston Chapel UMC in Livingston County be discontinued as a United Methodist Church, and

Be it further resolved that the remaining members of said church have the privilege of moving their membership to the church of their choice, with the membership roll being deposited with the District Superintendent.

A Service of Discontinuance will be held to celebrate the history and ministry of Livingston Chapel United Methodist Church.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

6. Resolution for the Discontinuance of the Old Bethel United Methodist Church

Whereas, the Old Bethel United Methodist Church in Ohio County in the Owensboro District has declined in the membership, and

Whereas, the remaining members could no longer support the Old Bethel United Methodist Church and voted to discontinue. A service of Leave-Taking of a Church Building was held on Sunday, May 6, 2007.

Be it resolved that the 2007 Kentucky Annual Conference held at Louisville, Kentucky, June 10-14, 2007 declare that the Old Bethel United Methodist Church be discontinued as a United Methodist Church, and the proceeds from the sale of the building and property will be used by the Owensboro District at the discretion of the District Superintendent and the Owensboro District Building and Location Committee.

Be it further resolved that the remaining members of said church have the privilege of moving their membership to the church of their choice, with the membership roll being deposited with the District Superintendent.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

7. Resolution for the Discontinuance of the Seco United Methodist Church

Whereas, the Seco United Methodist Church, located in Letcher County of the Prestonsburg District, had continued to decline in membership and attendance; and

Whereas, the District Superintendent has recommended discontinuance of the Seco United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding bishop, a majority of the district superintendents, and the district board of church location and building;

Therefore be it resolved that the 2007 Kentucky Annual Conference held at Louisville, Kentucky, June 10-14, 2007, declare that the Seco United Methodist Church be discontinued and that the said property both real and personal, tangible and intangible be sold with the consent and direction of the Kentucky Annual Conference Trustees and that the proceeds of the sale and the remaining church funds be placed in the Prestonsburg District Church Extension Fund to be used for church development in the district in accordance with Kentucky Annual Conference Standing Rule 21 and Paragraph 2548 fo the *2004 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*; and

Be it further resolved that the remaining members of said church have the privilege of moving their membership to the church of their choice, with the membership roll being deposited with the District Superintendent in the Prestonsburg District Office.

[Signed]

James R. King, Jr., Resident Bishop

Mark Girard, Ashland District

Mike Powers, Bowling Green District

Darren Brandon, Columbia District

Terry Faris, Corbin District

Terry Reffett, Covington District

Coleman Howlett, Elizabethtown District

Kenneth Cummings, Frankfort District

Paige Williams, Lexington District

Michael Gibbons, Louisville District

Jay Smith, Madisonville District

Dale Carden, Owensboro District

Lowell Ogden, Prestonsburg District

CHANGES IN CHARGE LINES

ASHLAND DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Mt. Pleasant/Bethel Charge and add Bethel to Owingsville to form the Bethel/Owingsville Charge.
2. Remove Hillsboro from the Hillsboro Circuit forming the Hillsboro Charge and the Ringos Mill/Poplar Plains Charge. This has been a three point charge. Hillsboro becomes a stand alone church and Ringos Mill and Poplar Plans remain together.
3. Add Reynolds Chapel to Garrison forming the Garrison/Reynolds Chapel Charge.

BOWLING GREEN DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Epley/Whiley's Chapel Charge. Epley and Wiley become station churches.
2. Dissolve the Shiloh/Concord Charge. Shiloh becomes a station church. Concord and Mt. Union form the Mt. Union/Concord Charge.

COLUMBIA DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Albany Circuit: Cedar Hill/Five Springs/Walnut Grove. Each church becomes a station church.
2. Dissolve the Albany First/Fairview Circuit. Albany First becomes a station church. Fairview is joined with Palestine to create the Fairview/Palestine Charge.
3. Dissolve the South Cumberland Circuit. Palestine is joined with Fairview to form Fairview/Palestine

Charge. Chestnut Grove and Rose of Sharon become station churches.

4. Dissolve Bethel/Coffey's Chapel/Manntown Charge. Bethel/Coffey's Chapel remain together to create the Bethel/Coffey's circuit. Manntown is joined with Hayes Chapel to form the Hayes Chapel/Manntown charge.
5. Dissolve the Bethel/Tracy charge and each becomes a station church.
6. Dissolve the Bon Ayr/Old Zion Charge. Bon Ayr and Old Zion each become station churches.
7. Dissolve the Renox Circuit: Jones Chapel/Providence/Sugar Grove. Each becomes a station church.
8. Dissolve the Elkhorn/Stoner Creek Charge. Elkhorn becomes a station church. Stoner Creek joins with Mannsville to form the Mannsville/Stoner Charge.
9. Dissolve the Mannsville/Mt. Zion charge. Mt. Zion becomes a station church. Mannsville joins with Stoner to create the Mannsville/Stoner Charge.
10. Dissolve the Maple Hill/Picketts Chapel/Pleasant Ridge Circuit. Maple Hill becomes a station church and Picketts and Pleasant Ridge join together to create the Picketts Chapel/Pleasant Ridge Circuit.
11. Dissolve the Union Chapel/Hayes Chapel charge. Union Chapel becomes a station church and Hayes Chapel joins with Manntown to create the Hayes Chapel/Manntown circuit.

CORBIN DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Monticello/Locketts Charge. Monticello and Locketts become station churches

COVINGTON DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Helena/Nepton Charge. Helena and Nepton become station churches.

ELIZABETHTOWN DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Campground/Bonnieville charge. Campground and Bonnieville become station churches.

FRANKFORT DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Pleasureville/Pleasant View Charge. Pleasureville and Pleasant View become station churches.

LEXINGTON DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Shiloh/Westbend Charge. Shiloh and Westbend become station churches.
2. Dissolve the Robert's Chapel/McKendree Charge. Robert's Chapel and McKendree become station churches.

OWENSBORO DISTRICT

1. Remove Old Bethel (discontinued) from Old Bethel/Mt. Pleasant Charge. Place Mt. Pleasant with Shiloh forming the Shiloh/Mt. Pleasant Charge.
2. Dissolve the Boling Chapel/Providence Charge. Boling Chapel and Providence become station churches.

PRESTONSBURG DISTRICT

1. Dissolve the Jenkins/Whitesburg Charge. Jenkins and Whitesburg become station churches.

PETITIONS**1. Re: Discipline ¶ 1417 (Annual Reports of Approved Institutions)****PETITION TO THE 2008 GENERAL CONFERENCE**

Sponsored by the Kentucky Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry

We propose a new Book of Discipline par. 1417.3, with the current pars. 3 and 4 becoming pars. 4 and 5.

1417.3 The university senate's review of a school, college, university, or graduate theological seminary for use by annual conference boards of ordained ministry in determining candidate educational eligibility for admission into full connection shall include consultation with the board of ordained ministry and the bishop of the conference within whose bounds the institution is located. The board of ordained ministry and the bishop shall be kept advised of the progress of such review and be given ample time to comment upon it prior to a decision being made. If an institution is denied approval, or delisted as an approved institution, that institution, the board of ordained ministry, and the bishop shall have the right, severally or in cooperation, to appeal the university senate's decision to an appropriate group chosen by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry. This appeal shall be in addition to any appeal process promulgated by the university senate, and no person hearing the appeal shall be a member of the university senate. Institutional approval or delisting decisions of the university senate shall be subject to approval by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Rationale:

While having great appreciation for the hard work done by the University Senate, the current Disciplinary standards place sole responsibility for the review of approved institutions at their discretion. While ¶ 1416.5 includes assessment of Church relationships as a part of the assessment review, it does not specifically mention that the University Senate must be in conversation with the Board of Ordained Ministry, the bishop, or any other entity of the conference in which the institution is located to assess the impact their decision will make upon that particular annual conference or surrounding annual conferences. This addition ensures those who will be affected most directly/immediately at least have input and do not learn about the decision after the fact. It also provides for an appeal process that currently does not exist, which allows an annual conference, the institution, et al an opportunity to a hearing of the appeal to a body other than the one which initially made the decision/recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions recommended concurrence with a substitute rationale (which will keep with the 50 word limit required for General Conference Petitions): "This addition ensures those who will be affected most directly/immediately at least have input and do not learn about a decision after the fact. It also provide for an appeal process that currently does not exist."

ACTION: The conference concurred with the petition with the substitute rationale.

2. Re: Discipline ¶ 340 (Responsibilities and Duties of Elders and Licensed Pastors)

PETITION TO THE 2008 GENERAL CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Kentucky Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry

RE: Revisions in Discipline par. 340

par. 340 in the 3rd sentence of the introductory paragraph delete “pastor” and substitute “pastor-in-charge.” The sentence would then read as follows: “Local pastors share with the elders the responsibilities and duties of a pastor-in-charge for this four-fold ministry.”

par. 340.1.a delete “lead in worship” and substitute “supervise the worship life of the congregation and lead in worship.”

par. 340.1.a would then read as follows: “To preach the Word of God, supervise the worship life of the congregation and lead in worship, read and teach the Scriptures, and engage the people in study and witness.”

Rationale:

“Pastor-in-charge” appears 16 times in the Discipline. It is the modern way of stating the classic Methodist title of preacher-in-charge. This succinct designation is basic in the United Methodist ecclesiology of pastoral stewardship within the discipline of appointive itinerancy. It needs to be in this lead paragraph on Responsibilities and Duties of Elders and Licensed Pastors.

Prior to 2004 the phrase about worship was “oversee the worship life of the congregation.” This petition returns to that concept. Oversee is a synonym for supervise and supervise is more direct in meaning. Lead is also a synonym of supervise, but its connotation is weaker than either oversee or supervise.

This petition makes clear the pastor’s authority when decisions have to be made about worship. Lead is too weak a word when a church is having a choir war. Personally, I once had to “prove it” to a member of my congregation by opening the Discipline to the “oversee” line. “Lead” would not have been a strong enough word for them. And that wasn’t even a choir war.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee on Petitions and Resolutions recommended concurrence with a substitute rationale (which will keep with the 50 word limit required for General Conference Petitions): “‘Pastor in charge’ is the modern way of stating the classic Methodist title of preacher-in-charge. This designation is basic in the United Methodist ecclesiology of pastoral stewardship. Prior to 2004, the phrase about worship was ‘oversee the worship life of the congregation.’ This petition returns to that concept.”

ACTION: The conference concurred with the petition with the substitute rationale.

3. Re: Stores Selling or Renting *The Da Vinci Code*

On November 15, 2006, the Charge Conference of the Prestonsburg Community United Methodist Church passed the following petition. We now present and move the passage of this petition by the Kentucky Annual Conference that:

“United Methodists prayerfully consider boycotting their patronage of stores that sell or rent “The DaVinci Code” book or movie.”

Thank you for your consideration of this petition.

In Christ Jesus,

[Signed]

John Burke, Jr.

Chair of the Administrative Board

Rev. Steven R. Pescosolido

Pastor

ACTION: This petition was ruled out of order by Bishop James R. King, Jr., in accordance with ¶604.12 of the 2004 *Book of Discipline*. “If any charge conference initiates, joins, monitors, or terminates a boycott, the guidelines in the Book of Resolutions, 2004, should be followed. The General Conference is the only body that can initiate, empower, or join a boycott in the name of the UMC.”



St. John United Methodist Church (Louisville District) provided the praise band for Annual Conference.